



PRAYER OF THE WEEK

Loving and Merciful God,

We come before You in prayer, lifting up Your servant, Pope Francis, in his time of need. You are the Source of all healing, and we ask You to surround him with Your loving presence, granting him strength and recovery. May Your divine grace rest upon him, restoring his health and filling him with renewed vigor to continue leading Your Church with compassion and wisdom.

We place Pope Francis into Your hands, trusting in Your eternal care. May he be comforted by the love of the Church and the prayers of all the faithful. We ask, through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary, that his recovery be swift, and his spirit be strengthened in Your peace. May Your will be done in his life, O Lord, and may Your healing power be with him always.

Amen

KEY DATES

Wc 3rd March
5th March
6th March
Wc 10th March
27th March

Y11 Mocks
Ash Wednesday
World Book Day
British Science Week
Y10 Parents Evening

REMINDERS

Student Absences

Call school on 01229 814 560

Don't forget

World Book Day on Thurs 6th March—books can be purchased online for our author visit (Year 7)

Remember

Ash Wednesday is on 5th March. Mass and distribution of ashes at St Mary's Church at 9:30am and 6pm.

WORDS FROM ST BERNARD

"I have ascended to the highest in me, and look, the Word is towering above that. I have descended to explore my lowest depths, and I found Him deeper still."





Congratulations this week to our fantastic students. We are so proud of you

COMMITTED LEARNERS

**YR 11- Sophie Bamber, Kai Chester, Caitlin Dalton, Queencie Galang, Kas-
sidee Holland, Darcey Thomas**

**YR 10- Hamza Ahmed, Ruby Harrison, Kenzie-Jai Jefferson, Rachel White
Aiza Caasalan, Jack Middleton**

**YR 9- Bethany Clark, Ellie Corlett, Emelia Parker, Mateusz Suwala, Sienna
Terpilowski, Elizabeth Watt**

**YR 8- Niamh Cunningham, Ann Baiju, Annie Coward, Macei Stephenson
Hannah Tranter, Sam Baker**

**YR 7—Mary Haynes, Shamika Brooks, Bella Smith, Emily Duncan-
Matalavea, Enya Wilson**

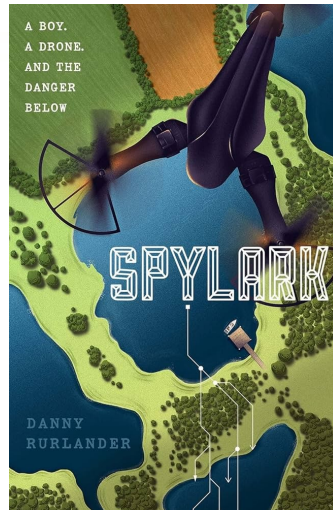
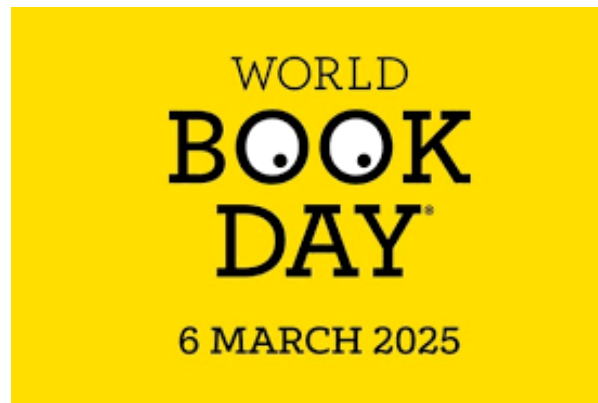
EXCEPTIONAL PEOPLE

YR 11- Zoie Agas

YR 10- Seira Cisyil

YR 9- Brogan Brown

YR 8- Nevil Tony



We have the amazing author. Danny Rurlander, visiting Year 7 pupils on World Book Day. A copy of his book, Spylark, is available to purchase on Arbor for the bargain price of £6. Danny will do a book signing of all books purchased after the event on Thursday 6th March.

Scholastic Book Fair

This is a wonderful opportunity to buy books at bargain prices for all ages and abilities.

The Scholastic book fair will be in school from Friday 7th March to Friday 14th March.

The book cases will be in the library, all Key Stage 3 pupils will visit the Book Fair during library lessons.

All pupils can visit the fair during break and lunch time. Payment is via QR code. Year 7 Parents will also be able to view and purchase the books at Parents' Evening on

13/03/25



This week we were privileged to receive the statue of Our Lady of Lourdes from St Mary's Catholic Primary School in Ulverston on Wednesday. The statue is travelling around each school in the Diocese of Lancaster as part of its Centenary Statue Tour.

We held a Celebration of the Word in our Chapel with pupils and staff from St Mary's before enjoying refreshments together. Since, we have held a series of prayers and reflection activities with student leaders and members of our chaplaincy group, offering prayers to Our Lady, especially for Pope Francis in his time of need.

Finally, on Friday, we took the statue to its next destination, Holy Family School. Here, we were received as guests for their weekly Celebration of the Word. Many of our contingent were ex-pupils, who made their former staff very proud!



Lent starts on Wednesday 5th March, there will be an Ashes service at school. St Mary's in Barrow will also have Mass and Ashes distribution at 9:30am and 6pm.

Stations of the Cross will take place every Friday at 12:30pm in St Mary's, beginning on Friday 7th March and every Wednesday at St Columba's at 6pm beginning Wednesday 12th March.

Adoration, reflection and benediction will take place every Thursday at 6pm beginning on Thursday 13th March.





Venice Trip 2025

Our students had a fabulous week in the Veneto region and have made some amazing memories. There are lots more photos over on our Facebook page to see! A huge thanks to Mrs Ralph, Mr Hampshire and Mr Mullaney for looking after them all half-term and giving them a brilliant holiday!





Manipulative Marketing in Games

Do you and your child know how to spot persuasive digital marketing tactics in apps and games?

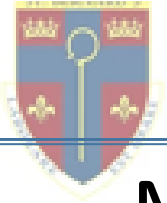
There are so many apps, games and websites that children enjoy using online. While some games and apps cost money, most are free to download and use. But are they actually 'free'?

Online companies use clever tactics to make money through products and services they market as being free. These tactics are not always obvious and some can be very persuasive, especially those aimed at children.

There is a classic saying about online services: *"If it is free, then YOU are the product."*

This means that, when an app, game or service is offered for free, a user is paying for it in other ways – usually through giving away personal data by using the app or service. Personal data holds value to companies – they may sell it to third party companies, or use it to target specific advertising towards users. Some platforms may also use consumer data to change how their service works, often in ways that will persuade users to give away more personal data or spend real money on additional features or services.

[Please click here for further information on how to support your child in online safety](#)



MESSAGES FROM MR VINCE

Year 11 Mocks

On return to school this half term, we have began our second set of Year 11 Mock Exams. It has been really encouraging to see the amazing way our students have approached these exams. One of the invigilators supervising the exams told me 'this is going to be a great year!' as he was so impressed with the focus and effort of the students. Attendance has also been incredible during these exams. Remember the best way students can achieve is to be in school every day working hard. Keep it up Year 11.

Year 9 Options Evening

It was so nice to meet so many parents of Year 9 pupils at our Options Evening last night. There was a real 'buzz' in the room as students talked with teachers and their families about their choices moving forward. Our aspiration is to help students to become committed learners and exceptional people and we look forward to the success of this year group over the next few years.

Born for This

Following the success of our Christmas concert we will be putting a production of Born for This - a dramatic re-telling of the stations of the cross – with our local Catholic Primaries. It promises to be an amazing evening and you are all warmly invited. The performance takes place on Wednesday 2nd April at 5pm.

And finally

Best not to mention football this week after the terrible results both Villa and Barrow have had this week!! I hope Villa can rediscover their form through the magic of the FA cup tonight at 8pm. Other wise my weekend will be ruined before it has begun!!

Have a wonderful weekend,

God Bless,

Mr Vince
Headteacher

