

THE ST CHARLES' COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER



Friday 15th May 2020

"Bring Forth Christ"



Determination Friendship Good Manners Respect Responsibility

REOPENING OF ST. CHARLES' RCP SCHOOL TO CHILDREN IN RECEPTION, YEAR 1 AND YEAR 6

A letter has been sent out accompanying this e-mail with details about the plans to reopen school on Monday 1st June. It is a lengthy letter but I feel as though parents need to be as informed as they can be about the measures we are putting in place to help prevent the spread of this virus. These are unsettling times. There is no best way of reintegrating children back into school and so the decisions we have made are based on what we feel is the right approach for our school in the current context. As I say in the letter, please get in touch and speak with me if there is anything you are worried about, concerned about or want to discuss in more detail. There is the Covid-19 Emergency Contact form on the school website or I will be in school next week.

There is also information within the letter about how we will continue to support those children who are in Years 2, 3, 4 and 5 and also children in the year groups who choose not to return on Monday 1st June.

Mrs Holden will be compiling a list of Frequently Asked Questions which will be uploaded onto the school website and shared through our Facebook page once we know more.

This situation isn't perfect but we want everybody to know that we will continue to be here to support those continue to complete work at home as well as in school.

WILDLIFE WEEK



I think you have all thoroughly enjoyed the activities we created as part of our wildlife week. Some of the things you have been up to looked fantastic and it has been great seeing where you've been around Rishton.

Some of the highlights from what has been shared include:

- The animal factfiles
- Tadpoles you've been monitoring
- Some of the crafty things you've made, including butterfly feeders, lollipop stick bugs and the rocks.

Keep sending in and sharing the work you have been doing with us here in school. It really does brighten up our day when we receive them and people have really been engaging with them on Facebook. Fab work everybody.



MARY AND THE MONTH OF MAY

Next week we will be thinking about and celebrating Mary, the Mother of Jesus. Had the whole world not been turned upside down, our plan was to hold lots of activities in school next week to formally open the mural which was painted on our infant yard in memory of Joan Hurst.



Joan Hurst was a former teacher at St Charles' School, who for many years came in weekly to pray the rosary with the children during her retirement. She was a much loved member of our parish community and has been greatly missed since she passed away last September.

Last year, we raised over £1300 for this mural which was completed in October. As we can't celebrate it like we wanted to, we thought we'd link the activities this week to Mary and the Month of May.

There are lots of activities you can be doing at home and we've broken the activities down into different days which will give you an idea of what we'll be doing in school on the various days. If you don't want to follow our order then just pick and choose the activities which suit you.

As always, keep sharing your pictures and videos from home. A number of you are now using the 'Upload' tab within the Covid-19 section of our website which seems to be working well.



VE DAY

I just wanted to make a special mention to all the images which you shared with school of how you celebrated VE Day (all with appropriate social distancing).

Some of the parties you planned looked fantastic, the details some of you went to with the naming of the different foods you had was excellent.

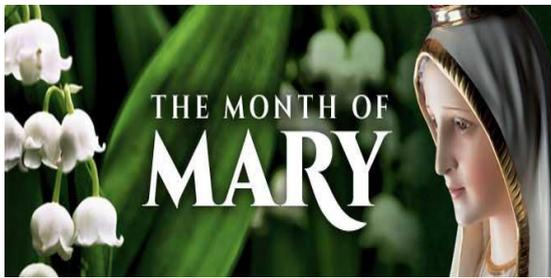
All the pictures you shared with us have been uploaded onto Facebook and will be in the gallery section of our website.

FOUNDATION GOVERNOR

The board of governors of St Charles currently has vacancies for two Foundation Governors. To be considered for this role you have to attend Mass regularly and obtain a faith reference from your Parish Priest to that effect. The governors are responsible for shaping the vision and strategy of the school and offering challenge and support to school leadership to ensure every child is happy, safe and makes progress in every way. Whilst it is a volunteer role it is immensely rewarding and upskilling. We would particularly welcome interest from those with a financial background and buildings/health and safety expertise but these are not essential. Should you wish to find out more please e-mail mryates@st-charles.lancs.sch.uk

We offer this decade of the Rosary for all those affected by the coronavirus and we ask the help of Our Blessed Mother, Mary, to take our prayers to her beloved son, Jesus.





OUR THEME FOR NEXT WEEK IS:
MARY AND THE MONTH OF MAY
HERE ARE SOME ACTIVITY IDEAS

Have a go at as many of these activities as you want! Worksheets to support this work will be posted in the Covid-19 section by Monday.

Worksheets

MONDAY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Design and make a prayer box to display in your house during the month of May. You can write your prayers on a piece of paper and pop them inside. (Template on website) • What stories about Mary can you remember from the Bible? Make a picture book on one of them. • The Angelus is a prayer that used to be said daily in school at 12 noon. Make an Angelus Book – see downloadable resources. • Can you make a rosary out of dried pasta or shells? Or you could make a little book with pictures of the Joyful, Sorrowful and Glorious Mysteries that the GIFT Team could use in their weekly prayer group with Reception and Year 1.
TUESDAY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Make or decorate a frame for a picture of Mary that you can place by your bedside. Use shells, buttons or other found objects. • Write a special prayer to Mary and illustrate it. Send it to your grandma or someone in your family who is devoted to Mary. • The month of May is dedicated to Our Lady. Historians give different reasons for this – can you find out why? • This year is a special year for the English shrine to Our Lady in Norfolk, Our Lady of Walsingham. The GIFT Team wrote a play to tell you the story but we weren't able to perform it due to lockdown. Maybe you could perform it at home – you might have to play more than one part! <i>The script is in the download section.</i>
WEDNESDAY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can you make a crown out of flowers (real or pretend) for Our Lady. Send a photograph in. • The May Procession used to be a big celebration in Lancashire – can you look for some old photographs and describe what villages and towns used to do? • Visit the National Gallery in London's website. Search for paintings of the Virgin Mary and see how artists have depicted her over hundreds of years. Can you find out why she is usually wearing a blue dress? • Some communities still dance around a maypole – can you find out when this started or research what other countries do? • Try putting the words of the Hail Mary to music and create your own hymn/song. Perhaps you could record it and send it into school?
THURSDAY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Colour a picture of Mary and display in your window. Perhaps you could include a prayer or message alongside it? (Template on website) • Create a travel guide for someone making the pilgrimage to Lourdes. How will they travel there? Where will they stay? What should they do whilst there? What should they take? • Can you label a map with well-known shrines to Our Lady – in Europe, there is Knock, Lourdes, Fatima, Medugorje. Many of the stories tell of Mary appearing to children. Why don't you write and draw a comic-book version of a story?
FRIDAY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can you create your own statue of Our Lady using modelling clay, papier-mâché, play dough or any other materials you have at home? • Mary came from Nazareth where Arabic is spoken. Can you learn how to say some basic words and phrases in Arabic? (Word list on website) Mary was the Mother of Jesus. She supported him during some very difficult times. Lots of your grown ups have supported you during this difficult time. Could you draw them a picture of thanks or write them a thank you letter? Perhaps you could do some extra little jobs around the house?