



NEWSLETTER 17th May 2024

St Mary's & St Benedict's Catholic Primary School
01772 336650 office@smsb.lancs.sch.uk www.smsb.lancs.sch.uk

WE PRAY  WE LEARN  WE SERVE

“Be yourself; everyone else is already taken.” — Oscar Wilde

TO HELP YOUR CHILD DO WELL IN SCHOOL, YOU SHOULD:

- Arrange family holidays to coincide with school holidays.
- Never take your child out of school when there are important examinations or tests.
- Be aware of the potential impact on your child's education.
- Avoid taking your child out of school when they are just starting. This is very important as your child needs to settle into their new environment as quickly as possible.

A 2-week holiday in school time means your child has approximately 50 hours of missed work to catch up on!

| | Attendance School Target – 96% |
|------------|---|
| Beesley | 90.9% |
| Benedict | 92.7% |
| Finch | 96.1% |
| Haydock | 97.3% |
| Marsden | 98.3% |
| Mary | 94.7% |
| Rigby | 98.0% |
| Southworth | 92.7% |
| Ward | 94.7% |
| Woodcock | 97.7% |

There was a massive improvement in minutes late this week. Thank you to the families who struggle for making an effort! Well done to Marsden class for having excellent attendance this week!

Year 6 SATs - We are so proud of our Year 6 children! They demonstrated a great attitude all week, showing maturity, positivity and encouragement to each other, whilst doing their SATs. Their learning will continue to the end of term but now the SATs are finished the children can look forward to, amongst other things, their taster days at high school, practising for their end of year production and their residential visit!

Family Support – Julia has sent a message to Year 1 and 2 parents and carers inviting families to **PASTA**, delivered by the South Ribble Borough Council. PASTA (Play and Skills at Teatime Activities) is a fun, friendly activity programme where families can cook, play and spend time together. The sessions are held on Tuesday after school and are for children aged five to eight and their families, including older and younger siblings. Numbers are limited so please let Julia know if you would like to attend. Julia is in school every day to support children and families and can be contacted on:

Mobile-07706008185 Email-family.support@smsb.lancs.sch.uk

Class Photographs – Myfoto will be in school on Monday morning to take memorable Pre-school, Reception and Year 6 class photographs. Please make sure your child is in school on this day, on time and looking smart in their uniform for their photo 😊

Celebrate Everyone's True Colours with Elmer – Barlow and Beesley classes will be celebrating Elmer Day on Friday 24th May. On this day we ask that children come to school dressed in any colour they choose for a voluntary contribution of £1 (please pay via ParentPay).

Pentecost – Next week we're celebrating Pentecost. After going up to Heaven Jesus sent the Holy Spirit to his disciples and all who believed. Each class will be taking part in activities during a special half day RE lessons to celebrate the church's birthday.

Sports Camp – Chris and Marcus, our Sports coaches, will be running a Sports Camp for two days during the half-term holiday on Monday 3rd and Tuesday 4th June. The cost is £11 a day. Please book and pay for on ParentPay if you wish your child to attend. We will also be running the camp the first week of the summer holidays.

Names in Uniform - Please make sure your child's uniform is clearly labelled. This particularly applies to jumpers and cardigans, as the weather is getting warmer, these items of uniform are frequently taken off and left around school. After half term we will be taking uniform orders for those wanting new uniform to be collected before the end of term.

Class Weekly News

There have been lots going on at St Mary's & St Benedict's this week. Always check the website for more news and photos.

- This week Barlow class have been using sensory and fine motor skills to make birds' nests out of spaghetti. They have also been learning about creatures big and small.
- Beesley class have been learning and writing facts all about bees. In maths the children have focused on subitising and the composition of the number 6. In RE they have been learning about Islam and designed their own prayer mats.
- Benedict class have been learning the skill of sewing to create their own Red Riding Hood character puppets. Look out for photos on the website next week!
- Finch class have been learning about poisonous plants around the world. In science they have been looking at different food chains in particular carnivores, herbivores and omnivores.
- Jamal brought in different things from home to share with Haydock class as part of their learning about Islam. They have been looking at animal poems and learning about poetry.
- Marsden class have enjoyed making Egyptian scrolls and have been learning to tell the time. They loved their Scootsafe sessions!
- Mary class have enjoyed learning about Islam and the Koran. In history they are continuing working on their Ancient Egyptian topic.
- Rigby class have really impressed this week using their understanding of 'Mousehole Cat' to start researching for non-chronological reports.
- Southworth class have been preparing for their deforestation debate. In history they have been researching Victorians in particular the trips they made to the sea side. They have enjoyed eating French desserts!
- Year 6 children in Ward class joined in the celebrations this afternoon after finishing their SATs. The children in Year 5 have been looking at coordinates in maths and translating their findings.
- Woodcock class enjoyed their party this afternoon after a week of hard work doing their SATs. Mrs Aitken is very proud of them all after the amazing job they did all week!

Dates for Your Diary

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|--------------------------------|---|
| Sunday 19 th May | Pentecost Day |
| Monday 20 th May | Class Photos – Reception and Year 6 |
| Wednesday 22 nd May | Woodcock Parish Mass 9:30am in Church |
| Friday 24 th May | Elmer Day – Pre-school and Reception Tots on Tyres – Reception Bike Fix Break-up at 3:15pm for Half-term |
| Monday 3 rd June | School Closed – INSET Day Holiday Sports Camp |
| Tuesday 4 th June | School Closed – INSET Day Holiday Sports Camp |
| Wednesday 5 th June | Return to School Multiplication Tests begin – Year 4 |
| Thursday 6 th June | New Reception Parent and Carers' Meeting 5:00pm |
| Friday 7 th June | Whole School Mass – Feast of the Sacred Heart 9:30am in Church |

Month of Mary – The Catholic Church throughout the world dedicate the month of May to Mary, the Mother of Jesus. She is also the patron Saint of our school and church. Throughout May we ask that you join us in praying the Rosary each day.

Community Larder – Please continue to support our local food bank by bringing into school an item of food each week. The Community Larder is situated at the back of St Aidan's Church Hall, on Station Road and provides food and support to individuals and families from Bamber Bridge, Clayton-le-Woods, Lostock Hall and Walton-le-Dale. It is open Monday – Friday 9:30am – 11:30am and is dependent upon food donations from local Christian communities and schools. Thank you for your continued donations.

Fun Fact of the Week – Your brain is constantly eating itself!

Riddle of the Week – What is always in front of you but can't be seen?

(answers to office@smsb.lanCS.sch.uk)

Well done to Niamh from Haydock class for correctly answering last week's riddle – SWIMS!