



**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 welcome everyone back to the new school year. I hope you have all had a restful holiday. The newsletters and any letters home will now be sent every Thursday (unless they are urgent) so please check your child's bag and emails for these. It was so lovely to see the children in their new school uniform. We knew that they would look smart but I was so pleased to see how proud the children seemed to be wearing them. Please ensure you label all items so we can limit the amount of lost property. The new reception children have settled in very well. I think the tears were coming from parents rather than the children! Mrs Clarkson, Mrs Collinge and Mrs Makepeace have worked hard to ensure they adapt to their new surroundings quickly.

### Welcome

We welcome 3 new children, Laici, Eric and Genevieve to the SSMJ family.

### Congratulations

During the summer, Miss Acklam got married and will now be known as Mrs Wade. We congratulate her and Phil on their marriage.

### Farewell to Father Kevin

It is with sadness that we have said farewell to Fr Kevin from our parish. He has been moved to Sacred Heart, Rochdale. Fr Kevin has celebrated some lovely Masses, given us some wonderful songs and spent valuable time with the children. We wish him well in his new venture. There will be a mass for him in church on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> October at 7.00pm. All welcome



### **Secondary/primary application deadlines**

Do you have a child due to start Secondary school in September 2018? If so, you can now apply for a place by logging on to [www.lancashire.gov.uk/schools](http://www.lancashire.gov.uk/schools).

The closing date for applications is 31st October 2017.

The primary online admissions have now opened. Should you wish to apply for a place for reception class 2018 please log on to [www.lancashire.gov.uk/schools](http://www.lancashire.gov.uk/schools).

The closing date for applications is 15th January 2018

### **St Augustine's Parents Meeting for Year 6 Pupils.**

There will be a meeting for Year 6 parents in the school hall on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> September at 7.00pm led by Mr Wright from St Augustine's.

### **Open Day for Parents of Children Starting in Reception Class in September 2018**

This will take place on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> October from 9.30-10.30am with a brief talk from Mrs Mabbott, refreshments and a tour of the school. Please share this date with friends/relatives who you know have children due to start school in September 2018.

### **Building Work - Security Gates**

The building work has been ongoing throughout the summer and improvements are showing already inside. On Monday 11<sup>th</sup> September, there will be security gates fitted at the top of the carpark and between the church and the main entrance. These will be open from 7.30am until 9.05am and then reopened at 3.15pm until 6.30pm. Access will only be gained via a key pad for staff. To access the school whilst the gates are closed, please use the main road. This is an important safeguarding requirement and improvements to ensure the security and safety of the children and staff in school during school time.

### **Meet the teacher days**

On Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> Sept parents are invited to meet their child's class teacher for an informal chat in the classroom from 3.10-3.30pm. This is for years 1/3/5 and on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> it will be for years 2/4/6. The children will be in assembly and then should be collected as normal from outside of the school yard. Parents are asked to leave school after the meetings via the main office door. Thank you.

### **Staffing changes**

As you are aware, in addition to continuing as headteacher at SSMJ, I am currently working at Barrow Primary school as their acting head until Christmas. During the autumn term, Mrs Wade will be acting assistant head working alongside Mr Connolly, (Deputy Head) and Mrs Clarkson will be teaching in years 4 and 6 for half a day per class to cover their leadership time. I will still be very present at SSMJ and will always be available to meet or talk to parents should they have any concerns. I am very confident that the school will continue to run smoothly and these changes will not affect the children. The whole team of staff will be working very hard to ensure the very best in terms of progress and well-being for your children.



## Healthy Schools and Health Lunchboxes - Healthy Schools

Please can I remind parents to ensure that the children only bring in healthy snacks for break time and lunch. Thank you for your cooperation in this.



### Toast

At morning break, on a Thursday, Mrs Fielding serves toast/crumpets to our pupils. Toast is 20p per slice and a crumpet 30p. Don't forget to send your child with a little cash so they may sample these delights!!



### Wet mornings

The school yard is staffed from 8.45am in the morning. Children dropped off before this will not be supervised and I request that children are not left on their own before this time. On mornings when it is raining the children will be brought in from 8.45am.



### School dinners

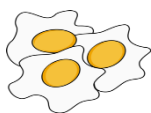
School dinners are £2.20 per day. The preferred payment method is through parent pay so I request that this is used to pay for school dinners. Mrs Wilkinson will assist in setting this up if you are not familiar with it. This system is to be used as a credit one. Funds must not go below £2.20. Due to budget restraints, school cannot fund unpaid school dinners. Please assist Mrs Wilkinson in the office by ensuring there is enough money to pay for your child's dinners.



### Milk

If you require your child to have milk this can be ordered through milk4 life. [www.milk4life.com](http://www.milk4life.com)  
Children under 5 and pupil premium children are entitled to free milk. Please let Mrs Wilkinson know if you wish your child to have milk.

## Allergies - Please support our school family



### Egg free school

We currently have a child in school who has a severe allergy to eggs. To ensure his safety and wellbeing, the school will not use eggs in any cooking/food. Where possible we ask that children do not bring in eggs for lunch or let the staff know if they do so we can ensure they do not come in contact with the child. We appreciate your cooperation with this. Thank you

### Nut Allergies

We also have a number of children in school who have severe nut allergies. Please can we ask that children **do not** bring in nuts in any form for snack or lunch. Thank you

### Sports clubs

Sports clubs will start Monday 11<sup>th</sup> Sept except for cross country which will start after half term. Please ensure these clubs are paid for in advance via the parent pay system where it will tell you how much you owe. If you are unsure what clubs you are on please contact Mrs Wilkinson in the office. Cash and cheques are still acceptable. Places will not be allocated for non-payment. **Judo starts Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup>.**



### Roald Dahl

On Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> September it is Roald Dahl day where children can dress up as a character from a Roald Dahl book. As with previous non uniform days, please do not go to great expense or trouble to get an outfit. We will try to keep the number of non -uniform days to a minimum this year, but the children enjoy these days and motivates them with their learning.

### Music Lessons

We have specialist teachers that can come in to school to teach your child to play an instrument. If you wish to find out more, please contact the office and a form & price list can be sent out. Lessons include, guitar, piano and brass.

### Celebration Assemblies

Friday 8<sup>th</sup> September  
Friday 15<sup>th</sup> September - year 6  
Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> September - year 5  
Friday 29<sup>th</sup> September- year 2  
Friday 6<sup>th</sup> October - Year 4  
Friday 13<sup>th</sup> October - Year 3  
Friday 20<sup>th</sup> October - year 1  
Friday 29<sup>th</sup> October- General Assembly

Date	Event
Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> September	PTA coffee & Cake 2.30pm in school hall. See flyer attached
Tuesday 19th September	St Augustine's Year 6 Parents' Meeting - SSMJ School Hall at 7.00pm
Wednesday 20th September	Afterschool Club Judo Starts
Thursday 21st September	Y3 Parents Meeting for Sacramental Program - SSMJ School Hall 6.30pm
Friday 22nd September	Yr 5/6 football tournament at St Augustine's 4-6pm
Tuesday 26th September	Whole school Mass 9.15am -
Wednesday 27th September	Year 6 residential to Winmarleigh
Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> October	Open day for 2018 reception starters
Wednesday 4th Oct	Year 6 to attend Whole Parish Mass at St Mary's Sabden 10.30am
Thursday 5th October-	Cross Country event Yr 5/6 Wilsons Playing Fields, Clayton le Moors
Tuesday 10th October	Year 2 & 6 Mass 9.15am
Tuesday 24th October	Year 1 & 5 Mass at 9.15am
Wednesday /Thursday 25th/26th	Parents' evenings
Friday 27th Oct	Finish for Half term
School reopens Monday 6th November	
Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> November	Year 3 & 4 mass 9.15am

Thank you for your continued support  
Mrs Z Mabbott