



A small school with a big heart

# NEWSLETTER

## FRIDAY 27 JANUARY 2023

St Mary's Catholic Primary School, Smithy Lane,  
Claughton-on-Brock,  
PR3 0PN Tel: 01995 640258



### Stars of the Week Class 1

Ethan: for a determined effort with learning, and enthusiasm in PE.

All the Year 1s and 2s: for incredible instruction writing. Wow!

### Stars of the Week Class 2

Lucy: for writing an excellent newspaper report.

James C: for working hard to divide two-digit numbers with remainders.



### Big Hearts are awarded to:

James: for his kind approach to the younger children, and his helpfulness in class all week.

Cara: for always offering support and advice to her peers in their work.

## NOTICES

**Trophy winners!** Class One winners for the autumn term are Sam for the sports trophy and Eva for the values trophy. Well done!

**Prime drinks:** a small number of children have started to bring Prime drinks bottles into school. The drink itself was designed for adults, contains BCAA for muscle recovery, and is not allowed in school. We would be grateful if the bottles were not used as replacement water bottles as this involves staff having to check the drinks each morning, and has also led to confusion about whose bottle is whose – an easy way to spread bugs. Thank you for your support in this matter.

**Invoices:** please could all outstanding invoices from 2022 be settled before Tuesday. Please could all payments be made by bank transfer. From January 2023, we will no longer be accepting cash for invoices (although cash will still be accepted for trips). Bank details are on the invoices. Many thanks.

**Last Choir Singing Competition:** for those children in Class Two who are taking part in this competition, please note that the heat will take place on Wednesday 22 March at King George's Hall in Blackburn. Please take your children to the venue for 5–5.15pm. Members of staff will be there to receive them. Doors open to audience members at 6pm and the heat will begin at 6.30pm. Tickets can be purchased here: <https://bwdvenues.com/whats-on/the-last-choir-singing-2023-2023/> The event will finish at approximately 9.30pm and you can collect your children from a designated collection point at the venue.

**Easter Bingo:** on Friday 24 March our Easter Bingo event will take place in Cloughton Village Hall. The time is to be confirmed. Cakes, juice, tea and coffee will be available on the night. Donations of cakes would be much appreciated. Come along, have some fun, and win some chocolate!

**Tree-planting ceremony:** on Tuesday 14 March at 11am you are all invited to a tree-planting ceremony on school grounds. We have invited the eldest member of the community, who attended St Mary's school as a child, to plant a tree with the youngest boy in school and Mr Sandham to plant a tree with the eldest girl. The tree planting is part of The Queen's Green Canopy initiative and Mr and Mrs Fitzherbert-Brockholes have donated the three oak trees for us to plant on the school grounds. The third tree will be planted by our current Year 6 pupils.

We are inviting the *LEP* and *Garstang Courier* and we hope as many people as possible can attend this wonderful and memorable event. The school band will be performing to mark the occasion.

The Queen's Green Canopy is an initiative that began in May 2021 in the United Kingdom in honour of the Platinum Jubilee of Queen Elizabeth II in 2022. To increase and protect the native tree cover, people were urged to create this 'special gift' for the Queen, to mark her 70 years on the throne. We will be planting a tree as part of this initiative to mark the Queen's passing.

**PE days:** please could children come to school on PE days dressed in their kit with their school jumper over the top. Many thanks.

**Extra bank holiday:** school will be closed on **Monday 8 May 2023** to mark the coronation of King Charles III.

**Term time holiday:** just a reminder that we cannot authorise holidays in term time unless the circumstances are deemed to be exceptional. LCC will issue penalty notices where unauthorised absences reach the necessary threshold.

**Parent Governor vacancy:** we have a vacancy for a parent governor. If you are interested or wish to find out more, please let us know. We will then organise an election for the position.

**Packed lunch day:** As you are aware, the dinners are transported from the kitchen of another school. There is one remaining date this year when their kitchens will not be open due to inset days taking place. On 26 May 2023 we would ask that you send your children to school with a packed lunch. We will issue reminders nearer the time.

## **The Week Ahead**

Tuesday 31 January

Music lessons, choir and band with Mr Warren

Class One

Class Two PE

Band practice 3.30–4.30

Wednesday 1 February

Class One Forest School 3.30–4.30

Class Two Multi Skills 3.30–4.30

Thursday 2 February

Class Two PE (Yrs 5 & 6 curling 1-3pm)

Class One PE

Years 2–6 Musical Theatre 3.30–4.30pm

Class One Lego Coding 3.30–4.30pm

## **Dates For Your Diary**

Monday 30 January

Reception and Year 6 height and weight checks, and Year 6 well-being questionnaire

Friday 10 February

School finishes for half term 3.30pm

Monday 20 February

INSET DAY: children at home

Tuesday 21 February

School reopens

Thursday 2 March

World Book Day! Dress up as your favourite book character!

Tuesday 14 March

Community tree-planting ceremony at 11am at school

Friday 17 March

Non-uniform for Easter Bingo

Friday 24 March

Easter Bingo: donations of cakes on the night, please.

Friday 31 March

School closes for Easter at 1.30pm

**We continue to pray for the people of Ukraine...**

Loving God,

We pray for the people of Ukraine, for all those suffering or afraid,  
that you will be close to them and protect them.

We pray for world leaders, for compassion, strength and wisdom to guide their choices.

We pray for the world that, in this moment of crisis,  
we may reach out in solidarity to our sisters and brothers in need.

May we walk in your ways, so that peace and justice  
become a reality for the people of Ukraine and for all the world. Amen.

**Wishing you all a pleasant weekend. See you on Monday!**