Note from the Head

It was lovely to see so many parents at our half term assembly and I am sure everyone will agree that our new Reception class have settled wonderfully well into their Primary school journey and it was lovely to see so many of them confident enough to wave, stand up and speak in front of everyone. I hope you all have a lovely half term and thank you for all of your support this half term.

Friday 23rd October

St.John's Catholic Primary School
Burscough



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SCHOOL BASED NURSERIES

Lunchtime activities

Over recent weeks, we have reviewed playtime and lunchtime activities to ensure that all children can enjoy a safe, positive and inclusive environment. As a result, we have made the decision to pause football at lunchtime for the time being.

While football is enjoyed by many pupils, we have seen an increase in disagreements, minor injuries and incidents that have required significant staff intervention. This has prevented some children from fully enjoying their lunch break and reduced opportunities for calm, purposeful play.

Our priority is that lunchtimes are safe, enjoyable and inclusive for all pupils. By temporarily removing football, we can encourage children to take part in a wider range of activities, develop different friendships and make better use of the playground space.

To ensure lunchtimes remain fun and engaging, from the next half term, pupils will have access to a variety of alternative activities, including skipping, hula hoops, playground games, led by staff and our newly appointed playground leaders.

We will continue to monitor lunchtimes closely and work with pupils to develop expectations for positive play. We hope to reintroduce football in the future once we are confident that it can be played safely, respectfully and fairly by everyone involved.

Thank you for your support as we work together to provide the best possible lunchtime experience for all children.

Tuck Shop

Our first Tuck shop raised over £34 for the school council. Thank you for supporting the children's initiative money raised from this venture will go towards providing exciting new resources for our playground.

Games and Jigsaws

As the weather becomes wetter and more children spend breaktimes indoors, we are looking to refresh our collection of games and activities to help keep pupils entertained and engaged.

If you have any complete board games, jigsaws, card games, colouring books or other suitable indoor activities that are no longer needed at home, we would be very grateful for your donations. These resources will provide children with enjoyable opportunities to play, socialise and develop important teamwork and problem-solving skills during wet breaktimes.

Donations can be brought to the school office at any time.

Mass times

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

Sunday 09.00 am Saturday 06.30 pm

25/10/26 30th Sunday in ordinary time

***Gospel Reading*:** Matthew 22:34-40

The readings for this week centre on one clear call. Put God first. Care for the people around you. Jesus says these two loves hold everything together. God's law is not a list of cold rules. It shows us how to live in right relationship. When we love God, we learn how to treat others with respect and mercy.

The first reading speaks about protecting the poor and the stranger. God hears their cries. Paul praises believers who stayed faithful in trials. Their lives showed real change. This Sunday asks us to check our daily choices. Do our actions show love, fairness, and trust in God?

Approaching the Gospel with children

Jesus says the greatest and the first commandment is that we should love God with all our heart, with all our soul and with all our mind.

We can show that we love God when we pray - by giving thanks and praise to God. And by remembering all that God asks us to do. We can also show our love for God by trying to behave in a way that pleases God. This is where the second commandment comes in.

Jesus asks us to love our neighbour as ourselves. Who is our neighbour? Our neighbours are the people sitting next to us right now, as well as all the people in the same street, at school and at church, in our town and in our world. We're all part of the same big global family. And we're all loved by God. Some neighbours live close to us and some live far away. But Jesus asks us to love them all as we love ourselves.

Jesus wants us to treat other people as we would want to be treated, to make sure all people are treated fairly and have what they need.

We can all put our love into action to support our neighbours around the world and to help them get the things that they need.

Think about your neighbours close by and those far away. What will you do to help your neighbours and show your love for them in the coming week?

First Holy Communion

The next session for the Year 4 children as part of the Holy Communion preparation is on Sunday 25th October after 9am mass.

PE Kits

There is a decline in standards of school unfirm for PE, mainly amongst girls in the juniors. School uniform for PE is blue or black PE shorts, not cycling shorts or Nike air pro style shorts.

Working Together for Great Attendance

We want every child in our school to thrive, and good attendance plays an important part in this. When children attend school regularly, they are better able to keep up with their learning, feel part of their class and make the most of all the opportunities school has to offer. We really appreciate the support of our families in promoting regular and punctual attendance. If you are experiencing difficulties that are affecting your child's attendance, please speak to us. We are here to help. Thank you for your continued support

Attendance for this half term:

Class 1 89.51% Class 2 88.57% Class 3 94.17% Class 4 93.85%

Remembrance

The school council will be selling poppies and other fundraising items next week. The costs range for 10p for a sticker to £1.50 for a slap band.

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

Dates for your Diary-

Mon 2nd Nov – INSET Day

9th December – Breakfast with Santa for infants

9th & 10th De - Nursery & KS1 Nativity

18th December – School close for Christmas

Growing together as a family

Rooted in God's love

FAITH GROWTH LOVE FAMILY