



Our School, Our Family, Modelled on Christ

St Mary's R C Primary School

Haslingden

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Headteacher: Miss D McNicoll

NEWSLETTER

9th October 2026

Dear Parents,

As you're aware, we had our Section 48 RE inspection this week. Our two inspectors were on site for two very intense days on Wednesday and Thursday. The children were absolutely brilliant – as always, they were a complete delight. They engaged so well with the inspectors, answered questions thoughtfully, and really showed what St Mary's is all about. I couldn't have been prouder of how they represented our school.

I want to say a huge thank you to all the parents who took the time to complete the questionnaires. Your feedback is really valuable and gives inspectors a genuine sense of what our school community thinks and feels. We also really appreciated those of you who made the effort to meet with the inspectors on the playground.

The whole inspection process is quite thorough, and our staff worked incredibly hard in the lead-up to Wednesday and Thursday to make sure everything was ready. But really, what the inspectors saw was just a snapshot of what we do every single day – the hard work, the care, and the commitment to providing a Catholic education that nurtures both learning and faith.

The inspectors will be writing up their report, and we're looking forward to sharing it with you once it's been published.

I'm really grateful for the support and encouragement we've had from our whole community throughout this process. It's clear that St Mary's is a special place, and that's down to everyone – pupils, staff, parents, and governors – all working together. Thank you for being part of that.

PTFA Events this term

Thank you to the parents who attended the PTFA meeting in school on Monday. It was great to see lots of new faces!

At the meeting, the PTFA planned our popular Spooky Disco, which takes place after half term on **Tuesday 3rd November 3.30-5.00pm** and also our Christmas Fair, which will take place on **Sunday 29th November**.

Non Uniform Day

We will be having a non-uniform day on Monday 12th October and are asking the children to donate any bottles (eg wine/pop/shampoo etc) in new, un-opened condition for the PTA bottle tombola stall. This is usually the most popular stall at the Christmas Fair and raises a large amount of money so thank you so much for your generosity.

Parent Information Meetings

A reminder that next week we are hosting our parents meetings. These will take place on the following dates :

Monday 12th October: Year 1 (Mrs Rumsam)

Tuesday 13th October: Class 4 (Mrs Wilkinson)

Wednesday 14th October: Reception (Miss Hall) and Year 6 (Mrs Booth)

Thursday 15th October: Year 2 (Miss Cheetham) Class 3 (Miss Reeves)

Events next week

A reminder about some upcoming trips and events next week:

- Class 4 will be presenting their RE showcase on Monday at 2.30pm
- Class 5 will be presenting a fantastic showcase event about World War 2 on Friday morning
- Year 6 are visiting the Skate Park in Darwen on Friday

Uniform Shop

On Friday next week, we will open up our pre-loved uniform shop in the school hall at 8:30am for parents to get any items of uniform required.

As you know, parents can request items of our pre-loved uniform stock any time of year via the office staff also.

School Mass

We will be celebrating Mass together as a school family in Church this Sunday at 10am.

All families and friends of St Mary's are welcome, as always, to join us. We hope to see you all there!

Open Day

A reminder we are having our Open Day for new prospective parents on Tuesday 13th October from 1.30pm – 5.00pm. Please share this information with anyone who you think may be interested.

Please remember that if you are applying for a place at St Mary's for a sibling in September 2027 and your child is a baptised Roman Catholic, we need a copy of their baptism certificate. Please send this into school as soon as possible for our records.

Our next REACH assembly will take place next Friday at 2.30pm. Everyone, as always, is welcome to join us for it.

Finally, school closes next Friday 16th October for half term and reopens on Monday 2nd November.

Yours Sincerely

Miss D McNicoll