Love one another as I have loved you. - John 15:12

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Headteacher – Mr P Eaton

SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

October 2026

It has been a wonderful start to the new school year, and I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your continued support of our school. It really does make such a difference, and we are incredibly grateful for the positive partnerships we have with our families and wider community. I hope you are finding communications from school informative and useful now we have settled into the new school year.

There is lots happening at Sacred Heart over the coming weeks, with exciting changes and developments taking place both around school and across our wider community. It is a really exciting time for us, and we are looking forward to sharing all of the opportunities and experiences that lie ahead.

A quick reminder that our Chocolate Bingo takes place on Tuesday 20th October after school. If you have misplaced your letter, don't worry at all! Simply email the school office to let us know how many seats you require, or just turn up on the day, we'd love to see you there!

Finally, if your child's PE kit has come home to be washed, please could you make sure it is returned to school as soon as possible. We need the kits back in school so that children have them available whenever they have PE.

Thank you once again for your continued support. We are looking forward to a fantastic October together!

Mr Darlington
Acting Headteacher

Creation Story Biscuit Competition

Thank you to those who have already entered the Creation Story Biscuit Competition. It is lovely to hear some of the conversations you are having at home related to Creation. There have been some wonderful entries and we already know it is going to be a difficult one to judge.
Reminder… entries in by Friday 16th October. Happy baking!

To the parents and carers,
We wanted to write to tell you all of the fun things we are doing in school. First up, all of our clubs- podcast and Lego clubs, Monday dance, Tuesday writing and football, Wednesday athletics and swimming, Thursday… more football and Friday choir. There's also lots more coming up after half term.
Please remember to bring in items for our Harvest collection, anything you can send in would be greatly appreciated.
We are so proud to be Head Boy and Head Girl of Sacred Heart. It is excellent and diverse, consisting of many people from many backgrounds who are all challenged to do their best and succeed. We would encourage anyone to come and join us.
-Diego and Daisy

Parent Survey

Thank you to everyone who took time to complete the survey sent out in last month's newsletter. It gave staff in school a real insight into what we can do to drive forward as a school and engage more with families and the community. After careful consideration and reflection on the responses, several changes have already taken place, or are planned for the future.

- School lunches immediately returned to the hall with all classes now dining there following a short trial with KS2.
- Parents Evening will be taking place in person. You will already have received a letter earlier in the week with a link to the booking page. The link again...
  Sacred Heart Parents' Evening Booking
- Class Dojo has been introduced across school to replace the current peg chart system in classes. The children responded well to this in the trial across Years 5 and 6, and it has now been rolled out across school. However, we will not be using the messaging element of this due to communication through emails and Facebook already being embedded.
- Paid breakfast and after school enrichment activities will be introduced as detailed in the enrichment document shared with you last week. The first of these clubs will be KS2 Cheerleading and KS1 Multi-skills after October half-term. These clubs will be offered on a first come first served basis and can be paid for using ParentPay.
- Families will be invited to attend our weekly Celebration Assemblies should their child be receiving an award. You will receive an invitation via email by Wednesday evening, in time for the Friday assembly. However, any invites must be kept secret from your child!!
- We are improving our links with the Church, attending Mass weekly, engaging with the First Holy Communion programme and soon will be introducing a Ministers of the Word programme for those children who would like to proclaim Scripture with reverence, confidence, and understanding during the celebration of the Mass either in school or when called upon to read at a weekday parish Mass. We have also separated our whole school weekly worship and celebration assemblies. These will now take place on Mondays and Fridays.
- There will be the introduction of several new events across the year. These will include a family quiz night, a grandparents afternoon, children's discos, an evening carol service, a Christmas Fayre, class assemblies (as well as our Christmas and Easter liturgies), Year 6 leavers events.
- For those who were interested in joining our PTFA or helping out at any event in school, please email fosh@sacredheart-thornton.lancs.sch.uk for more information.

Attendance

Every day in school matters, and regular attendance gives children the best possible opportunity to learn, make progress and enjoy all that school life has to offer. Where possible, please try to arrange routine medical and dental appointments before or after the school day, so that your child misses as little learning as possible. We also encourage children to develop resilience when they are feeling a little under the weather; while we would never expect a child to attend school when they are genuinely unwell, a minor sniffle or feeling slightly below par does not always need to mean a day off. Building this resilience helps children develop the confidence and determination they need to face challenges both in and beyond school.

September attendances

Reception- 98.4%
Year 1- 95.5%
Year 2- **99.4%**
Year 3- 98.2%
Year 4- 99%
Year 5- 97.2%
Year 6- 95.5%
Overall- 97.5%

Dance Festival Tickets

The ticketing link for the dance festival will be made available soon. Miss Urmston will share this as soon as it is sent to us. The event WILL sell out and there is nothing school can do should you not get your tickets in time. The event is ticketed through Blackpool Tower directly, school have no control over allocation. All tickets are sold on a first come, first served basis. When you receive the link, the tickets will not go on sale until **12pm, midday, on Monday 12th October**. Our performance will take place on **Thursday 12th November**. Do not buy tickets for the 10th November, we will not be there.

Reception 2027 Intake- Open Morning Event.

To help us promote our Open Morning Event, please share the link below if you are able…

https://fb.me/e/4QhcK5ibj

Reception class Phonics parent workshop- Thursday 22nd October 9am-9.45am in the Da Vinci building.

The session will cover what Read Write Inc phonics is, how phonics is taught in school, progression throughout the year and into Years 1 and 2, as well as when to expect reading books. There will be a selection of resources out to have a look at and there will be a Q&A at the end for any questions.

Reception class will also be enjoying Teddy Bears Picnic sessions in school every Friday in October. Please feel free to send the children in with their favourite teddy from home.

Mrs Howell
Reception Class Teacher and SENCo.

Year 1 are very excited to be visiting Thornton Library on Wednesday 21st October to become members of the library and spend time with staff completing some arts and crafts. More information to follow.

Following last month's visit from Mr Cafferkey at Cardinal Allen, Year 6 are excited to welcome the Headteacher from Millfield, who will be visiting school on 1st October. They will be hosting a session to talk through the expectations and excitement of secondary school life.

Our student counsellors have organised their very first Churchyard Litter Pick Up! Alongside a group of fellow pupils, the counsellors will be heading over to the Sacred Heart Churchyard to help clean up and gather litter as part of our community responsibility efforts.

Year 6 is also looking forward to a special taster day dedicated to celebrating classroom diversity. Children who have a relative from a different country will be bringing in traditional items of food from their country of origin for the whole class to sample and enjoy.

Autumn Term 1

Weekly Activities

- **Monday:** Dance Club (Years 5 & 6) 3:30pm
- **Tuesday:** Blackpool FC Coaching (all day), Football Club (Years 5 & 6) 3:30pm
- **Wednesday:** Year 5 Swimming, FTFC Lunch Club (KS2), Fylde Rugby Coaching, Athletics Club (Years 5 & 6) 3:30pm.
- **Thursday:** FTFC Lunch Club (KS1), Girls' Football (Years 5 & 6) 3:30pm, Football League Fixtures.
- **Friday:** Choir (KS2) 8:20am, Cricket Coaching- morning.

Key Dates

- **23 September:** Flu Vaccinations
- **24 September:** International Literacy Day Event (Year 5)
- **1 October:** Individual School Photographs
- **5 October:** Trust Care for Creation Mass and Celebration of St Francis of Assisi
- **12 October:** BFC Year 2 Glow Football Tournament
- **13 October:** Parents' Evening
- **16 October:** Trust Charity Day for Mary's Meals
- **20 October:** Reception Intake 2027 Open Morning (9:30am - 11.30am)
- **20 October:** Chocolate Bingo (3:30pm)
- **21 October:** SEND TenPin Bowling Event
- **26 - 30 October:** FTFC Half-Term Holiday Club

Autumn Term 2

Weekly Activities

- **Monday:** 8am KS2 Cheerleading (£20), 3.30pm Dance Club (Years 5 & 6),
- **Tuesday:** Blackpool FC Coaching (all day), 3.30pm Football Club (Years 5 & 6)
- **Wednesday:** Year 5 Swimming, FTFC Lunch Club (KS2), Fylde Rugby Coaching, Athletics Club (Years 5 & 6) 3:30pm.
- **Thursday:** FTFC Lunch Club (KS1), 3.30pm S1 Multi-Skills (£20)
- **Friday:** 8.20am Choir (KS2), Cricket Coaching- morning.

Key Dates

- **6 November:** Veterans' Remembrance Assembly
- **6 & 9 November:** Year 5/6 Football Tournament
- **11 November:** Remembrance Day Event
- **12 November:** Dance Festival
- **13 November:** Children in Need/Run Pudsey
- **23 November:** Year 5 & 6 Grand Theatre Visit
- **24 November:** TBA Special Visitor Charity Event!
- **27 November:** Football Tournament
- **29 - 30 November:** Thornton Lights Choir Performances
- **December:** Choir Visits to Local Care Homes
- **1 December:** Girls' Football Tournament
- **7 December:** Elf Run for Brian House
- **9 December:** Carol Service
- **11 December:** Christmas Jumper Day
- **14 December:** Christmas Fayre (3:30pm)
- **15 December:** Christmas Lunch
- **16 December:** Choir Performance at Rossall
- **17 December:** Pantomime Day
- **18 December:** Whole School Advent Mass (9:10am)

WOW – Walk to School Challenge

We are excited to announce that Sacred Heart has joined WOW- the walk to school challenge, run by the charity Living Streets! The challenge encourages children and families to choose active travel by walking, wheeling, scooting or cycling to school at least once a week.

If you live too far away to walk the whole journey, you can take part through Park and Stride by parking 5–10 minutes away and walking the rest of the way. Children will record how they travel using the interactive WOW Travel Tracker.

Children who travel actively at least once a week for a month will earn a collectable WOW badge, with new designs to collect throughout the school year. The badges are eco-friendly and made in the UK from recycled materials.

As well as being a fun challenge, active travel can help children arrive at school more alert and ready to learn, while supporting wellbeing, healthy habits and a safer, greener school community.

We'd love as many families as possible to get involved. Let's get walking!

Dear God,
Thank you for all you have done for us and everyone around us. You have done everything to keep us healthy and safe. You created the world and watch over us and forgive us when we sin. Make us kind to each other and guide us with encouragement.
Thank you for all your creativity in the world for us all to share.
Amen

Sapphire & Jacob
- Year 4

https://sacredheart-primary.co.uk/

https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61558973441124

https://www.youtube.com/@sacredheart9986

Don’t forget to complete your homework, read daily and practice your spelling rules!