



**St Michael & St John's RC Primary School**  
**Lowergate, Clitheroe, Lancashire BB7 1AG**  
**Headteacher: Mrs Zoe Mabbott BEd (Hons) NPQH**

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

Dear Parents/Carers

I would like to say well done and thank you to our wonderful children for all of their efforts this term. I also thank the staff for their hard work. It really is a privilege to be the head teacher at SSMJ serving the community and striving every day to fulfil our mission statement and to ensure every one of our children 'follows the example of Jesus....to be the best they can be'.

The support for our 'reverse advent' has been wonderful thank you. The food you have sent in will help those who need it most over the Christmas period.

May I take this opportunity to thank all of our families and community for your continued support. Thank you for your kind messages for example regarding the infant and junior nativities and the Christmas music concert. On behalf of the whole staff we also thank you for all the cards and gifts received by the staff.

### **Chair of Governors**

We would like to inform you of a change to the Chair of Governors at SSMJ. Mr Mark Evans has taken up the role as Chair taking over from Mr Martin Nolan. Mr Nolan has been our chair for over 15 years and we would like to take the opportunity to thank him for his dedication and wonderful contributions. In the New Year we will take the opportunity to thank Mr Nolan for his many years of dedicated and voluntary service to our school, community, children and families.

Mr Evans takes over the role of Chair alongside Mrs Alison Rowley who takes over as Vice Chair. Mr Evans who has worked for the Ambulance service for 21 years and is currently the Community Engagement and Resuscitation Manager for the Cumbria and Lancashire area. Mr Evans has served almost 5 years on the Board of governors initially as a Parent governor and now as a foundation governor. During his time Mr Evans has taken on the role of Chair of the staffing and finance committee along with the role of vice chair of Governors over the last 12 months.

I would like to thank Mr Evans and Mrs Rowley for becoming Chair and Vice Chair respectively and for their continued efforts in supporting our school.



### **Christmas Dinner Day**

A huge thank you to Mrs Fielding and her team for preparing and serving 140 Christmas dinners. The children had a wonderful time and the food was delicious as always.



### **Music Concert**

On Wednesday we were treated to a wonderful music concert with some of our children playing their musical instruments which included the piano, keyboard, guitar and trombone. Thank you to Mr Hacking and Mr Lee for teaching the children and to Mr Lee for being our compare for the performance. Once again it was an honour to see our talented children perform.



### **Parties**

On Monday the Infants thoroughly enjoyed their Christmas party and were visited by a very "special guest" who brought them all a gift. Thank you to Father Christmas for taking time out of his busy schedule at this time of year to put smile on the faces of our boys and girls. Also, we thank the parent helpers and 'Friends of SSMJ' for their support with this.

On Tuesday our juniors enjoyed their party day with lots of fun and games had by all. They also received a gift from Santa for all their efforts this year.

Thank you to Mr & Mrs Walker of Walkers fruit and veg for supplying the infants with the oranges. It was a very kind gesture and they were enjoyed by all.

### **PTA news**

Thank you for helping to raise money for the school. The Christmas fair raised £569 and the raffle raised £388. Your contributions and on-going support is much appreciated.

### **Year 6 Residential**

Please can I remind parents to be making payments towards the trip next year so that school can pay the deposits required.

### **Breakfast and Afterschool Clubs**

Please ensure you have booked places for any clubs. There are still places left on Monday after school for maths on the move sports club. This is a free session but places are limited. ~An email was sent out previously with all the listed clubs. Art club will be running again if there are enough numbers.



## Attendance

The Government classifies acceptable attendance levels as 95% or above and any child whose attendance falls below 90% is classified as a persistent absentee.

As a school, we have high expectations for our children. I know that 90% might sound positive for most things in life. We would consider it an excellent achievement if we scored 90% on a tricky test! However, 90% in attendance terms is very poor and actually means that 20 days of school have been lost over the year.

Please help us with our drive on improving attendance by ensuring that your child is only absent from school for serious or contagious illnesses. Sniffles, coughs and colds are part of life and we should be encouraging children to deal with these irritations rather than miss out on important schooling. This is an important message for when they leave school and enter the world of work. If your child's attendance is below 90% you will receive a letter from school alerting you to this.

Can I also remind parents that children should not be brought in to school via the main entrance unless they are late. The gate closes at 8.55am and children should be in school by this time. If the children are late they must be accompanied in to the office, be signed in and handed over to a member of staff by a parent. If the children are sent in alone and Mrs Wilkinson is not in the office, there will be no one to let the children in which poses a safeguarding issue.

## Nasal Flu

As a final opportunity for any parents to bring their child to be vaccinated with their nasal flu vaccination if they have been missed in school due to being absent on the day or coming forward since we have visited school, we have arranged clinics in the following Children's Centres.

Please could you inform parents via School Bulletin or text of the following clinic and if there are any parents who wish to attend to have their child vaccinated please could you ask them to contact the Immunisation Team on 0333 3583397 (Option 6) to book an appointment time:

IMMUNISATION - POP UP CLINICS							
DAY	DATE	TIME	AREA	CHILDREN'S CENTRE	ADDRESS	POSTCODE	TEL NO
MON	07-Jan	14:30 - 16:30	BwD - North East	Shadsworth Children's Centre	15 Oban Dr, Blackburn	BB1 2HY	01254 680733
MON	07-Jan	14:30 - 16:30	Preston East	Preston East Children's Centre,	Watling Street Road, Preston	PR2 6TU	01772 539420
TUES	08-Jan	14:30 - 16:30	Hyndburn	The Park Children's Centre	Norfolk Grove, Church, Accrington	BB5 4RY	01254 387757

WED	09-Jan	14:30 - 16:30	Pendle	Whitefield Children and Family Wellbeing Services	Maurice Street, Nelson	BB9 7HS	01282 470277
WED	09-Jan	14:30 - 16:30	South Ribble	West Paddock Children & Family Wellbeing Services	West Paddock, Leyland	PR25 1HR	01772 532930
THUR	10-Jan	14:30 - 16:30	Rossendale	Bacup Children & Wellbeing Services	The Maden Centre, Rochdale Rd, Bacup	OL13 9NZ	01706 237780
THUR	10-Jan	14:30 - 16:30	Chorley	Highfield Children's Centre	Wright Street, Chorley (attached to Highfield Nursery School)	PR6 0SP	01257 516466
FRI	11-Jan	14:30 - 16:30	Burnley	Burnley Wood Children & Wellbeing Services	33 Brunswick St, Burnley	BB11 3NY	01282 470707
FRI	11-Jan	14:30 - 16:30	West Lancs	Southway Neighbourhood Centre	Southway, Skelmersdale	WN8 6NL	01695 651350
MON	14-Jan	14:30 - 16:30	BWD - West	Livesey Children Centre	Andrew Close, Blackburn	BB2 4NU	01254 507950
WED	16-Jan	14:30 - 16:30	BWD	Darwen Children Centre	Lord St, Darwen	BB3 0HD	01254 778900
WED	16-Jan	14:30 - 16:30	Preston	Riverbank Children's Centre	Brieryfield Rd, Preston	PR1 8SR	01772 906970

If you have any queries in the meantime, please don't hesitate to contact a member of the Immunisation Team.

## *IntraHealth*

**Mobile: 07826 868710**

**Work: 03333 583397 (Central Lancashire – Option 6, East Lancashire – Option 5)**

**Email: [Claire.freestone2@intrahealth.co.uk](mailto:Claire.freestone2@intrahealth.co.uk)**

### **Dates for your diary**

Monday 7<sup>th</sup> Jan 2018- School Re-opens at 8.55am for a 6 week term

Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> Jan- Class photographs. - Full Uniform Please

Friday 11<sup>th</sup> Jan- Crazy Hair Day PTA £1 donation

Celebration Assembly  
Art club and French club start

Monday 14<sup>th</sup> - Afterschool/breakfast clubs start  
Closing date for Primary Admissions  
Year 3 trip to the Hindu Temple  
Netball -Oakhill 4.30pm -5.00pm

Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> - Year 3 trip to Hindu Temple  
Friday 18<sup>th</sup> - Celebration Assembly  
NO ART CLUB

Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> Jan- Class photographs- Full uniform required.  
Choir starts- ( 9 weeks after school)  
Monday 28<sup>th</sup> - Netball -Oakhill 4.00pm start  
Governors SEC meeting

Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> February- Governors Curriculum Meeting  
Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> - Year 3 Rock 'n' Roll day  
Finance governors meeting

Monday 11<sup>th</sup> Feb - Netball Oakhill 4.30pm  
Friday 15<sup>th</sup> - School closes for half term 3.30pm

*On behalf of the Governors, Staff and I may we wish you a Peaceful and Happy Christmas and look forward to continuing to work with you all in 2019.*