



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

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Dear Parents

Our recent Ofsted report can now be found via the link on the website www.ssmj.lancs.sch.uk. We are very pleased that Ofsted found our school to be a welcoming, positive, safe community, with children keen to attend and who are proud and enthusiastic about our school. As you know, our mission statement and Catholic values are at the heart of everything we do.

It is also pleasing that Ofsted recognised that relationships are positive, staff feel part of a team, we work positively with other schools, expectations of behaviour are high, behaviour is good, pupils work hard and their personal development is a priority.

The report does not include any data outcomes but for the past 5 years outcomes in Early Years (reception class) have been above the national average. In addition, last year our key stage one results were all in line with or above national averages with writing and maths being at the highest for 4 years. This is as a result of improvements and strategies we have put in place.

We do accept however that in recent years sats results for year 6 have not been high enough and our 3 year vision reflects the need for these outcomes to be better.

Three of the five judgements were 'good' and whilst being judged overall as 'requires improvement', it is reassuring that the inspectors identified the very issues which are already a core feature of our school development plan, issues we are already very aware of and are addressing.

It is also important to note that Ofsted recognised that "leaders and governors know what they need to do to improve."

Since returning to school in September we have taken and continue to take appropriate action as follows:

- The governors have started the recruitment process for a permanent Deputy Headteacher.



- School has purchased the books for EYFS and infants; these were planned for purchase once the funds had been raised. We are very grateful to our PTA for providing us with £2000 to do this.
- We continue to promote a love of reading across the whole school and have adjusted our guided reading sessions in Key Stage 2 to ensure core reading and comprehension skills are being taught well and with sufficient opportunities to develop.
- We have purchased and effectively implemented TTRS and Learning by Questions and are trialling a programme called 'Numbots' to further support improvements in our children's automatic recall of basic mathematical knowledge and skills. We have also implemented additional daily mental mathematics every day for every child, in years 1 to Y6.
- The way of inspecting the curriculum is new as of September 2019 and all schools have been developing their curriculum to ensure there is clear intent, implementation and impact. We have strengths as reported in RE, Geography and Science. We are on this curriculum development journey.
- We applied and were accepted to undertake the 'Artsmark' award which will support improvements in the quality of teaching, learning and provision in the arts. This is a 2 year developmental project.

We are incredibly grateful for the support you, as parents, have shown both in the Ofsted questionnaire where 100% of parents would recommend our school and in the recent questionnaires at parents' evening which were also overwhelmingly positive as they have been for the past 3 years.

We are pleased that Ofsted recognised that leaders ensure that parents are welcome to the school.

With the publication of the report, now is the time to look forward and continue to ensure that the children of SSMJ Primary School receive the highest quality education that they deserve, in a safe environment, where all children and staff are supported to 'be the best we can be'
Our continued strong partnerships, and work with you as parents, will continue to support us with this.

Should you have any questions about the report or wish to discuss any concerns, please make an appointment to see Mrs Mabbott via Mrs Wilkinson.

Mr M Evans

Mrs Z Mabbott



Chair of Governors

Headteacher