HALSALL NEWS



November 2014

CHURCH CLEANING ROTA FOR NOVEMBER / DECEMBER 2014

2nd Nov	A Critchley K Orrit	P Waterworth S Waterworth	K Twist
16th Nov	P Carr A Grimshaw	E Houlgrave J Showering	E Carr S Lloyd
30th Nov	B Knowles K Mudd	E Wroe S Jessop	J Quinn
14th Dec	E Banks L Wilkinson	N Harbinson C Meehan	M Webster C Parry D Backhouse
28th Dec	A Critchley K Orrit	P Waterworth S Waterworth	K Twist

DECEMBER 2014 / JANUARY 2015 MAGAZINE

Closing date for Articles; MONDAY 17TH NOVEMBER 2014

Contributions by Email only to the editor Chris Birks at enquiry@4cornersdesign.co.uk

Closing date for Adverts: FRIDAY 14TH NOVEMBER 2014

dianemarsh60@gmail.com

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Rector

The Revd Paul Robinson The Rectory Church Lane Lydiate L31 4HL

Phone: 0151 526 0512

Email: frpaul.robinson@btinternet.com

<u>Parish Surgery</u>: Anyone wishing to arrange a Baptism or Wedding should ring the Rector's Secretary to make an appointment. The phone number of the office is 0151 526 2292 and the office is staffed Monday-Wednesday 9.00am—1.00pm or you can email at:

stthomassteph@btinternet.com

<u>The Sick</u>: This parish is committed to the care of the sick. Names of those in need of this ministry, either at home or in hospital, should be given to Paul. The Blessed Sacrament (Holy Communion) is reserved in church and can be taken to the housebound or ill. Holy Oil is also kept for the anointing of the sick.

The Dying: Paul can be contacted at any time of the day or night in order to minister to the dying.

Support Our Soldiers is a charity who send Shoe Boxes to our troops in Afghanistan and raise monies to help injured troops and their families.

Their campaign is an all year round one.

If you would like to know more about this charity they can be contacted by e-mail at fundraising@soldierscharity.org

HALSALL PARISH COUNCIL
WE MEET 2ND WEDNESDAY EACH MONTH

AT ST AIDANS & THE MEMORIAL HALLS ALTERNATELY PLEASE SEE NOTICE BOARDS FOR DETAILS

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	Sylvia Corfield	01704 840705	
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	John Stephenson	01704 840635	
	David Bridge	01704 840504	
	James Edward Park	01704 841148	
	David Jessop	01704 840888	
	·		
	Dave Bond	07837787525	Parish Clerk
ı			

THE CHURCH OF ST CUTHBERT, HALSALL

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Church Wardens	Malcolm Serjeant Brian Heaton	01704 841 604 01704 841471
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Sunday Services in the United Benefice

Sunday 2nd November—All Saints Sunday

8.00am	BCP Holy Communion	St Thomas'
9.30am	BCP Communion + Hymns	St Cuthbert's
11.15am	CW Sung Eucharist + Baptism	St Thomas'
0.00	Links of Daniella All Carda Canal	

6.00pm United Benefice All Souls Service

St Thomas'

Sunday 9th November—Remembrance Sunday

8.00am	BCP Holy Communion	St Thomas'
10.15am	Remembrance Service	St Cuthbert's
10.45am	Remembrance Service	St Thomas'

Sunday 16th November—2nd before Advent

8.00am	BCP Holy Communion	St Thomas'
9.30am	BCP Communion + Hymns	St Cuthbert's
11.15am	CW Sung Eucharist	St Thomas'

Sunday 23rd November—Christ the King

8.00am	BCP Holy Communion	St Thomas'
9.30am	Family/Parade Eucharist	St Cuthbert's
11.15am	Family Eucharist	St Thomas'

Sunday 30th November—Advent Sunday

10.30am United Benefice Eucharist St Thomas'

Mid-Week Eucharists in the United Benefice

ı	Wednesday 5th Nov	10.00am	St Cuthbert's Church
	Wednesday 12th Nov	10.00am	St Cuthbert's Church
	Wednesday 19th Nov	NO SERVICE	
	Wednesday 26th Nov	10.00am	St Cuthbert's Church

ST CUTHBERT'S CHURCH INVITE YOU TO COME AND JOIN US FOR OUR NEXT

Family Eucharist Service

on

Sunday 22nd November 2014

9.30 am for Refreshments (Available from 9.15am)

9.45am Service begins
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The Reader Writes...

I don't get a daily newspaper. I listen to the news on Radio 4 most days when travelling to and from work, and I watch at least one of main news TV broadcasts each day.

There has been a lot of bad/worrying/scary news as I write this. Ebola has been causing alarm with over 4,000 deaths, cases in Spain and America, and suspected cases in Macedonia, Brazil and Australia. Screening has been introduced at some UK airports.

Islamic State (ISIS) has been in the news for some time now with their relentless campaign of terror. We have heard reports of hostages being murdered and ISIS (with 20-30,000 fighters) have seized control of major parts of Syria and Iraq. The Syrian border town (with Turkey) of Kobane has been the scene of a major onslaught.

Given all of this, I can see why some people avoid the news! It can be alarming.

One of the great "problems" of our faith is, given what I have described, how we can believe in God. Put simply, how can a loving God allow suffering? (What CS Lewis called "the problem of pain"). Greater minds than mine have wrestled with this and if you thought I could give you a neat, tidy answer, you are about to be disappointed.

I would offer you two thoughts though:

- 1. A faith that has all the answers is not faith. As St Paul writes "Now we see as through a mirror darkly". In the face of mystery the Christian must let God be God, as hard as that is.
- 2. The artist Charlie Mackesy describes how he could not believe in God because of suffering, especially among those in developing countries. He then spent some time in Africa among impoverished people, whose lives were very hard and realised that this community was Christian despite all this. And if their suffering didn't prevent them from believing in and serving God, then neither could he use their suffering as a reason to reject God.

Here's hoping for some happier news, and the faith to deal with whatever is reported.

Best Wishes, your Reader David





CAROL SINGING AT TESCO SOUTHPORT THURSDAY 11TH DECEMBER 2014 FROM 7.00PM TO 8.00PM

Volunteers are requested to join with St Cuthbert's choir in this fund raising event.

If you feel you can sing or even hold a collection tin please contact Edward Carr on 01695 423817

It is proposed to have 2 short practices at approximately 10.30am after the Sunday morning services on 30th November and 7th December.



PLEASE SUPPORT THIS EVENT

NEWS FROM YOUR PARISH COUNCIL

PROJECTS

Work on repair of walls either side of Memorial Gates will be completed in time for Remembrance Sunday

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

2014/0935/FUL - 44 New Street - Replacement windows and door to existing front porch.

2014/0985/FUL - Malt Kiln Barn Halsall Road - Demolition of existing garage/gym/conservatory with first floor guest suite and replacement on existing footprint with sensory facility comprising therapy pool/gym/therapy room and two guest bedrooms.

http://www.westlancs.gov.uk/planning.aspx

P.A.C.T. (Police And Communities Together) Meetings

Meetings are held in Haskayne Village Hall 109 School Lane with public participation.

For information and the latest news visit:

http://www.lancashire.police.uk/neighbourhood/halsall

PARKING

Can all residents please ensure when parking not to obstruct pavements or park in bus lay-bys. Pedestrians with prams and wheelchair users need to be able to use the pavement and you should allow enough room when parking to enable them to do so.

REPORT ATTEMPTED CRIME AND SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITIES

A number of thefts have been reported recently and one involved a vehicle with the registration number WR51 PFK - the police have asked the Council to remind residents to report attempted crimes, even if this results in no loss to anyone and please let them know if you spot this vehicle.

If you observe anyone acting suspiciously (including possible bogus callers) or if you are uncertain as to whether you should be reporting something dial 101 to let them know so that the police can take preventative action if necessary.

NEWS FROM YOUR PARISH COUNCIL Continued

HGV Traffic using the Moss Roads

Please note that following complaints and enquiries from members of the public about increased volumes of heavy goods vehicles using the moss roads the Parish Council in conjunction with your local Borough and County Councillor are investigating the problem and will be trying to ensure that restrictions are placed upon the movement of HGVs to force them to use main roads.

Parish Council Meetings

The next meeting will take place on Wednesday 12th November 2014 at 7.30 p.m. in Memorial Hall, Halsall Road, Halsall.

Please note: If you wish to make audio or video recording, or take photographs of the meeting please phone Dave Bond, Parish Clerk on 01704 534090 or email davebondhpc@aol.com in advance of the meeting so that this can be arranged in an organised manner in order to minimise any disruption.

Contact Dave Bond, Parish Clerk on 01704 534090 or email davebondhpc@aol.com in advance of the meeting to seek permission.

A full list of Councillors and contact numbers can be found toward the front of the magazine.

The Parish Council Website www.halsallparish.com includes agendas and minutes of previous meetings.

INVITATION TO

Join Halsall Parish Council for refreshments after the Remembrance Sunday Service

Sunday 9th November 2014 at circa 11.30 a.m.at the Memorial Hall, Halsall Road.

Everyone is welcome - please join us

NEWS FROM YOUR PARISH COUNCIL Continued

HOPE FOR A SHIRDLEY HILL BUS SERVICE

The PC is aiming to solve Shirdley Hill's isolation by the re-direction of Arriva's 300 bus service and are for asking for residents support an appeal to Cllr Fillis for a replacement service as a matter of urgency.

At the Three Tier Forum Cllr Fillis (Portfolio Holder for highways and transport for Lancashire CC) announced he had a number of small buses that he was thinking of putting into to service for isolated communities.

At a recent meeting Lancashire Association of Local Councils agreed to support our request to use Shirdley Hill for the initial trial and solve the isolation and the risk to human life through residents having to walk 2 miles along a narrow, unlit 60 mph road with no pavement.

Proposed MINI BUS SERVICE TO REPLACE 300

Lancashire County Councillor John Fillis has announced that he intends to create new regular small bus services for rural communities with your help maybe we could persuade him to use Shirdley Hill for a trial, your input is essential.

Please complete and return the questionnaire to <u>31 Renacres Lane</u> ASAP. unfortunately we are unable to collect them but it is really important to return these as soon as possible to help make a case. Please consider when completing the form that you may need to use the bus in future years either for your family young or old or friends visiting, consider times, days and possible frequency.

Name	Address		
Number in hous Days best for all Times most like Any comments-		-	
Thank you			

HALSALL VILLAGE COMMUNITY

Join us at our next meeting.

Tuesday 4th November 7.30pm

at The Saracen's Head

Email: louise.chapman1978@btinternet,com or Phone: 07734452323

Halsall Sunshine Committee



Christmas Bingo

Friday 14th November 2014

Halsall Memorial Hall

Doors open 7.00pm for 7.30 start

Bumper Prize Draw & Refreshments

Everybody Welcome

For more information please contact John Wroe 01704 841216 Or Betty Knowles 01704 840611

SANCTUARY LIGHTS

NOVEMBER

2nd Henry Eric Kenyon

8th Jessie Grimshaw (Birthday)
10th Annie Marshall (Anniversary)
14th Jesses Belehaur (Birthday)

11th James Balshaw (Birthday)

13th Joshua Sutton

15th Jack Lea (Remembrance)

19th John Rimmer

19th Richard Bolton Ainscough (Birthday)

23rd Ellen Blundell 27th Nellie Sutton

27th Margaret Heaton (Anniversary)



Football Pitch

Halsall St Cuthbert's Primary School Wyke Cop the original, resident football team, has now disbanded.

The football pitch is therefore available for a new team

If you know anyone who may be interested in using the facilities, please encourage them to contact us as soon as possible. Thank you.

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WARDENS AND SIDESPERSONS NOVEMBER 2014



DATE	WARDEN	SIDESPERSONS

2nd Malcolm Serjeant Christine Jones Paul Goldstraw

9th Brian Heaton Bill Banks John Wroe

16th Marilyn Westley Beryl Sephton Bill White

23rd Lynda Bramwell Eileen Houlgrave Ann Crtitchley

30th Malcolm Serjeant Eleanor Wroe Stephanie Hilton



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Halsall Sunshine Committee



Golden Oldies Christmas Party

At Briars Hall Lathom Lunch with Entertainment Music and Bingo Monday 1st December 2014

12noon to 4pm

Residents of Halsall Over 60 can attend free of charge
Please make your own way there if at all possible
Guests are welcome to join us at a cost of £15

For further details please contact John Wroe 01704 841216 or Betty Knowles 01704 840611

Halsall St Cuthbert's Sunday School

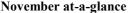
It was a pleasure to see lots of young children with their parents enjoying the Family service at the end of September. The children planted spring bulbs that should flower in time for our February and March services.



We welcome any new children and their parents to join us on the 9^{th} November (Remembrance Day) at 10.15am and then again at the Family service on the 23^{rd} November at 9.15am-9.30am for refreshments.

Tara Kenyon and Ann Cushion

Gardener's Corner



Once the autumn leaves have fallen, evergreen shrubs really come into their own. They give the garden year-round backbone and some are very striking, in shades of gold, reds, bronze or blues, as well as plain green or various variegated patterns, late berries, craggy tree trunks and coloured stems of trees and shrubs – who said winter was dull. Happy gardening.

General garden tasks

Carry out winter digging of forking over.

Check over the garden for anything that's likely to be at risk from frost

Continue cutting the grass if conditions allow, but raise the blades,.

Collect up dead leaves from the lawn & make leaf mould & potting compost

Lay turf if you didn't last month

Plant & move bare-root trees & shrubs

Stake well any newly planted trees

Sow seeds of hardy shrubs & trees

Plant tulips this month

Dig up dahlia tubers once the plants start to die off after the first frosts

Protect container plants from the cold, wet & windy weather

Continue harvesting leeks & Brussels sprouts.

Plant fruit trees

Ventilate the greenhouse on warm days but reduce watering

Check stored fruit & vegetables

Grow windowsill & salad herbs

Do your autumn pond clear-out if you didn't get round to it last month

Clean pool filters & check cables for pumps & lights

Watch out for

Snails in crevices around the garden

Mice in sheds & greenhouses especially where there is stored fruit

Pigeons pinching your winter greens

Squirrels digging up your bulbs

Windy weather disturbing tree stakes chaffing the bark.

Get ahead

Think about any garden designing & alterations you'd like to do over the winter months

Give the lawn mower a maintenance check now or over the winter

Start winter pruning

Mulch fruit trees

Plants in their prime

Viburnum. Ornamental cabbages. Winter flowering pansies. Potted topiary. Gaultheria. Skimmia. Clematis `freckles`. Mahonia. Euonymus. Pyracantha. Winter jasmine.

Tina Lloyd



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St Cuthbert's, Halsall

Traditional Christmas Fair



Saturday November 29th

Halsall School Hall, 2pm-4pm

See Santa, Grand Raffle, Buy your veg, Cakes Christmas Wreaths, Gifts & Novelties, Fun & Games

Start your Christmas Celebrations with us

Halsall Sunshine Committee



The 2014 AGM will be held on

Tuesday 11th November

At The Memorial Hall at 6.45pm

Everybody Welcome

HALSALL FROM THE REGISTERS

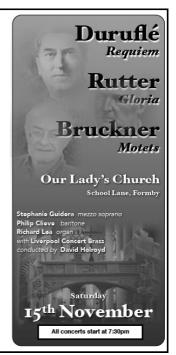


WEDDINGS

9th August 2014 Matthew Anthony Blundell & Camie Marie Shuff

30th August 2014Gary Crowe & Helen Claire Roberts

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- All day breakfasts.
- Snacks.
- Home cooked meals.
- Home baked cakes and scones.
- Fresh coffee, tea, and a warm welcome always available.
- Christmas menu throughout December

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Halsall Church and Ralph Vaughn Williams



Ralph Vaughn Williams is one of England's greatest composers. He is a composer poignantly associated with the First World War, the 100th anniversary of which is celebrated this year. On the eve of the Great War he composed the piece which is arguably his finest work, 'The Lark Ascending' its haunting melody portends the horror which followed. At the ending, in which the violin-lark's song vanishes skywards, it is as though the music were hovering on the brink of an abyss. There was a sense that the tranguil days of pastoral idvll were threatened by

the dark uncertainty that hung over Europe, and the doom that was to come for the flower of youth.

Ralph served for 4 years at the thick of the fighting but was mercifully spared. He saw action with the London Field Ambulance, part of the 179th brigade within the 60th division. On the 22nd July 1916 he was involved in the fighting north of Arras on the Vimy Ridge.

Ralph Vaughn Williams was born in Down Ampney, Gloucestershire the son of a Church of England vicar, Arthur Charles Vaughn Williams. His father died when Ralph was but 3 years old. Halsall's association with the Vaughn Williams is through Arthur. It was Arthur who, before he took over as Vicar at Down Ampney, served some of his time at Halsall

Arthur lived a relatively short time; he was 41 when he passed. Born in 1834 he took over the vicarage at Down Ampney in 1868. Somewhere between 1856 and 1868 he was at Halsall. Records show that the Rector of Halsall at this time was Richard Leigh but he retired and Thomas Blundell took over in 1863. It is possible that Arthur Vaughn Williams served between times as a temporary vicar filling in, because he was deemed to be 'in post'. Alternatively, he may have been on placement learning alongside one of the said Rectors. Unfortunately no record survives.

The Vaughn Williams were a musical family; it is not inconceivable that Arthur had some input into the musical side of worship at Halsall. It was a time when choirs were blossoming with the release of the hymn book Ancient and Modern.

The link between Arthur Vaughn Williams and Halsall came to light when Ursula Vaughn Williams, a direct descendant, verified a biography as part of a new exhibition at Down Ampney in 2001 funded by the Ralph Vaughn Williams Society. The chronology of Arthur's service in the church mentions two parishes, St Andrew's in Bemerton Wiltshire and St Cuthbert's Halsall Lancashire, exact dates are not given.





Arthur and Margaret

Stephen Henders



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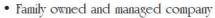
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Head teacher's Report to Governors: Autumn 2014

General

We now have 151 pupils on-roll. They are split into 5 classes.

We have 5 talented and strongly-committed teachers and 10 highly effective teaching assistants who provide extra support in the classrooms, specific intervention for SEND pupils and cover for teachers' PPA and in-service.

The school staff is very stable and this helps us to provide excellent continuity.

Performance Management

Formal classroom observations and learning walks have been timetabled throughout the autumn term.

I am presently carrying out reviews and setting new staff targets for this academic year.

Standards - Attainments

Key Stage 2 - Year 6:

As expected, last year's SATS were poor in comparison with previous years. They were especially weak in boys Writing and in boys Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar (SPAG). Scores for this group were below the national average.

Boys' writing is the main focus for our School Improvement Plan 2014/2015 Scores for the girls in all areas was above the national average.

It could have been much worse however if not for the efforts and dedication of Mrs Galley and her team.

Key Stage 1 - Year 2 :

Overall the results were very good and standards in Reading, Writing and Mathematics remain well above the national average.

Phonics - Year 1 :

Results were extremely pleasing and well above the national average

Early Years Foundation Stage - Reception :

Results indicate that standards in several areas are below the national average. This is extremely worrying as standards in the reception year should be significantly higher than the national average in all areas.

The reason for this anomaly is probably due to the fact that Mrs Mentha was approaching retirement and some of the assessment lacked the necessary thoroughness and accuracy. This will obviously be a serious concern during any future Ofsted Inspection.

Admissions - September 2015

Initial indications are that there will be over 20 parents/carers interested in their children starting in the reception class at Halsall next

September.

In the latter part of the summer term and through the summer holidays we accepted several new children into school. All have settled well, the parents appear very happy and are very supportive.

Only this week we have been approached by parents seeking places for their children and hopefully, we'll have a couple more pupils on-roll, at the start of the new term.

After consulting with Paul and the LEA, I wrote to Mr X in September offering him a place at Halsall. (for his son in year 1) Mr X declined the offer. The case as far as the Ombudsman is concerned, is now closed.

Building Improvements and Premises

- Over the summer holidays, we had the Parish Centre kitchen floor re-laid. The centre has now been repainted and it has new curtains.
- The school hall has been painted and it also has new curtains.
- Miss Hampson has new shelving and we have had new display boards erected.
- The school gardener is now Mr Bounds one of our parents. He is keeping the grounds much tidier and is readily available to carry out all the little maintenance jobs such as hedge cutting, barrel planting, tree felling, leaf clearing etc.

Staffroom Extension

The extension is costing a little more than expected but the school does have excellent reserves and a healthy balance in the Barchester Account held by the Liverpool diocese.

We now have the plans displayed in the staffroom. The extension will provide new toilets, a new kitchen with hydro-boil heater and a much more spacious area for staff relaxation and both governor and PTFA meetings.

E C Harris will be co-ordinating the project.

PE Partnership Funding

Our statement regarding the PE funds is now available on the school website. This will be checked by Ofsted. Please read and familiarise yourself with the statement.

Use of School Premises

At present, we have after-school clubs and lunchtime clubs for football, netball, tag rugby, multi-skills, dance/drama, gardening and cross country. There's certainly lots of choice.

We also have clubs using the school/parish centre during the week. These include, cubs, scouts, venture scouts, beavers, badminton, fitness and archery.

Use of School Premises

At present, we have after-school clubs and lunchtime clubs for football, netball, tag rugby, multi-skills, dance/drama, gardening and cross country. There's certainly lots of choice.

We also have clubs using the school/parish centre during the week. These include, cubs, scouts, venture scouts, beavers, badminton, fitness and archery.

Staffing

- I am pleased to report that Miss Leggett has settled down quickly and is enjoying her role in the reception/year 1 class. Her support staff Mrs Georgina Green and Mrs Sue Wilson, have been a great help in this very important first, few weeks.
- Mrs Hannah Massam has now started in Kidz Club as the new manageress. She replaces Mrs Wilson who has been in-charge for the past few years. Mrs Massam should provide the continuity that we have been looking in Kidz Club. We have already sent out a questionnaire to gain parent/carer views and hopefully, we can further improve the level of provision and the enjoyment for the children.

New Curriculum

Staff are working hard to embed the new national curriculum.

There have been significant changes to most areas but especially in English and Mathematics and ICT.

The new topic maps for the Foundation Subjects, are now on the school website and these should give parents/carers a clear idea of the areas of study through the year. This will be checked by OFSTED.

Africa Week

During our Africa Week, we tried to raise the profile of this vast and multi-cultural continent and the problems that some of its people face.

The children learned about different countries, played African Bongo drums, took part in Africa Storytelling workshops and drama, painted Africa pictures. listened to African music and raised money for charity through a very popular Welly Walk.

Altogether, we hope to have raised over £500. A great effort!

And the children loved it.

School Holidays (Residentials)

As there are 43 pupils in year 5 and 6 combined, we feel that this would be too many for the main holiday. We have decided therefore to offer the following:

Year 6 holiday to Aberystwyth in Wales. (Mon – Frid)

Year 5 holiday to PGL Camp in Winmarleigh Hall (Wed – Frid)

Year 4 holiday to PGL Camp in Winmarleigh Hall (Frid – Sun)

End of Levels

The government has suggested that schools stop using the "LEVELLING" system when assessing pupils' work but has not as yet provide any suggestions as to what to put in its place.

We are working very hard to adjust to the changes and hopefully a new system will be well embedded by the end of the summer term 2015.

Pupil Premium (FSM and CLA) Free School Meals/ Children Looked After

At present, we have only 5 eligible pupils.

The money allocated to support these "Pupil premium" children is primarily used to provide classroom support for individuals and groups. The school must monitor the impact upon these children to ensure that the "attainment gap" between themselves and the non FSM/CLA is closing.

Our provision has been so effective over the past few years, there is actually no real "gap" to close. In virtually every area, the Pupil Premium children are working at the "EXPECTED LEVEL" or above.

The situation however, will be closely monitored through the year.

OFSTED

It is highly likely that we will receive an Ofsted Inspection in the coming months. It would be to our advantage if governors were aware of the school's strengths and the areas for development (SIP)

The main foci this year are obviously boys' writing and assessment in the early years.

D Scholes (Head Teacher)



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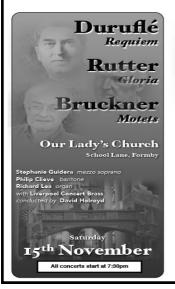
Come and join us for your chance to sing in our concert at The Philharmonic Hall, April 2015. We'll be performing that famous rousing classic—Carmina Burana!

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Performances in our forthcoming season include favourites, classics and less well known gems such as Durufle's Requiem, Rutter's Gloria & Feel the spirit, Britten's Guide to the orchestra.

We rehearse every Wednesday during term time from 7.30—9.30 at Holy Trinity Church Hall, Formby.

For further details contact Kevin Howard at: berylkev@howardmail.me.uk or www.formbychoralsociety.org











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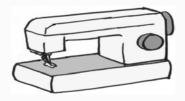
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