



Our Lady and St. Gerard's News

Week Ending 20th December 2024

Merry Christmas



2024 Round Up: What a year! Look what we achieved.....

Ofsted – We had our Ofsted inspection in October and achieved **OUTSTANDING** in Early Years and **GOOD** in all other areas which shows the dedication of the school staff and governors to make our school the best we can for our children.

New Mission Statement – With the children we developed and adopted our new mission statement in February
'United in love and the light of Jesus, we inspire one another to learn, grow and shine'
'LOVE, INSPIRE, SHINE'

School Improvement:

- Prayer Garden – was completed in January and we have had success growing our wild flowers, vegetables and many weeds too!
- New Play Areas – including the new play frame and the trim block area at the front of school.
- New fencing along the church side of school – making our school more secure and safe for our children.
- Carpark extension & new pedestrian entrance – making the front of school more welcoming and safer for pupils and visitors
- Work has started on the drainage system on the school field and we hope for this to be completed in the Spring.

Events: NSPCC Number Day, World Book Day, Egg Raffle, Easter Bingo, ProStrike, Wacky Hair Day, Rock Kidz, Children in Need, Christmas Bingo

Productions: Drama Production – Madagasca, Year 6 Play, Nativities, Carol Concerts

Trips: York, Robinwood, London, Turton Tower, Blackpool Zoo, Blackpool Sea Life Centre, Ribcheater, Opera Magic, Aladdin....

What a packed year, all this on top of our regular teaching year, SATs, Phonics tests, Year 4 Multiplication tests, parents evenings, induction days, open events, the list goes on.

All the hard work the staff put in does not go unrecognised and we would like to extend our thanks to all the parents and families that give us such positive feedback on all the things we do in school with and for your children.

We wish you a very Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year!

Christmas Jumper Donations: If you have Christmas jumpers your children have outgrown, please donate them to school for those children who do not have one for next year. Many Thanks



Love, Inspire, Shine

United in Love and the light of Jesus, we inspire one another to learn, grow and shine

Volunteers – Your School Needs You! Volunteers are a great help in school, if you or someone you know may be interested in helping out in school for as little or as much time as available, please contact the school office for a volunteer form. Volunteers can help with reading with the children, going on school trips, supporting PTA and sporting events, help in the garden and school grounds The list is endless. If you have any spare time, even on an adhoc basis and you have skills to offer please get in touch. All volunteers are required to have a school DBS (criminal record) check.

School Admissions

Reception class applications close **15th January 2025**.

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

Nursery Places

It's not too late to apply for Nursery for April 2025 we have some places available. If you have a child that turns 3 at any point up to **31 March 25** they can start in our school Nursery class at the start of the summer term.

We have funded and paid for places available and Tax free Childcare vouchers can be used to pay for paid for sessions. Please contact the school office by email: bursar@ourlady-st-gerards.lancs.sch.uk or by calling 01772 335025 for more information.

Welcome to Our Lady & St. Gerard's
15 & 30 Hour Funded Places Available for 3 and 4 Year Olds

Breakfast Session Available 7:30-8:45

After School Places Available Until 5:45

Contact us: 01772 335025 - bursar@ourlady-st-gerards.lancs.sch.uk

Swimming – Monday Mornings 9am

Spring	Year 5 Johnson
Summer	Year 4 – half a term each

After School Clubs

Mondays Drama Club - 3.15 to 4.15pm

Wednesdays are the Active Club days. Each half term, a different year group will be given the opportunity to attend a sports/active club led by a sports coach.

Wednesdays Year 4 Tennis – 8th Jan – 12th Feb

We also have additional paid for clubs and activities run by external providers. This term these include:

Guitar with Miss Galea – Tuesday (1:45, 2:15 and 2:45pm)

Singing with Miss Galea – Tuesday 3:15 to 4pm

Drumming Lessons - Fridays 10.00 – 11.30am

Active Lifestyles Programme

Spring 1

Week 1 Wednesday 8th Jan – Dr Bike PM

Week 2 Wednesday 15th Jan – Tots on Tyres AM & PM - Reception

Week 3 Wednesday 22nd Jan – Tots on Tyres AM & PM - Reception

Week 4 Wednesday 29th Jan – Tots on Tyres AM & PM - Reception

Week 5 Wednesday 5th Feb – Scootsafe AM & PM – Year 3

Week 6 Wednesday 12th Feb – Bike Fix AM & PM – Year 6

* **Dr Bike**, we triage the bikes from our van outside and check over any bikes brought in; punctures, loose nuts and bolts, loose or broken brakes etc, we can usually get through around 20 bikes in a morning or afternoon. We offer this to the whole school, but the preference is to work on the bikes that will be used at Bikeability ideally so the students will have a working roadworthy bike before they attend the BA session, if we have time we will also work on any other bikes brought in.

* **Tots On Tyres** is for Reception class and we usually take 6 out at a time, 20-30 minutes per group.

* **Scoot Safe** is for Year 3's, the first session is 45/60mins of theory in the classroom followed by fun activities on the scooter in the playground for the 2nd session. We have 4 scooters to lend and some helmets, it's better if as many pupils as possible organise to bring/acquire their own helmets and scooters. If you need to borrow a scooter or helmet – please speak to your class teacher as soon as possible.

* **Bike Fix** is for Year 6 Bikeability, we demonstrate how to fix a puncture, they split off into groups and have a go at fixing a puncture themselves, we also discuss other ways to check their bike over before a bike ride.

* **Bikeability** involves first morning on the playground delivering Level 1, if the riders are competent and pass Level 1 they will progress to Level 2 where we go out in the afternoon onto quiet roads. Day 2 is L2 all day on slightly more busier roads, a more advanced and progressive session. If any of the students do not complete L1 on day 1 they will not be able to progress onto L2. Please let us know if your child will need to borrow a bike and/or a helmet if they do not own their own but wish to take part (there is a limited supply of about 4 or 5 bikes and a few more helmets)

Please also note that if any bikes are considered unroadworthy or pupils are considered not competent enough after Level 1 to go out on the roads, unfortunately they will have to stay in school.

Whats on.....

Fun Fest – Holiday Club – Christmas & New Year

	AM	PM
MON	Crafty Creations Minute to Win It	Puppet Making Sports Action
TUES	Creative Cooks Mission Impossible	Christmas Party!
2nd & 3rd January 2025		
THURS	Pictureque Painting Lego Creations	Sports Action Fun Fest's get Talent
FRI		Winter Gardens Fun Fest Boot Camp Fun Day Friday!

Limited spaces available so please book early
www.fun-fest.co.uk Choose Fun

St Leonard's C of E Primary School, Walton-le-Dale for children 3-12 years.

Extended opening hours of 7:30am - 6:00pm with no extra charge.

Open over Christmas and New Year - 23rd & 24th December and 2nd & 3rd January.

The club is Ofsted Registered with childcare vouchers, tax free childcare accepted. Also able to provide invoices to those on lower incomes and in receipt of Universal Credit, allowing claims of up to 80% of the cost.

Choose fun at
Fun Fest
HOLIDAY CLUB
Ofsted Registered

23rd & 24th
December
2024

7:30am -
6:00pm

2nd & 3rd
January
2025

3-12
years

Christmas Holidays
St Leonard's C of E Primary
Walton Green
Walton-le-Dale
PR5 4JL

A menu of
50+ activities!

Book online at www.fun-fest.co.uk
Enquiries to 07392 790727 or
waltonledale@funfestholidayclub.co.uk



Holiday List 2025 - 2026

Autumn Term 2025

INSET

School Opens

Monday 1st September 2025

Tuesday 2nd September 2025

(Years 1 to 6. Reception start Wed 3rd)

Half-term:

Close

Reopen

School Closes for Christmas

Friday 24th October 2025.

Monday 3rd November 2025

Friday 19th December 2025

Spring Term 2025

School Opens

Monday 5th January 2026

Half term:

Close

Reopen

School closes for Easter

Friday 13th February 2026

Monday 23rd February 2026

Thursday 2nd April 2026

Summer Term 2025

School Opens

Monday 20th April 2026

School closed for Bank Holiday

Monday 4th May 2026

Half-term:

Close

INSET

INSET

Re-open

School closes for Summer

INSET

INSET

Friday 22nd May 2026

Monday 1st June 2026

Tuesday 2nd June 2026

Wednesday 3rd June 2026

Friday 17th July 2026

Monday 20th July 2026

Tuesday 21st July 2026

190 days

HOLIDAYS/ABSENCES DURING TERM TIME ARE NOT PERMITTED EXCEPT IN "EXCEPTIONAL CIRCUMSTANCES" AT THE DISCRETION OF THE HEADTEACHER

HAF PALSHAF
WINTER HOLIDAY CLUBS
 Come, Grow and Explore with us
 For children aged 4-11
 who qualify for Free School Meals

SOUTH RIBBLE
 MIDDLEFORTH PRIMARY
 SCHOOL PR1 9YE

DATES
 Thursday 2nd and Friday
 3rd January 2025

9.00am-1.00pm

To Book Visit:
<https://linktr.ee/palshaf>

Scan the QR code

Ofsted

07930924993

LIMITED PLACES AVAILABLE

Book NOW by scanning the QR code

What to expect: Multi-sports & Winter themed activities

Axe Throwing, Curling, Gingerbread houses, Arts and Craft, STEM plus much more