



**St Michael & St John's RC Primary School**  
**Lowergate, Clitheroe, Lancashire BB7 1AG**  
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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,

Welcome back to school after a busy festive period, and a happy new year to all our pupils and families. I hope you had a lovely Christmas and the children have had a good break after a busy Autumn term. Spring term is a relatively short one, but with lots packed in. Please remember to put any important dates in your diaries and check the newsletter and text messages for up to date information. The children have returned looking very smart but please can I remind you of the uniform and the school policy. A quick guide to this is below. If you are uncertain of any of the uniform regulations, please ask a member of staff.

### **Sad News**

It is with sadness that we inform you that Mrs Coar (our fantastic school cook), has decided to retire at the end of this term. Her last day will be Friday 24<sup>th</sup> March. I'm sure you will all join me in wishing her a happy retirement. More details will follow in regards to our celebrations to say thank you, to show our appreciation for the wonderful food and special treats she has made for the children over her 20 years here and to mark her retirement. In the meantime, there will be a book of memories in the office should you wish to come in with any photographs or messages you would like to put in.



### **Whalley House Treat**

Well done to our house point winners, Whalley. They were treated to popcorn and a movie on Wednesday afternoon. Thank you to Mr Connolly for arranging this and to Mr Moon and Mrs Sumner for helping.

### **Pupil Premium Funding**

For children of any age, if you receive certain benefits or have a household income below the government's threshold it is really important that you register your entitlement with your Area Education Office (Pupil Access Team, Area Education Office East, Union Street, Accrington BB5 1PL. Tel 01254 220715) so that we can receive extra school funding called the 'Pupil Premium'. This funding is then used to directly benefit your child.





### Cold weather

We have been forecast cold weather with the possibility of snow. As exciting as this is for the children, please can you ensure that they have appropriate clothing for this weather. We will always try to ensure that the children get outside for fresh air unless the weather is too severe. If we do get snow, they can come in wellington boots for playing outside in but must have their school shoes with them to change in to. Please ensure that all clothing, hats, scarves, gloves etc are labelled. Our priority is always to keep children and staff safe and we only ever close if this cannot be assured. Should the weather be so severe that school needs to close this information would be on the front page of the school website and also reported by radio, Rock FM/heart & radio Lancashire Please ensure your emergency contact details are up to date. Our emergency closure procedures are attached.

### Welfare Vacancy

We currently have a vacancy for a temporary welfare assistant. This will be to cover until March 24<sup>th</sup> 2017. The hours will be 12.15pm - 1.30pm Mon -Fri term time only. The post will be subject to DBS clearance. Please contact Mrs Wilkinson if you are interested. Thankyou



### Dinner Money

Please can I remind you that dinner money must be kept up to date. Mrs Wilkinson is spending a significant amount of time chasing up payments. Parent pay has been introduced to make paying easier for parents if you prefer to pay electronically. If school dinners are not paid by parents they have to be paid through the school budget, which means there is less money available for the children in the school. In line with the governors' debt policy (available on the school website), a reminder will be sent when the amount due is £30.00. If this is not settled then a packed lunch will have to be sent in from home. We ask for your co-operation to ensure the school budget is spent appropriately on resources and educational support for the children.

Below are the amounts if you wish to pay up front to February half term and to the end of spring term, which, if possible, would really help the office staff.

<u>Up to 10<sup>th</sup> Feb</u>	<u>Up to March 24<sup>th</sup></u>
5 days- £55	5 days - £110
4 days- £44	4 days- £88
3 days- £33	3 days- £66
2 days- £22	2 days- £44
1 day - £11	1 day - £22

We also ask that you keep to your allocated days for each term. Changes are only to be made at the end of a term otherwise due to food having been ordered in advance, this leads to waste or excess food.

If you have any financial concerns and would like to discuss this, please make an appointment to see Mrs Mabbott



### Illness

Please can we remind you that if your child is sick, please do not send them back in to school until they have been clear for 48 hours. This is to prevent the spread of any virus or bugs to other children and staff.



### Uniform

Here is a quick guide to the uniform policy, which can be found, in full on the website. Please can I draw your attention to the sock colours as there have been quite a few spotty/stripy/multi coloured ones. The school class photograph on Thursday highlighted the need for consistency.

#### **Girls:**

**Socks-** white or navy tights

**Shoes-** black, no heels, bows etc

**Skirts/dress/trousers** - Navy blue

**Sweatshirt/cardigan-** Jade green

**Polo shirt-** White or yellow

**Hair accessories** - plain bands/headbands. School green is permitted, but no big bows ( JO JO bows), sparkly headbands or bobbles etc

Please ensure long hair is tied back to prevent the risk of head lice spreading & for health & safety in PE.

Earrings.- Small simple studs. These are NOT to be worn for PE. If your child can not remove them by themselves, they must be covered with a plaster.

#### **Boys:**

**Socks** - GREY

**Shoes-**Black school shoes. No trainers/logos

**Trousers** - Navy- no jeans or chino style

**Sweatshirt** - Jade green

**Polo shirt-** White or yellow short sleeved- Not long sleeved

**Hair-** No gel/wax shaved patterns

### Sports Clubs

Sports clubs started again this week. We still have outstanding money owed. Parents will have been contacted directly, but as with the dinners, the coaches have to be paid and this again will have to come out of the school budget to pay for the unpaid sports clubs. Please be mindful of this when booking clubs. If you have any financial concerns and would like to discuss this, please make an appointment to see Mrs Mabbott.

There are still some spaces left on breakfast clubs.

### **Student council fundraising**

The student council are fundraising for bike stands and picnic benches. They have organised fundraising events, the first being pyjama day on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> Feb. More will follow and details will be on the newsletters.

### **Dates for your diary**

Friday 20<sup>th</sup> Jan- Year 3 Celebration Assembly

Friday 20<sup>th</sup> January - 2pm - PTA meeting at school.

Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> Jan- Caritas Ambassador training and Commissioning at Salford

Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> January - St Augustine's students in school for 2 weeks.

Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> - Year 5 multi skills - Hyndburn sports centre

Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> Jan- Year 5 trip to Jodrell Bank

Friday 27<sup>th</sup> Jan - year 1 Celebration Assembly

Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> January - EYFS Coffee Morning

Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> Feb- Choir to Young Voices- Manchester

Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> Feb-EYFS Bikes & Scooters

Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> Jan - year 2 Celebration Assembly

Monday 6<sup>th</sup> Feb -School Choir members to Stonyhurst

Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> February - Safer Internet Day

Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> February -Year 6 to the Grand to watch Generation Hope

Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> February - 5.30pm - Parent Assessment Meeting

Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> February - Y3 Rock & Roll Day

Friday 10<sup>th</sup> Feb- Student council fundraiser- PYJAMA DAY 50p donation

Friday 10<sup>th</sup> - Year 4 Celebration assembly

Friday 10<sup>th</sup> - Finish 3.30pm for Half Term.

Return to school Monday 20<sup>th</sup> Feb

Thank you for your continued support.