



St Michael & St John's RC Primary School

NEWSLETTER - 18th September 2015

"I have come that they may have life and have it to the full." (John Ch10 vs10)

Dear Parents/Carers

Whole School Mass

Yesterday we celebrated our whole school "welcome" Mass during which our new Reception children were welcomed and were presented to the Parish as their Year 4 "farmers" led them onto the Altar. Thank you to all who attended this special occasion.

The Parish Autumn Fair

The Parish Autumn Fair will be held on Sunday, 18th October at 11.00 am. There will be various stalls and games including a 'Bottle Tombola, Cakes, Chocolate and Sweet stalls, Refreshments, Jewellery and more!

If you have any unwanted gifts i.e. toys or games, in good condition, please consider donating these along with any other stall donations - please take all donations to the Presbytery.

Please support this event by donating items and/or by attending on the day. All proceeds will be put towards the cost of resurfacing the road between Church and school, which is much needed! Any queries please contact Carol Riley on: 01200 426769.

Sainsbury's Silver Award

School has successfully achieved the Sainsbury's school Sport award - Silver level. I would like to thank all staff involved including Mrs Ardern, who worked hard on this process whilst at SSMJ and Mrs Cook who has taken over and completed our application. Well done everyone!



Knitting Club - Volunteers needed please

Mrs Webb will, once again, be starting a knitting club on a Wednesday lunchtime for Year 3. However, we currently have quite a number of children who would like to take part, but as this new skill takes time to learn, more adults are needed. If you would like to volunteer to help Mrs Webb, on a Wednesday lunchtime from 12.30 pm to 1.15 pm, please contact the school. Any help would be greatly appreciated.

Data Collection Sheets

You should have received with the newsletter dated 4th September a Data Collection sheet. Could you please ensure that this is returned, to the school office, in order that we can update all of the information we hold.

We must be able to make contact with you or your chosen representatives in the event of an emergency with a child. The information also ensures we are fully informed about any medical needs your child may have.

The health and safety and safeguarding of all of our children is of paramount importance and it is essential that we have up to date contact information should this be required.

Friends & Literacy Books

The Friends of SSMJ have kindly agreed to donate £2,560 to school to purchase much needed guided reading and home reading books in the Juniors. These books will enhance our provision for reading in school and directly impact on your child's progress. The Friends work incredibly hard, as volunteers, to organise and plan events to raise this money. Thank you to all involved. We also thank all our parents and families for supporting these events and raising the funds to help our school.

The Friends AGM will be held on Friday 6th November at 3.30 pm, in the school hall, please come along if you can.

The Friends are planning a stall at the Parish Fair so a non-uniform day will take place on Friday, 9th October and we are asking children to bring in sweets or chocolate in exchange for non-uniform. This will support the Friends stall at the Parish Fair and the proceeds will be shared between the Parish and school.

Film nights are also being organised for the second half of the Autumn term - more details to follow.

Mrs Watson has organised for David Scholes, photographer, to take 'Venture type' photographs on Saturday, 7th November 2015 at school, during the morning. More details to follow.

Opening Morning

We will be holding an "Open morning" for prospective parents of children due to start school in September, 2016. This is on Monday, 5th October at 9.15 am - 10.30am. Please see the attached flyer for more information.

If you are unable to attend, we are more than happy to arrange another time for you to visit. Please telephone the school office.

Wear "Yelli for Heli" - Air Ambulance fundraising week - next week 21st - 27th September

As you may be aware, our school field is a designated landing zone for the North West Air Ambulance (NWAA) and one of our parents also works for the NWAA. As part of this we have decided to have a fundraising week, in line with the national fundraiser week, for the Air Ambulance Charity.

Thank you to Mrs Jackson who has organised a fun-packed week for the children (and staff) with activities including raffles, orienteering, colouring competitions, a non-uniform day and a very special visitor.

We need your help please with the following; these are a 'donate day', raffle prizes and also the Friday non-uniform day. For 'donate day' we ask you to send an item (in good condition) to be sold in one of the Air Ambulance Charity shops. The items could be clothing, bric-a-brac or even furniture! This day will take place on Tuesday, 22nd September with the items being collected on Wednesday, 23rd September.

We are also asking for donations of raffle prizes - the raffle will take place on Friday, 25th along with the non-uniform day where children are encouraged to wear 'yelli for heli' (yellow or even red as these are the colours of the Air Ambulances). Mrs Coar is organising a "special" themed lunch, also on Friday, to help celebrate the week.

The Charity is also asking for volunteers to help out at their fund raising event on Clitheroe Market on Saturday, 26th September.

A cake sale will be taking place at morning break, in school, on Wednesday, 23rd any donations would be gratefully received! There will be an opportunity for the children to buy cakes; therefore, your child will need to bring in some money for this.

Red & Yellow Themed Lunch - Friday, 25th September

Mrs Coar is organising a "red" lunch for this day. If your child usually has a packed lunch on a Friday and would like a school dinner instead please let Mrs Moon know. The cost will be £2.20 and Mrs Coar and the team will be serving a selection of "red" and "yellow" based foods!!

Sponsored Walk

On Sunday 20th September a sponsored walk is taking place in aid of HCPT. The walk will begin at 1.00 pm from St Michael and St John's Church and sponsor forms are available from the school office. I would like to encourage as many families as possible to support this event.

Do you want to find out more about Catholicism?

Our Parish annually runs a course that might best be described as an introduction to Catholicism and caters to any wishing to learn more about our faith, or maybe missed making their First Communion, or who wish simply to join the Church. Anyone curious to learn what makes a Catholic tick is also welcome!

The group meets on Thursday evenings, in the Presbytery's large meeting room, for one hour between 8.00 pm and 9.00 pm. If you have a friend who may be interested but is perhaps shy of coming alone, then do please consider inviting and accompanying them with the assurance that there is no obligation to return if they feel that it isn't for them. There will be an introductory 'meet and greet' session next Thursday, 1st October, at 8.00 pm with a little something to wet the lips and steady any a nerves.

Thank You

A huge thank you to Mr Swarbrick for providing school with a range of paper and supplies.

Admissions for Reception Class - September 2016

You can now apply for a place, at our school, by logging on to www.lancashire.gov.uk/schools.

The closing date for applications is Friday, 15th January 2016. Even if you have put your name down at the school, you need to complete the online application which can be done anytime from the 1st September. Please ensure you hit the 'submit' button and remember you need to apply even if you already have siblings within school. You will receive an email confirming you have applied.

Admissions for Secondary school - September 2016

Do you have a child due to start secondary school in September 2016? If so, you can now apply for a place by logging on to www.lancashire.gov.uk/schools.

The closing date for applications is 31st October 2015. (Please note this is during half term).

Next Week at School

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| Tuesday, 22 nd September | - | 'Donate' Day for the North West Air Ambulance Charity |
| Wednesday, 23 rd September | - | Cake Sale, at morning break, in aid of The North West Air Ambulance |
| Wednesday, 23 rd September | - | Year 5 Swimming |
| Wednesday, 23 rd September | - | 7.00pm - Year 3 Parents Sacramental Programme meeting |
| Friday, 25 th September | - | Non-Uniform Day - Red/Yellow Clothing |
| Friday, 25 th September | - | Themed lunch |

Other Dates

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| Wednesday, 23 rd September | - | Sacramental Program meeting for parents of children in Year 3 - 7.00 pm in the school hall |
| Friday, 25 th September | - | Football tournament 4.00 pm - 6.00 pm |
| Week beginning 28 th September | - | France Trip with St Mary's, Sabden for some Year 5 and Year 6 pupils |
| Tuesday, 29 th September | - | Feast Day of St Michael the Archangel |
| Monday, 5 th October | - | Open Morning 9.15 am - 10.30 am |
| Thursday, 8 th October | - | St Augustine's Open Evening - 6.30 pm |
| Wednesday, 14 th & Thursday, 15 th October | - | Parents' Evening (letter to follow on Monday) |
| Tuesday, 20 th October | - | School closes for half term |
| Monday, 2 nd November | - | School re-opens to pupils |
| Week beginning 16 th November | - | Anti-Bullying week |
| Wednesday, 2 nd , Thursday 3 rd & Friday, 4 th December | - | Advent Class Masses |
| Friday, 4 th December | - | Friends Christmas Fair - 3.30 pm |
| Tuesday, 8 th December | - | Infant Nativity - 2.00 pm |
| Wednesday, 9 th December | - | Infant Nativity - 10.00 am |
| Thursday, 10 th December | - | Whole school visit to The Grand for the Christmas Pantomime |
| Friday, 11 th December | - | Infant parties |
| Tuesday, 15 th December | - | Junior Christmas concert (at Church) - 6.30 pm |
| Wednesday, 16 th December | - | Christmas Dinner and Christmas "jumper" Day |
| Thursday, 17 th December | - | Junior party day |
| Friday, 18 th December | - | School closes for Christmas |

Celebration Assemblies - 2.50pm

Friday, 25th September - Year 5
Friday, 2nd October - No Assembly
Friday, 9th October - Year 3
Friday, 16th October - Year 1

Thank you for your continued support.

Kind regards

Z Mabbott
Headteacher