

Note from the Head

We are absolutely thrilled to share some wonderful news with our school community! Mrs Merrill and her husband have welcomed a beautiful baby girl into the world. Lily Amelia Merrill was born on 1st October weighing 6lb 15oz, and both mum and baby are doing fantastic.

We know how much Mrs Merrill means to our students, and we are incredibly happy for her and her husband as they begin this exciting new chapter of parenthood.

If any parents can help with carrying the statue of Mary in our upcoming procession (see below), please let me know, I am in need of 4 adults who could help carry the statue on a plinth into church as part of the procession.

Rosary Procession

As we enter the month of October, our school community looks forward to dedicating this time to Our Lady, Mary our Mother, through the traditional Catholic devotion of the Holy Rosary.

To mark this special month, we will hold a Whole-School Rosary Procession on Wednesday 14th October. Children are invited to bring a set of Rosary beads from home to carry during the procession.

We warmly invite parents, carers, and parishioners to join us for this beautiful act of collective worship. Thank you for your continued support in nurturing the faith and spiritual life of our children.

Squishy's

Many children are bringing 'squishy' toys into school to play with at break and lunchtime. For reasons of health and safety, these are not permitted in school anymore. There was an incident this week in which a squishy burst and the contents spilled over a child's clothing. The contents of these toys are unknown and could be dangerous if ingested or exposed to bare skin.

Forest School for Class 1

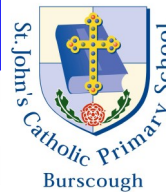
Class 1 will have Forest School next Wednesday (07/10) on the school site not Tuesday as previously communicated. Children may come to school wearing their own clothing suitable for the outdoors.

Class 3 have had a change of date for Forest School—please see dates on page 3

Little Church

Little Church will be held this Sunday (4th October). This is a wonderful group that will be able to take children from the Mass and will celebrate the Liturgy of the Word in a way that is more understandable for children.

Friday 2nd October



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BEST
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SCHOOL
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Mass times

Mon 8:30, Wed 9am, Fri 10am

Sunday 09.00 am Saturday 06.30 pm

04/10/26 27th Sunday in ordinary time

Gospel Reading: Matthew 21:33-43

The readings for this week shows that God cares for His people like a man who plants a vineyard. He gives what is needed to grow good fruit. But when the fruit is bad, there are results. God wants justice, kindness, and faith. Blessings should lead to right action and care for others.

In the Gospel, the tenants reject the landowner's servants and his son. This warns us not to reject God's message. We are called to pray, trust God, and focus on what is good. If we listen and obey, we will share in His kingdom and bear good fruit.

Approaching the Gospel with children

Jesus told this story so that people could understand more about God and what Jesus had come to do on earth. The different characters in the story represent God, the prophets – who were God's messengers to the people – and Jesus.

Like the man who gave the vineyard to his tenants to look after, God has given us the earth and all that is in it. God also sent his son Jesus to show us how to live.

We are responsible for looking after the earth and all the animals, people and plants that are in it. Can you think of ways that we sometimes don't take as good care of the earth as we should?

What happens when we don't look after the earth?

When we don't look after the earth, it becomes damaged. We have seen how there are more floods, droughts, storms and heatwaves in our world. This extreme weather often affects people who are poorest the most.

The bad tenants in the gospel story thought only about themselves. Jesus asks us to think about other people too, to use the resources of the earth wisely so that everyone can have their fair share. We are called to care for and protect the earth and enjoy the wonders of God's creation now and in the future.

What will you do to take care of the earth now and in the future?



Rosary Procession

2:00pm

Wednesday 14th October

1:30

Meet in the hall at St John's Catholic Primary School with Classes 2, 3 & 4

1:45

Procession starts from school

Moves from the front entrance, along Chapel Lane and into Church

Process into church and continue to pray the Rosary and sing hymns

Children will present posies of flowers to Our Lady

Admissions - Applications for Primary and High School places for next year

For families who will require a primary or secondary school place in September 2027 the means of application is via Lancashire's on-line system at:-

<https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/schools-and-education/school-admissions/apply-for-a-school-place/>

You must apply even if you already have siblings at your preferred school. If you live in Lancashire, you can include out of area preferences on your on-line application. Alternatively call 01772 532191.

The closing dates for applications are at 11.59 pm on:-

Secondary school applications – 31st October 2025 Primary school applications –15th January 2026

For those applying to Catholic schools you must also complete a supplementary form and return to school with proof of Nationality (e.g. birth certificate or passport) and proof of Baptism of any denomination.

The supplementary faith form must be handed in along with baptism certificate to the office as St Bede's before 31st October otherwise your child may not get a place.

Every year, children from feeder primary schools miss out on their place as this form has not been handed in or has been handed in late.

Dates for your Diary

Wednesday 14th October – 2pm Our Lady Procession to Church - classes 2, 3 and 4

Tuesday 20th October– Parents evening

Thursday 22nd October – Half term assembly all parents welcome

Friday 23rd October - Close for Half term

Monday 2nd November – INSET Day

Weds 9th December – Nursery, EYFS, KS1 Breakfast with Santa

Weds 9th and Thurs 10th December - Nursery and KS1 Nativity

18th December – School close for Christmas

Forest School

Each class will attend Forest School on a rota this half term

Class 1: 07/10

Class 2: 21/10

Class 3: 13/10



On these days, children may come to school wearing their own clothes and suitable footwear in case it is wet outside. As we are outdoors it is likely to be muddy so scruffy clothes are the best!

Weekly Certificates

The following children were awarded certificates by their class teacher for demonstrating one of our core values this week. Well done!

Class 2: Elias

Class 3: Bella and Penny

Class 4: Eva and Hugo

**Growing together
as a family**

**Rooted in God's
love**

