



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.*

12th December 2025

Dear Parents and Families,

We have had another very busy week in school with the EYFS and KS1 Nativity on Monday and Tuesday, the Pantomime on Wednesday and a special music assembly on Thursday.

Next week, our Y3,4,5,6 Nativity will take place and this is a ticketed event for fire risk assessment purposes.

A reminder that EYFS and KS1 have their Christmas party on Monday and we are hoping a special visitor will be able to spare time in his busy schedule to come and see us!

The junior (KS2) party is on Thursday afternoon.

On party days, children can come in their own clothes but these need to be suitable for playing outside. School will supply snacks and refreshments for the parties.

The Sunday Gospel



Advent

In this Sunday's Gospel, John the Baptist prepares the people for the coming of Jesus. He tells them to share with others and to show mercy - to put people (not money or power) first; to feel for those who suffer and to do something to help. Talk to your child about how they can show mercy to others this Advent.

KS1 Nativity Performance

EYFS and KS1 had a wonderful time performing their Nativity 'Born in a Barn'. All of the children were confident and worked extremely hard to learn all of the words, songs and dances. The audience were amazed, thank you parents for supporting the children.



Early Closure ~ Friday 19th December

Just a polite reminder of our early closure next Friday at 1.30 pm.

Wonderful News!

Earlier this year our wonderful PTA applied to the Clitheroe Community Bonfire Committee to be considered as one of their local Charity/Organisations to receive funding from this years Bonfire Event on Clitheroe Castle.

We are delighted to say that on Saturday the PTA collected a cheque for £1500! The proceeds of the donation go towards the development of our Multi-Purpose room.

Special thanks to the Bonfire Committee and our PTA for all their hand work and dedication.



Rock Steady Concert

On Thursday morning, Emily from Rock Steady visited our school, giving us an exciting start to the day as we rocked out together — with some pupils even getting the chance to become rock stars on stage! Every child has taken home a letter (also shared digitally on Class Dojo), so please sign up if your child is interested. All information, including payment details, can be found by following the link in the letter. Act fast — spaces are limited and filling up rock-et fast!





Christmas Parties

KS1 Christmas party will be held on Monday 15th December and KS2 Christmas party will be on Thursday 18th December. Children can come to school in or their own clothes, but these need to be suitable for playing outside and fun games will be played. Food and drink will be provided and allergies will be catered for.

Nativities

KS2 Nativity 'Bethlehem Ballroom', performances will take place on Monday 15th December at 4.00 pm and Tuesday 16th December at 6.00 pm. Extra tickets are now available from the school office. An e-mail has been sent today with regards to the arrangements on the Nativity dates for KS2 children.

Cash prize raffle tickets will be on sale at all Nativities and also at our Christmas Carol Service on Thursday. The raffle will be drawn after the Carol Service.

Santa Dash - Wednesday 17th December



Our annual Santa Dash will take place on Wednesday 17th December children to bring a Santa/Christmas hat if possible, children should all be wearing their Christmas Jumpers too that day. It is forecast rain all week so we may have to dash (pun intended) out on a dry spell, or alternatively we will have to use the hall.



Christmas Post

The Christmas post box has arrived outside Mrs Mabbott's office. Christmas cards will need to be clearly labelled on the envelope, with the pupil's name, initial letter of their surname and class.

Car Parking - Polite Reminder

We kindly ask all parents and carers to be respectful when parking near the school in residential areas. Please can we ask parents' not to park on the resident only car park or parking spaces on Bayley Fold, please do not block pathways or park on surrounding pavements, or in unsafe areas. Our neighbours have raised concerns again and by taking extra care we can keep positive relationships within our community and ensure the safety of our children. Thank you for your support.

The Ribble Valley Arts and Excellence Awards

We have been approached by the local council to make you aware of a grant which you can apply for, for any children with talents in Dance, Drama and Music. Please see below further information from Ribble Valley Borough Council.

The Ribble Valley Borough Council, Arts Excellence Awards are designed to assist young talented performer's progress in their chosen activity of dance, drama or music. The main aim of the scheme is to help with the cost of tuition, travel and equipment in their chosen discipline. To be eligible the young people need to: be over the age of 9, be in full time education, must have achieved a qualification / accreditation in the art form they practice that is recognised by a governing body, must live in Ribble Valley.

For More Information. Follow this link to look at the grant criteria, check your eligibility and see how to apply [Arts Excellence Award - Ribble Valley Borough Council](#)

The deadline for applications is 2nd February 2026

School Lunches

Due to supply issues there will be a change to the school lunch menu on Thursday 18th December and Thursday 8th January. Unfortunately there will be no burgers available, but these will be replaced with sausages.

School and Parish Christmas Carol Concert



St Michael and St John's Christmas Carol Concert

St Michael and St John's RC Primary School and Church Choir are coming together to perform Traditional Christmas Carols and Songs on:

Thursday 18th December at 10.45 am

**at St Michael and St John's RC Primary School
School Hall.**

We would like to invite our school and local community to join us for a Christmas sing along. Please collect free tickets from the school office.

Refreshments will be available afterwards.



Festive Christmas Lunch

We be holding our annual Christmas lunch on Wednesday 17th December, this year children will receive a festive Christmas picnic box containing a choice of sandwich, along with a sausage roll, slice of pizza, nacho's and a festive dessert.



EYFS Prospective Parents

If you have been unable to attend any of our Open Days you are more than welcome to come and see our school in action, please telephone the school and we will make an appointment for you. It has been lovely to hear the visitors talk about our 'family feel' and 'calm atmosphere.' Thank you.

Come and See our 'Outstanding' Catholic School in Action

Does your child start school in September 2026?

If so, the closing date for primary applications for September 2026 is Thursday 15th January 2026.

We invite families of children looking for a primary place for September 2026 to come and view the school in action, talk to Mrs Mabbott (Headteacher) and to some of our Pupil Leaders and to ask any questions you have.

We are a catholic school but this does not mean your child has to be Catholic to attend. We welcome children of all faiths and backgrounds and are a fully inclusive school.

Please read our recent Catholic School Inspection Report and most recent Ofsted Report to find out a little more about our school.

<https://www.ssmj.lancs.sch.uk/catholic-school-inspection-report-july-2024/>
<https://primarysite-prod-sorted.s3.amazonaws.com/st-michael-and-st-johns-roman-catholic-primary-school/UploadedDocument/351cc94c-156c-465c-988b-ae044b83365/10268317-st-michael-and-st-johns-roman-catholic-primary-school-clith.pdf>

Primary School Admissions

School admissions are now open.

If your child is in their last year of pre-school/nursery you can now apply for their primary school place at: [Starting primary school \(reception\) - Lancashire County Council](#)

It's quick and easy to do and you will receive email confirmation of your application.

You must apply even if you already have siblings in school. If you live in Lancashire, you can include out of area preferences on your online application.

The closing date for primary applications for September 2025 is on Thursday 15th January 2026.

Clubs and Afterschool Activities

Here are the updated clubs and activities which will be taking place after the Christmas holidays.



Activity	Year Group/s	Teacher	Date/Times
Multi Sports	5 & 6	Progressive Sports	Monday 3.30 - 4.30 pm
Multiplication Club	4	Miss Parkinson	Monday 3.30 - 4.15 pm
Choir	All Years	Mrs Russell	Tuesday Lunchtime
Burnley Football Club	3 & 4	Burnley Football Club	Tuesday 3.30 - 4.30 pm
Tennis Club	All Years	Tennis Coach	Wednesday 8.00 - 8.45 am
Prayer Club	All Years	Mrs Whyman	Thursday 8.15 - 8.45 am
SATs Club	6	Mr Duckworth	Thursday 3.30 - 4.30 pm
Multi Sports	1 & 2	Progressive Sports	Thursday 3.30 - 4.30 pm



Happy birthday to Ethan and George in Year 4, who both celebrate a birthday this week.

Celebration Assembly



EYFS	River, Arlo, Connie and Ralph
Yr 1 & 2	William, Renato, Blake, Mateusz, Rosie and Harper
Yr 3 & 4	Hollie, Theo, Liberty, Sebastian, Tommy and Daniel
Yr 4 & 5	Ruby, Jack, Charlie, Joshua, Freddie and Hubert
Yr 6	Oliver, Elsie, Henry, Amelia, Edie and Willow

Top Table Winners



EYFS	Adley
Yr 1	William
Yr 2	Lily
Yr 3	katy
Yr 4	Archie P
Yr 5	Hubert
Yr 6	Lula-Rose

Diary Dates

Date	Event
Monday 15 th December	9.45 am ~ Christmas Music Concert in School (Children Only)
	1.30 pm ~ KS1 Christmas Party
	4.00 pm ~ KS2 Nativity 'Bethlehem Ballroom'
Tuesday 16 th December	AM ~ EYFS Trip to the Cathedral
	6.00 pm ~ KS2 Nativity 'Bethlehem Ballroom'
Wednesday 17 th December	Christmas Dinner & Christmas Jumper Day
	Santa Dash
Thursday 18 th December	10.45 am Parish and School Christmas Carol Concert
	1.30 pm ~ KS2 Christmas Party
Friday 19 th December	1.30 pm ~ School Closes for Christmas (Early Closure)
Monday 5 th January	School Re-opens
Tuesday 6 th January	10.00 am ~ Whole School Epiphany Mass ~ Parents' Welcome
Monday 26 th January	9.30 - 10.30 am ~ Lets go Sing Visit
Monday 2 nd February	5.00 pm ~ Borwick & SATs Parents' Information Evening
Friday 13 th February	School Closes for Half Term

Take Care & God Bless.

Mrs Zoe Mabbott - Headteacher



ST MICHAEL & ST JOHN'S HOLIDAY LIST 2025/2026

Autumn Term 2025

Re-open on: Wednesday 3rd September 2025
Half Term Monday 27th October to Friday 31th October 2025 (inclusive)
Christmas Holiday Early closure on Friday 19th December 2025

(Number of openings: 73)

Spring Term 2025

Re-open on: Monday 5th January, 2026
Half Term Monday 16th February to Friday 20th February 2026
(inclusive)
INSET DAY Monday 23rd February 2026
Easter Break Friday 3rd April to Friday 17th April 2026 (inclusive)

(Number of openings: 58)

Summer Term 2026

Re-open on: Monday 20th April 2026
Bank Holiday Monday 4th May 2026
Half Term Monday 25th May to Friday 29th May 2026 (inclusive)
Summer Holiday Early closure on Friday 17th July 2026

(Number of openings: 59)

Notices from other Companies and Providers

Notices

We are often asked to share information about events with you, which we do to support our community, and so you can consider whether these are of interest to you. Please note, school is not recommending or validating these events, we are simply passing on the information.



Mr & Mrs Riley, parents' of Ezra and Izzy, who have recently joined St Michael's & St John's will be acquiring Leaping Lizards Play Centre in Clitheroe, they officially take over at the end of January and have lots of plans in place to make it a fun, inclusive, and a welcoming space for families.

Here's a little look at what we're planning:

- Open 7 days a week, including after school
- A wide range of baby groups, toddler classes, and messy play sessions
- SEN-friendly events and quieter sessions
- Themed parties such as Harry Potter, K-Pop, and more
- Seasonal events including:
 - Afternoon tea with the Grinch
 - Lunch with the Easter Bunny
 - Pumpkin carving
 - Breakfast with Santa
- Evening activities like family quiz nights, family bingo, film nights
- Adult-only events including art classes, murder mystery nights, and more

Mr & Mrs Riley are incredibly excited to help grow Leaping Lizards into a place that offers something for everyone.

They open at the end of January, and we would absolutely love your support.

DECEMBER 2025

ST MARY'S CENTRE

WHAT'S ON FOR THE MONTH AHEAD

RIBBLE VALLEY
JAZZBLUES
Present

BAKED A LA SKA



20.12.2025

GET INTO THE FESTIVE SPIRIT AT
ST MARY'S CENTRE, CHURCH ST, CLITHEROE BB7 2DG

DOORS OPEN 7.15PM, BAND ON STAGE 8PM

Check the line up and
buy tickets online now



£22, members £18, U16s £10
www.rvjazzandblues.co.uk

The month ahead

MONDAYS

St Mary's playgroup (Term time only)
9.15am-11.15am
Tai Chi—10.30am-11.30am
Ladies Badminton—1.00pm - 2.30pm
A Team Dance 5pm - 6.30pm
(Term time & pre-booked only)
Encore Musical Theatre Classes 5pm
-6.45pm
Beavers 6-7pm
(Term time & pre-booked only)
Cubs/Scouts 7-8pm
(Term time & pre-booked only)

TUESDAYS

Aerobics - 11.00am - 12.00noon
Jujitsu - 7.00pm-8.30pm

WEDNESDAYS

Encore Drama Classes 5pm - 7pm
Tai Chi - 6.30pm-7.30pm

THURSDAYS

Line Dancing—7.30pm - 8.30pm
A Team Dance 4.30 - 6.45pm

FRIDAYS

Line Dancing—10.00am - 12noon

SATURDAYS

Puppy Training—10am-11am
Encore Musical Theatre Classes
10.30am - 12pm

Most classes are drop in for more information please
visit our website

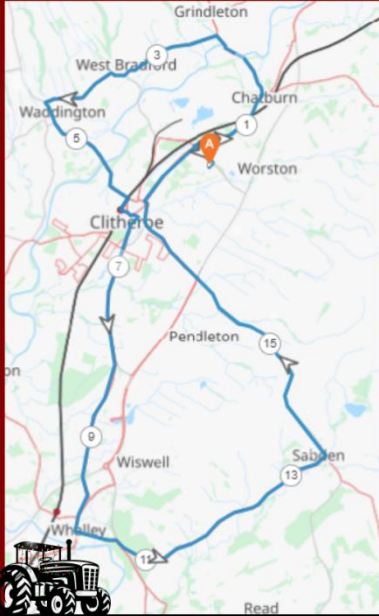
Available to hire for regular meetings or one-off
events. Prices from - £12/hour

ADDRESS: CHURCH ST,
CLITHEROE BB7 2DG

PHONE: 01200 425522
EMAIL: INFO@STMARYSCENTRE.CO.UK

ONLINE: STMARYSCENTRE.CO.UK
FACEBOOK: ST MARY'S CENTRE

CLITHEROE CHRISTMAS TRACTOR RUN 2025



- 6:30 Clitheroe Auction Mart
- 6:45 Chatburn
- 6:55 Grindleton
- 7:05 West Bradford
- 7:15 Waddington
- 7:20 Clitheroe Train Station
- 7:25 Clitheroe Town Centre
- 7:40 Barrow
- 7:50 Whalley
- 8:15 Sabden
- 8:20 Pendle Hill
- 8:30 Pendle Road
- 8:40 Chatburn Road
- 9:00 Finish

7:10 Quiet Zone!
W Bradford Road

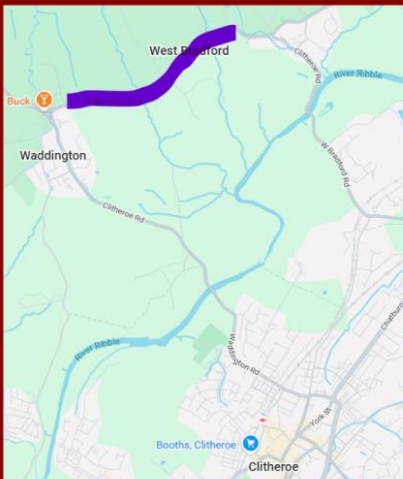
Fundraising for:



Sunday | 21st DECEMBER | from 6:30pm

CLITHEROE YFC CHRISTMAS TRACTOR RUN 2025

QUIET ZONE!



W Bradford Road

BB7 3JE

No horns or music!

FUNDRAISING FOR:



Sunday | 21st DECEMBER | from 6:30pm



Clitheroe Castle
Museum

Festive Fun



Snowman Hunt

Can you spot the tiny snowmen hiding in the museum galleries? Find them all and you could win a fabulous bag of goodies. Free with museum admission.



Crafty Christmas

Slow down and get creative in our dedicated craft area. Decorate a ceramic Christmas stocking throughout December, £3 each whilst stocks last.

Betwixtmas

Once the big day is done, why not pay us a visit between Christmas and New Year to enjoy woodland animal themed craft activities. There is dressing up, colouring and games to enjoy too.



Dates	Opening Times
24 – 26 December	 Closed
27 – 30 December	 Open
31 December – 2 January	 Closed

Don't forget **KIDS GO FREE**

Get updates on all our news and events on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#) or visit our website at <https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/leisure-and-culture/museums/clitheroe-castle-museum> for more information.

BURNLEY
FC IN THE COMMUNITY

TINSEL

at the TURF

MONDAY 22ND DECEMBER

JOIN US FOR...

STADIUM TOUR, FUN & GAMES, ARTS & CRAFTS,
A VISIT TO SANTA'S GROTTO WITH A CHRISTMAS

CHOOSE TO BOOK...

SESSION 1 9AM - 12PM

SESSION 2 1PM - 4PM



£25
AGES 5 - 12



SCAN TO BOOK OR EMAIL US AT COMMUNITY@BURNLEYFC.COM



NEW YEAR



CAMPS

★ **FRIDAY 2ND JANUARY**

AT THE LEISURE BOX, BB9 5NH



STANDARD DAY
9:00AM - 3:30PM
EXTENDED DAY
8:00AM - 5:00PM

**THE
LEISURE
BOX**

DUDE PERFECT



BOOK NOW



East Lancashire Young People's Mental Health

**Concerned about your Mental Health?
Are you under 18 or concerned about
someone under 18?**

**Advice sessions are available on-line via
'Attend Anywhere'
Delivered by ELCAS
tinurl.com/ELCAS-LSCFT**



**Enter the word "ELCAS" as the first name and "drop in" as the second
name followed by your date of birth.
You will then enter our virtual waiting area where we will collect you.**

Wednesday 1st October 25

1pm – 3pm

Wednesday 8th October 25

3pm – 5pm

Wednesday 15th October 25

5pm – 7pm

Wednesday 22nd October 25

1pm – 3pm

Children and Family
**Wellbeing
Service**

Get advice and support

Someone to talk to
Problems at
home/school
Jobs and training
Apprenticeships
Staying safe
online
Sex and health
Relationships

Mental Health
Self Harm
Bullying
Drugs and
alcohol
Things to do
Housing, rights
and money
What age can I?



[facebook.com/LancashireYZ](https://www.facebook.com/LancashireYZ)

twitter.com/LancashireYPS

You can contact us 365 days a year

2pm to 10pm

**talk
zone**

Text 07786 51 11 11

Talk online lancashire.gov.uk/youthzone

Call 0800 51 11 11

Age 0-19

(up to 25 for young
people with learning
difficulties or disabilities)

lancashire.gov.uk



Lancashire
County
Council



0800 51 11 11