



# St Clare's Catholic Primary School Newsletter

Friday 19th January 2024

***Play, learn and grow together with Christ***

***St Clare's is a Christ-centred family where everyone is valued and respected. We learn and grow, whilst strengthening our relationship with God and one another. Together in His love, we can achieve our full potential.***

## Mrs Charnley's Message



Goodness we have had some really cold weather. We hope you enjoyed seeing the photographs on our social media showing all the children enjoying the snow at the beginning of the week. I know that they all enjoyed making snowmen and sledging, such magical memories made.

This week also sees our school being recognised that we are in the top 1% of the county for our Phonic assessments. It is lovely to have the wonderful work that the staff of St Clare's do on a daily basis that means the children respond so well. Well done St Clare's.

Our Reception children are now so well established as part of the school community and are just flowing with brilliant vocabulary and so much confidence, their 'wanted' posters for Goldilocks are a delight. It was lovely to see William's mum come with all the C.S.I. gear for the children to really enjoy the role play of discovering who was responsible for the crimes. They are grasping new challenges and developing their independence which is fantastic to see!

Please remember that the school day starts at 8.55 am and all children should be in class by that time ready for the day's learning. From Monday the gates will be closed at that time and children will have to enter the school through the main entrance. They will also receive a late mark on that day. Thank you for your support in this matter. Finally, I would ask you to remember to be considerate when parking at the start and end of the school day.

Have a lovely weekend everyone and let's hope the weather will be kind to us all.

God Bless,

**Mrs Charnley and the Staff of Saint Clare's.**

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*"Anyone who stops learning is old, whether at twenty or eighty. Anyone who keeps learning stays young. The greatest thing in life is to keep your mind young." — Henry Ford*

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## Faith

Here is our weekly mission - a small way of putting into practice the gospel values. We believe we are called to live our lives differently because of what we have experienced and prayed about. What we offer as the 'mission' is a suggestion of how we can all do just that.



## Headteacher Award of Excellence



### This Weeks Winners Are...

**Little Saplings:** Joel - *"For being a great Antarctic explorer".*

**Rowan:** - Haniyah *"Working hard in phonics".*

**Willow:** Maryam - *"For Excellence in writing ".*

**Hazel:** Finley - *"For a positive 'Can Do' Attitude and setting a good example for everyone in class".*

**Beech:** Olivia - *"Great English work this week, including two super diary entries".*

**Pine:** Amber Rose - *"Fantastic Diary Entries".*

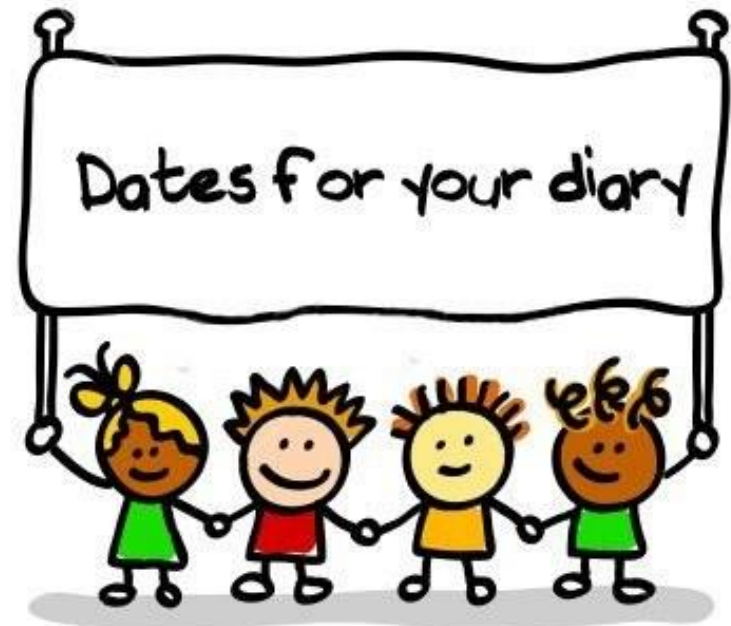
**Elder:** Ayaan - *"For his super geography and science answers during our field trip".*

**Cherry:** Fatima - *"For a beautiful and creative piece of RE work".*

**Oak:** Abel - *"For Pushing himself out of his comfort zone and working hard in all areas".*

**The Winning House this week:** Haydock!

## Dates for your Diary



Monday 29th January - One World Week.

Monday 5th February - Borwick Hall.

Tuesday 6th February - Safer internet day.

**Friday 9th February - Break up for half term.**

**Tuesday 20th February - Return to school.**

Tuesday 27th February – Year 4 Egyptian Workshop

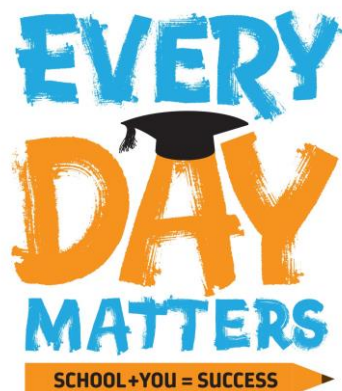
Tuesday 27th February – Year 3 Ancient Greece Workshop

Wednesday 28th February – Year 6 Dance Competition

Friday 1st March – Year 5 Mass and Lenten Lunch



## Attendance



The whole school's attendance this week was 92.78%.

Well done to Year 4 (Elder), Your class had the highest attendance this week with 99.72%!

### **ABSENCE REPORTING!**

If your child is going to be late or absent for any reason then please call the school office and speak to a member of staff, leave a voicemail, send an email or a message via Arbor to the school. This must be done before the start of the school day which is 8:55am. You must call in everyday that your child is absent.



UK Health Security Agency reminds parents of back-to-school advice amid rising levels of winter illness in the new year. [www.gov.uk](https://www.gov.uk).

[https://www.gov.uk/government/news/ukhsa-reminds-parents-of-back-to-school-advice?utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=govuk-notifications-topic&utm\\_source=d2897b05-876e-4b17-96d6-0a01fa2e1827&utm\\_content=daily](https://www.gov.uk/government/news/ukhsa-reminds-parents-of-back-to-school-advice?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=govuk-notifications-topic&utm_source=d2897b05-876e-4b17-96d6-0a01fa2e1827&utm_content=daily)

## Year 1 Phonics Screening Results



**Rt Hon Damian Hinds MP**  
Minister for Schools

Sanctuary Buildings 20 Great Smith Street Westminster London SW1P 3BT  
tel: 0370 000 2288 [www.education.gov.uk/contactus/dfe](http://www.education.gov.uk/contactus/dfe)

Mrs Anne Charnley  
St Clare's Catholic Primary School, Preston  
Lancashire  
Sharoe Green Lane North  
Preston  
PR2 9HH

08 January 2024

*Dear Mrs. Charnley,*

I am writing to congratulate you on your school's outstanding achievement in the 2023 Phonics Screening Check.

We want to ensure every child develops a firm grasp of phonics as the basis on which to improve standards of reading. As such I was delighted to see your results.

With 100 per cent of pupils in Year 1 at St Clare's Catholic Primary School, Preston meeting the expected standard in the check, your school is in the top 1 per cent of all primary schools in the country.

The latest figures show that 83 per cent of pupils who met the expected standard in the check went on to achieve at least the expected standard in reading at key stage 2 in 2023, which underlines the importance of developing the ability to decode words effectively at an early age.

Your particular success in teaching phonics and early reading so effectively means your pupils are developing a firm foundation, from which they can become increasingly fluent and develop a lifelong love of reading.

I would like to thank you for your commitment and success in this vital area of a child's early education and congratulate you, your staff and pupils again on all you have achieved.

Yours sincerely,

*Damian Hinds*

**Damian Hinds**  
Minister for Schools

## PCSO Visit



Our school PCSO, Cosmin has been into school today. He will be back next week to look at online safety with our Year 4 class and will be discussing knife crime with Year 5 & 6.

## Online Safety



At the end of each month we will be sending out a Online Safety Newsletter. We have also added a section to the website under 'Parents' which we would encourage you to take a look at, This includes a booklet to help support with parental controls. With Christmas comes a wealth of new technology for children to enjoy. Our ICT consultant has found that by using Google Family you can help to keep your child safe online. <https://familylink.google.com/>

Family Link gives you access to manage your child's account and data settings. As a parent, you can help change or reset your child's password if they forget it, edit their personal information or even delete their account if you feel necessary. You can also use the Google Family Link is a parental controls app that helps you keep your family safer online.

## Holy Communion Program



The Holy Communion program is commencing for those who have already registered on Saturday 20th January at 9:30am in the Parish Hall.

For anyone in year 3 or above who haven't registered but would like to receive their First Holy Communion they need to speak to a priest at the parish as a matter of urgency.

Many thanks,

Fr Stephen

## St Clare's After School Club



St Clare's After School Club is a private childcare provider which provides childcare solely for children at St Clare's Primary School.

We pick up the children on our register from the school and take them to the adjacent church hall.

We provide a snack and a drink of milk or water then the children are free to choose from a variety of activities including arts and crafts, board games, small world toys, role play, outdoor play, physical play, quiet reading, IT resources (computer, XBOX, Wii etc.).

We also have the use of a large grassed area behind the church hall and the school playground for physical activities such as football, cricket, ball games, scooters etc.

We are open after school Monday to Friday. You may book the day or days you require subject to availability. Unfortunately, we cannot take one off or occasional bookings.

We are pleased to say we have spaces available. These will be on a first come first served basis.

Please contact Gill McAuley on 07879241099 between 2.30 and 5.30 for further information.

Please feel free to leave a message outside of these hours and we will get back to you.

## PARKING!



I understand that we all have to get to drop off our children on our way to work and how busy that can be with the traffic at that time. I also know that by parking on a double yellow line on the road outside the school is illegal and dangerous for the children—particularly if it is right in front of the gates to the school or parish carpark. Please be aware that we have been asked by the police to pass on any car number plate of anyone doing so. Think carefully about all the children coming to school and the safety of everyone. As reception children become more familiar with the routines and our drop-and-go system I am sure things will ease. Please use the one-way route when using the drop-and-go system. Some of the parking spaces are reserved for hospital staff, please be mindful that you are not blocking them in. I really appreciate your help and support in this matter.