



Newsletter



10th December 2021

Mrs Charnley's Message: As Christmas approaches and preparations continue, there is a real sense of community within school. It is never easy at these times when children are learning song words, movements and acting roles in addition to all their curriculum work. It would be so easy to get caught up in performance and forget the faith journey along the way; the most important message: 'Such a big miracle in such a little baby'. Every year we try so hard to keep this message at the centre of all our Advent preparations and encourage the children to see the beauty of Christmas; to appreciate the true meaning of Christ's birth. Therefore, when children look outwards and recognise the needs of others, this is a true reflection of their growth; something for all of us, young and old, to aspire to. I was immensely proud of all the children as I watched them perform their plays this week. Watching them from the 'livestream' videos available on the website, reminds us all of the true meaning of Christmas and of the most important story of all.

We are all certainly in need of Christmas cheer as we continue to meet further challenges, being reminded again this week that keeping each other safe is paramount; particularly those in our community who are vulnerable. With the discovery of another new variant and the government's announcement that face masks should be introduced in communal places, we have updated our own risk assessments to ensure we are doing everything possible to keep each other safe. Once again you have all risen immediately to our call for help, wearing those face masks and continuing to err on the side of caution and making sure that you keep us informed if children are poorly. If unsure it is always wise to book a PCR test and to wait for the results before returning to school. You have all been great at doing this and contacting us immediately with results. This helps us all to keep transmission rates low. With Christmas just around the corner, everyone is desperate to share this special time with family. Have a lovely weekend and just a little reminder that on December 17th school will be closing earlier with pick up time at 1.30pm.

Mrs Charnley and the Staff of Saint Clare's.



Headteachers Award

Little Saplings - Everyone!

Rowan - Anna

Willow - Patrick

Hazel - Everyone!

Beech - Everyone!

Pine - Leona

Elder - Macie L.

Cherry - Mia

Oak - Isabel M.



Diary Dates

15th December—Christmas Dinner, Jumper and Party Day

17th December—School closes for the Christmas break at 1:30pm

4th January—School Re-opens

PTFA Rainbow Raffle - The PTFA will be holding a Rainbow Raffle which will be drawn on 15th December. Tickets can be bought via parent pay for £1 each.

Year 6 Borwick Hall—A reminder that the final payment for Borwick Hall is due by 15th December. If you have any queries please contact the office.

KS2 Toast - If your child would like to have toast after the Christmas break please make payment of £5.80 via Parentpay by 17th December. When making payment please take into account toast payments still to come out of your balance up to the end of this term.

Meet the Teacher - Zoom meetings will take place on Wednesday 5th January providing an opportunity for teachers to share with you what the children will be learning in the spring term. The times of the meetings are;

3:30pm – Little Saplings

3:50pm – Rowan

4:10pm – Year 1 from Willow and Hazel

4:30pm – Year 2 from Beech and Hazel

5:00pm – Year 3 - Pine

5:20pm – Year 4 - Elder

5:40pm – Year 5 - Cherry

6:00pm- Year 6 - Oak

School Admissions

School admissions open on 1 September 2021 for children due to start primary or secondary school in September.

The deadline to apply for a school place for September 2022 is:

15 January 2022 for primary schools

Apply On line at <https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/children-education-families/schools/apply-for-a-school-place/apply-online-for-a-school-place/>

Feel free to contact school for a visit and please pass on to everyone you know who have children turning 5 from September 2022.

Academy Information

All the Catholic schools in the Diocese of Lancaster have been invited by our bishop, Rev Paul Swarbrick to consider converting to an academy and join a Catholic Multi Academy Trust (CMAT). Please see his introductory letter below.

There will be three CMATs in the diocese (which stretches from Preston to the Scottish Borders). Our CMAT will be the Mater Ecclesiae (Mother of the Church) and will eventually be made up of the 23 Catholic primary and secondary schools in the greater Preston area. Bishop Paul has asked everyone to convert and join one of the CMATs by 2026.

The Governors of Saint Clare's Catholic Primary School feel that this is an exciting opportunity and are considering being in Phase 1 of the schools converting to an academy. This process will take place this school year in readiness for a potential September 2022 conversion.

As part of the conversion process the Governors will consult all school stakeholders; which includes:

Parents
Staff members
The Parish of Saint Clare's
Lancashire County Council

The consultation period commences on Monday 6th December 2021 and finishes on Friday 21st January 2022 at 3pm.

Please see [here](#) for the additional information which details Bishop Paul Swarbrick's vision for academisation along with the consultation letter and FAQs.

Any questions or feedback can be sent to bursar@st-clares.lancs.sch.uk

Following the close of the consultation period the Governing Board of St Clare's Catholic Primary School will consider all the responses received and make a final decision as to whether they wish to start the academisation conversion process this school year. We will keep stakeholders updated of the Governors' decision and next steps.

If any parent wishes to discuss this further please email the address above or contact the Headteacher, Mrs A Charnley.