



A small school with a big heart

# NEWSLETTER

## FRIDAY 3 MARCH 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 superb reading in guided reading.  
Well done!

Maddison Rose: for incredible story writing!

### Stars of the Week Class 2

Ella: for creating a brilliant clay Harry Potter!

Jasmine R: for using excellent figurative  
language in her writing.



### Big Hearts are awarded to:

James S: for being incredibly kind to his  
peers.

Jimbob: for always helping others in  
class. Even at home helping his brother  
with his reading.



**Happy Birthday  
to Harrison and  
Maya who are  
turning 8!  
And to Eva who is  
turning 6!**

**Congratulations!**

## NOTICES

**Goodbye to Mrs Martin:** we are sad to be saying goodbye to Mrs Martin, who is moving into a new role working on a one-to-one basis with a child in another primary school. She will be missed by staff and pupils alike. We thank her for her hard work and dedication to the school and wish her the very best of luck in her new role.

**Last Choir Singing Competition for Class Two children:** should your child wish to join in the event, there is still time! A minibus will transport any child who needs it, both to and from the venue. And thanks to a generous donation from parents, we are able to offer a chippy tea to all children taking part. If your child would like to join in and you need a consent form please contact the office.

**Lunchtime welfare role:** we will shortly be placing an advert for a lunchtime welfare assistant for Monday to Friday during term time, from 11.45am to 1.15pm. If you would like to learn more about the role or know of anyone who might be interested, please get in touch.

**Music Lessons on Monday next week:** a reminder that music lessons and band are taking place on Monday 6 March this coming week. Please send children into school with their instruments. Many thanks.

**Invoices:** we do appreciate that there are multiple financial pressures on households at present, but if it is at all possible we would ask that invoices are paid as soon as possible after receipt. We are obliged to pay our external providers promptly, which means that if even a handful of invoices are several weeks overdue there can be some very serious cashflow issues. We would ask that the remaining outstanding January invoices are paid in the next 7 days as February invoices are about to go out. We thank you for your co-operation.

**Careers Week:** if any of our parents would like to talk to the children about their occupation as part of our careers week, please contact your child's class teacher.

**Easter Bingo:** on Friday 24 March our Easter Bingo event will take place in Claughton Village Hall from 6 to 8pm. 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**

Monday 6 March	Music lessons, choir and band with Mr Warren  Band practice 3.30–4.30
Tuesday 7 March	Class One PE  Class Two PE
Wednesday 8 March	Class One Multi Skills 3.30–4.30  Class Two Forest School 3.30–4.30 (wellies and waterproofs!)
Thursday 9 March	Class One PE  Class Two PE  Years 2–6 Musical Theatre 3.30–4.30pm  Class One teacher-led club 3.30–4.30pm

## **Dates For Your Diary**

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!**