

24<sup>th</sup> November  
2023



## St Mary's and St Benedict's RC Primary School

Website: [www.smsb.lancs.sch.uk](http://www.smsb.lancs.sch.uk)

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	Star of the Week	Reader of the Week
Benedict	Logan and Nico	Aubrey
Finch	Matthew and Alexander	Amelia
Haydock	Bridget and Alicjia	Ishaan
Marsden	Teddy and Francis	Rudhra
Mary	Mila and Tawana	Harvey
Rigby	Lucas and Lacey	Charlie R
Southworth	Mylo and Leo	Evie
Ward	Johnny and Emily	Maisy
Woodcock	Michelle and William	Rocco



**'Christ the King'** - This Sunday November 27<sup>th</sup> at 9:30am in church, during the children's monthly Mass, there will be a special Celebration for **Christ the King**.



Please could children arrive at church in time to choose a crown to wear from the table at the back of church. They can then pick an instrument and process in with the servers and the priest. (Please make sure they know where their family are sitting) After the children have received Holy Communion or a Blessing, they do not go back to the bench with their family, instead they go over to the side chapels ready to lead out.

All our families are welcome and we look forward to seeing you there.

**PTA** - We are pleased to announce that we have had interest from parents in forming a new PTA and two events have been planned to take place before Christmas. There will be a Dress Down Day on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December and a Christmas School Disco on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> December. Messages about these events will be sent via School Spider and payment and consent can be made via ParentPay. Please let school know if you are interested in joining the PTA. A formal AGM of the PTA will be held early in the new year.

**Blessing of the Crib** - Children in Beesley class will be performing 'Blessing of the Crib' on Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December at 2:30pm in the KS2 Hall. Tickets are available, limited to 2 tickets per family due to space restrictions. Please remember children over the age of 2 years will require a ticket for a seat to ensure comfortable viewing for all. We will set up a reserve list for any spare tickets but there will be no entry on the door. All tickets will be allocated before the performance. Please also remember prams will not be allowed in the hall due to fire and safety regulations.



We will take photographs of the children in their costumes, which will be available to order for a small charge at the performances. Please let us know if you do not wish your child to be photographed.

**No Celebration Assembly** – There won't be any Celebration Assemblies until after Christmas, due to the stage being up in KS2.

**Preparing for Advent** - As we prepare for this special time of year, we have been thinking about ways that we can help others. Advent begins on 3<sup>rd</sup> December and throughout this time we are having a whole school focus on the foodbank to help make Christmas better for our local community.



If possible, we are asking families to donate one item of food each week. Thank you as always for your generosity.

**2024/2025 Calendar** – The 2024/2025 school calendar has been distributed today, via School Spider. Please make sure you check the holiday pattern before you consider booking holidays. No child can afford to take extra time off from school as this does have an effect on academic progress and attainment. Please speak to us before making any holiday plans in term time as taking unauthorised leave could result in the issue of penalty notices.

**School Admissions 2024** - If your child is in their last year of pre-school/nursery you can now apply for their school place at: [www.lancashire.gov.uk/schools](http://www.lancashire.gov.uk/schools) . It's quick and easy to do and you will receive email confirmation of your application. You must apply even if you already have siblings in school. The closing date for primary applications for September 2024 is 23:59 on 15 January 2024.

**Lancashire Break Time** - Registration for Lancashire Break Time (group activities outside of school hours for children with SEND in Lancashire) is now open until December 21st. New and existing members must register to access support. More information can be found at [www.lancashire.gov.uk/SEND](http://www.lancashire.gov.uk/SEND) or Mrs Hackett can be contacted via the office to support with registration. You can also email: [breaktime@lancashire.gov.uk](mailto:breaktime@lancashire.gov.uk) with any queries.