



St Teresa's Catholic Primary School

www.st-teresas-penwortham.lancs.sch.uk

'Christ be in our heads, in our hearts and in our hands'

Weekly Newsletter

Friday 19th December 2025

Head Teacher Letter

Dear Parents / Carers

What a magical final week we have had in school! On Tuesday, we celebrated our whole-school Christmas Day. The celebrations began with a wonderful festive sing-along led by our School Council. The children sang beautifully and enthusiastically, setting the perfect tone for the day ahead. Throughout the morning, pupils took part in a range of exciting Christmas activities, followed by the ever-popular PTFA Christmas Bingo – always a highlight! A huge thank you to the PTFA for organising the prizes!

Our Christmas lunch was also a great success. The hall was full of smiles, music and Christmas cheer, and it was wonderful to see the children enjoying such a special meal together.

In the afternoon, we were joined by staff and pupils from All Hallows for their Roadshow – a fantastic showcase of singing, music and dance. It was a delight to watch such talented performances and extra special to see so many former pupils returning to share the afternoon with us.



On Wednesday, Home-Start visited school to collect the generous donations of Christmas gifts for families in our community. Thank you all for your kindness and thoughtfulness - your support will make a huge difference to many families this Christmas. We are especially grateful to the School Council and Miss Jackson for leading and organising the appeal so brilliantly.



Also on Wednesday, Mrs Smallldon delivered over 400 donated items to the Penwortham Foodbank. This is an incredible achievement and a true reflection of the generosity within our school community. Thank you to all families who donated, and to the Mini Vinnies for coordinating the appeal.

On Wednesday evening, pupils from Years 3 and 4 led a beautiful Carol Service. Their singing and readings were thoughtful and moving, and it was wonderful to welcome so many families to share the occasion. The retiring collection for Bishop Habila's parishes in northern Nigeria was very warmly received – thank you for giving so generously.



Thursday was another special day as we enjoyed our House Point assembly, celebrating pupils who have stayed on green and shown outstanding behaviour this term. We are very proud of you all! We also revealed the winner of the PTF 'Name the Elf' competition – a moment of great excitement for the children and staff!

As we come to the end of term, I would like to say a huge thank you to our pupils, parents, staff and governors. Your support, enthusiasm and kindness have shaped a wonderful year for our school. I am truly grateful and I look forward to everything we will achieve together in the year ahead.

We wish you a very happy, peaceful and holy Christmas and we look forward to seeing you all in the New Year!

Jillian Holmes

General News

- ❖ Prayer and Liturgy Theme W/C 5th January 2026: Epiphany
- ❖ **HOUSEPOINT WINNERS - Arrowsmith (Red) - All pupils in Arrowsmith may come to school in their own clothes on Friday 9th January.**
- ❖ We have made some slight changes to our school mission statement and aims following feedback from parents, staff, pupils and governors, ensuring that they clearly align with our school behaviour policy. [Click here to view the updated version.](#)
- ❖ Letters home this week: Changes To Lunch Ordering and Payments; Holistic Badge Consultative Group - Letter from Mr Biggs; Outstanding Sports Kit; St Teresa's Catholic Life Newsletter.
- ❖ Primary online admissions are now open.
The deadline for applying for a school place for Primary admissions is **15/1/2026**. Please note that you still need to complete the school supplementary form in addition to the online application. St Teresa's supplementary forms are available from our school office or can be found on our website and need to be returned along with a copy of your child's Baptismal Certificate. www.lancashire.gov.uk/schools
- ❖ Spring 2026 Toast is now available for you to purchase via ScoPay for your child. Deadline for payment is Monday 8th December 2025.

Parking at drop off and pick up

We kindly ask for your cooperation in ensuring the safety of all children and families by adhering to the following guidelines when dropping off or picking up your child:

- ❖ Please do not park on the double yellow lines on Stanley Grove. These restrictions are in place to maintain clear visibility and safe passage for pedestrians, cyclists, and other vehicles. Parking on these lines can create hazards, particularly for our young children.
- ❖ Please do not park on the corners of the road around the school as local residents have complained they cannot get passed, especially when they have strollers.
- ❖ Drive carefully and be mindful of your speed when navigating the area around the school, especially during busy drop-off and pick-up times. There are many children and families crossing the roads, and extra caution is vital to avoid accidents.

Stars of the week

These pupils will receive their awards at the Award Assembly on Friday 9th January at 9.00am.

RM : H Mawson
R/1C : D Driffill
1/2V : F Cookson
2B : Z Young

3J : E Green
3/4E : J Murphy
4A : G Sutcliffe
5A : Y Razzaq
6I : S Watson

FS/KS1 **St. Teresa's Role Model**
P Worden

KS 2 **St. Teresa's Role Model**
A Jones

Online safety

[Please click here to view the latest Online Safety Newsletter](#)

After school clubs

After school clubs finish at 4.20pm. To ensure the safeguarding of all children, parents must wait at the bottom of the steps outside the main school entrance for their child.

Monday Y5/6 Girls Athletics with Prime Sports

Wednesday Y5/6 Dance Competition (4:40pm finish)

Thursday Y5/6 Boys Athletics with Prime Sports

Friday Y2 SR Football

Sports news

Sports Kits

Please return any school sports kit to us as soon as possible so we can complete our full sets and ensure everything is ready for future use.

Thank you for your support!

Mini Vinnies

God of hope, you sent your Son Jesus to bring good news to people who are poor. Help us to be that good news, so that together we can work towards a better world where all of us have all that we need. Amen.

Attendance Update

Whole-School Attendance

This Week: 96.4%

Current academic year overall attendance: 96.6%

Digital Leaders

This week, we have added to our school website the fantastic videos our Digital Leaders produced whilst at University Academy 92. Whilst there, our Digital Leaders used state-of-the-art media recording technology to create two videos. The first focuses on the role of a Digital Leader, whilst the second focuses on how to become a Digital Leader. Please watch and enjoy.

The Role of a Digital Leader -

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1MDp-0bP11OhTwrWcbtCwO7rIPW-B2dkM/view>

How to Become a Digital Leader -

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1hwITdwPLqOynp9ZbVvDXXmWhuBpMcJgV/view>

Dates for the diary

Week 1 lunches w/c 5th January 2026

Monday 5th 8:40am School Re-opens
January

Thursday 8th 7:50am Young Voices Rehearsal
January

Friday 9th All Day HOUSEPOINT WINNERS - Arrowsmith (Red) Own
January Clothes Day
9:30am Award Assembly

Schools calendar can be found here:

<https://www.st-teresas-penwortham.lancs.sch.uk/special/google-calendar/>

**Community
& Parish
Information**

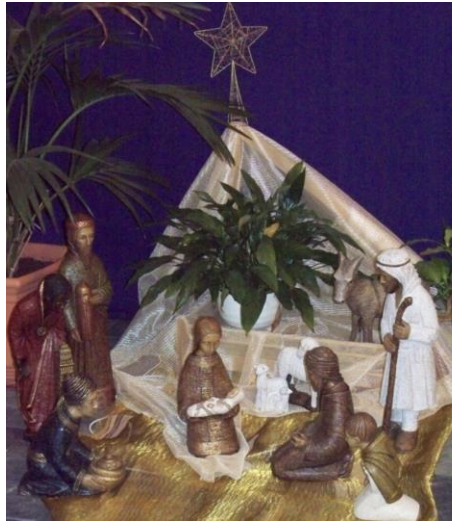
Weekend Mass Times:

St. Teresa's: 6:00pm (Saturday night) 9:30am (Sunday morning).

St. Mary Magdalen's: 11:00am (Sunday morning).

St. Oswald's: 5:00pm (Saturday night) 8:30am (Sunday morning).

Christmas Mass Times:



**Christmas Masses
in Penwortham 2025**

Christmas Eve:
5pm St Mary Magdalen's Church
6:30pm St Teresa's Church

Christmas Day:
10am St Teresa's Church

Boxing Day:
10am St Marys Magdalen's
Church

**Come and celebrate
the birth of our Saviour!**