



St Michael & St John's RC Primary School

NEWSLETTER - 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2016

*Following the example of Jesus, together we learn,  
love and respect one another to be the best we can be.*

Dear Parents/Carers

As we approach the end of another busy but rewarding academic year, we reflect upon the past 12 months and some of our school achievements and accolades which would not have been possible without the great sense of belonging and teamwork and dedication across our school and parish family.

In January, as a family, we reviewed our school mission statement which was a collaborative process and resulted in a true reflection of what we are about at SSMJ.

*"Following the example of Jesus, together we learn, love and respect one another to be the best we can be."*

Our children are truly amazing and this week, our school community was celebrated in the Clitheroe Advertiser as 'Clitheroe school named as one of best in the county' due to our recent Gold Behaviour Quality Mark and in March 2016, we were graded 'Outstanding' in the 7 judgements by Salford Diocese.

In June 2016 SSMJ was also shortlisted and 'highly commended' in the East Lancashire Newspapers Education Awards.

Our Year 6 children have been excellent role models in school and we are proud of all of their achievements including their recent SATs results which are as follows:-

Subject	Percentage Met Expected Standard Test Outcomes (School)	Percentage Met Expected Standard Test Outcomes (National)
Reading	89%	66%
Writing	89% Teacher Assessment not test	74%
Mathematics	70%	70%
Grammar, Spelling and Punctuation	81%	72%
Reading, Writing and Mathematics Combined	70%	53%



With the wonderful support from families and our Parish, the team at SSMJ is dedicated to the development of the whole child and our aim is to offer a high quality, well-rounded education.

We are blessed to have such talented children who excel across all areas of school life.

Our Pupil Chaplains and Bible Buddies have been outstanding in their roles, developing the faith life of our school. The School Council, Playleaders, Anti Bullying Ambassadors and Sports Council have worked hard alongside adults to ensure that Pupil Voice is central to our decision making.

In music, we have many talented children learning to play instruments and our fabulous choir sang for charity at local supermarkets at Christmas and at the hospice bringing joy to those around them. In June, our choir won the competition at Stonyhurst.

Over the year, our amazing children and our families have raised over £2,600 for numerous local and national charities. Many of these fundraising events were suggested and organised by the children themselves.

SSMJ has taken part in numerous sporting events and competitions and are always commended for their excellent sportsmanship and conduct.

We are fortunate to have an active and valued 'Friends' of SSMJ who have organised many events for our children and families and have also raised funds to improve school resources and opportunities for your children including the purchase of Ipads which we are currently finalising.

We are continually improving our building including developing the playground, the recent addition of new teaching rooms/parent meeting room and the creation of an outdoor area for Year 1.

I would like to take this opportunity to say thank you to the people who, every day, make our school community so special and successful. None of these wonderful achievements would be possible without our partnerships with you, our parents, families and parish.

I would also like to thank our SSMJ team including all the teaching, support, premises, kitchen, lunchtime and administrative staff, governors and volunteers who work tirelessly and with kindness and care to ensure that each and every one of our very special children continue to enjoy the widest range of opportunities and develop the skills and talents God has blessed them with.

Also, Monsignor Corcoran, Father Kevin, the Catechists and members of our Parish who have supported the faith life of the children and school. I would also like to thank all of the students and volunteers who have worked at our school this year and have given their time to help and support us.

Finally and most importantly, I thank and commend each and every one of our wonderful children for their smiles and for bringing us such joy every day. It is a privilege to be part of the SSMJ family and to serve as Headteacher.

## **Farewell and Thank You**

This time of year holds mixed emotions as we look forward to a break but have to say goodbye to our Year 6 pupils. Our Year 6 pupils have been amazing individuals and role models to the rest of the school. We are very proud of them and know that they head off to secondary school fully equipped to deal with everything that lies ahead of them.

I would like to say thank you and farewell to all of our Year 6 pupils and also to Mrs Monaghan for her commitment, to our school, over the last 15 years and the children and families she has supported.

We will carry with us the many lasting memories and thank our Year 6 children and families and Mrs Monaghan for the way they have touched our lives and our school community.

## **Suzanne Baron**

Last Friday, we said farewell to Mrs Baron who has been covering as the teaching assistant in Year 3 on a temporary basis. We would like to thank her for her commitment and efforts during her time at SSMJ.

## **Ribblesdale Students**

Well done and thank you to Natasha and Keeley, from Ribblesdale, who have been helping us during the past two weeks and have been invaluable.

## **Music Concert**

On Wednesday the children demonstrated their musical talents in the annual end of year music concert with Mr Hacking and Mr Lee. Well done to all the children and thank you to the music teachers Mr Lee, Mr Hacking, Mrs Lorrigan and Mr Bird.

## **School Leavers' Mass**

The Leavers' Mass today was truly beautiful. The Mass was celebrated by Father Kevin and our wonderful Year 6 children. Well done to our Pupil Chaplains for their final performance of 'Were you there' and to Father Kevin for his wonderful 'surprise' for Year 6. We also thank Mrs Lambert for the beautiful Mass booklets which will also be a lovely keepsake for our children and families.

## **Leavers' Special Lunch**

Thank you to Mrs Coar and her team for organising the "special" ice cream parlour lunch today. Our Year 6 children had the privilege of sitting on a 'top table' and received a gift, from Mrs Coar, as a small token. (Rocking those shades Year 6!)

## **Sports Day**

What a wonderful day! On Monday we finally managed our annual sports day which was thoroughly enjoyed by all. Well done to all of our children. Thank you to Mrs Cook for organising this and to the staff for their support. We also thank the Year 6 children who

helped with the infant sports day and Mary as our official photographer. The winning house team for juniors will be announced tomorrow.

**Date for your Diary**

Monday, 5<sup>th</sup> September - School re-opens to pupils

All at St Michael & St John's would like to thank parents for your support in so many ways, for your kind and encouraging words throughout the year and for the many cards and gifts received. We look forward to our continued partnerships in 2016/17.

I wish you all a restful and happy summer holiday and look forward to our continued partnerships and further successes in the next academic year.

May God bless you and your families.

Kind regards.

Mrs Z Mabbott  
**Headteacher**