



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

Telephone: 01200 422560
E-mail: bursar@ssmj.lancs.sch.uk

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

11th September 2026

Dear Parents and Families,

It was lovely to welcome all our children back on Thursday, I hope you all had a lovely summer.

On Thursday we came together as a whole school. It was lovely to be together, and our new reception children sat beautifully as they experienced their first whole school gathering. All the children were a credit to SSMJ. We also welcomed some new children this week: Rory and Jake in Year 2 and Malachy in Year 4. Our children are already helping them to settle in.

We also welcome back Miss Phoebe Richardson. Miss Richardson previously worked with us on a supply basis as a Teaching Assistant. This term she is with us, in Year 6, as she begins her teaching qualification through Romero Trust and Leeds University.

We also welcome our new coaches from Burnley Football Club, Mr Tom Clamp and Mr Jackson Darkes-Sutcliffe who will be working with us every Wednesday to enhance our PE provision.

Progressive Sports continue to provide our before and after school childcare. Please do try and utilise this provision.

Last week I sent out a letter about a number of new policies and about our newly appointed Pupil Leadership Groups. Our school website is currently being updated with all our new policies so please do familiarise yourselves with these.

School Mission Statement, Vision and Aims

As we start another new school year, we ask all of our children and families to follow our mission statement which is

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

Our school values are:

Aspirations

Love

Respect

Courage

Unity

Dojos are awarded for children following these values. Dojo badges are awarded as follows:

100 dojo points = bronze

200 = silver

300 = gold

500 = platinum.

Points are re-set at the start of a new year.

SCHOOL RULES

RESPECT - God/ property/ oneself and others

TRY HARD - in work and play

Be polite | Work hard | Be kind and thoughtful | Be honest | Look after property | Do listen, Be safe.

The Sunday Gospel



In this Sunday's Gospel, Peter asks Jesus the question about how many times we should forgive. Jesus' answer shows that we must forgive one another just as God forgives us: again and again, without limit. This Sunday's Gospel reminds us that we must try to forgive others in the same way that we want God (and others) to forgive us. Ask your child what the word 'forgiveness' means to them. Has your child ever asked for and received forgiveness? How did it feel to be forgiven? It may help your child if you tell them about a time when you forgave someone, especially when it wasn't easy to do, or when you were forgiven.

Is your child due to start school in September 2027?

St Michael & St John's RC Primary School

Ofsted Inspection- Good
CSI Inspection - Outstanding

JOIN US FOR OUR OPEN DAYS

Thursday 24.9.26 9.30am
+ Wednesday 7.10.26 2pm

- ✓ A great place To learn
- ✓ High academic standards
- ✓ Child & family focussed
- ✓ Lots of Enrichment opportunities

"following the example of Jesus together we learn, love & respect one another to be the best we can be"

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

We look forward to welcoming you!

Contact the office to book your place - 01200 422560
bursar@ssmj.lancs.sch.uk

Children Due to Start School in September 2027 (Reception)

Can parents and relatives of current children please spread the word:

We are having two timetabled sessions where parents and children can see our school in action.

Thursday 24th September - 9.30 - 10.30 am ~ Open Morning for Parents of children due to start school September 2027.

Wednesday 7th October 2.00 - 3.00 pm ~ Open Afternoon for Parents of children due to start school September 2027.

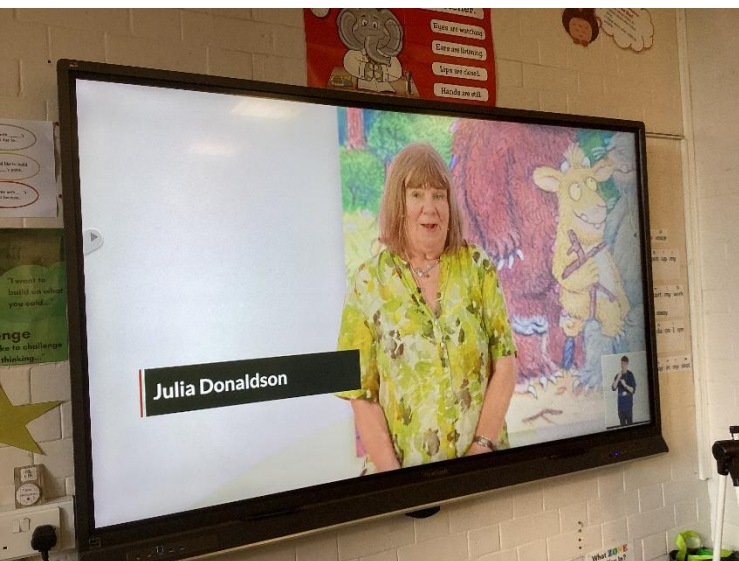
If these dates/times are not convenient, please call the school office and an alternative date and time will be arranged. We look forward to welcoming you.

Year 6 ~ St Augustine's Open Evening

SARCHS meeting for prospective parents of our Year 6 pupils, will be held on Monday 14th September ~ 5.00 pm at SSMJ.

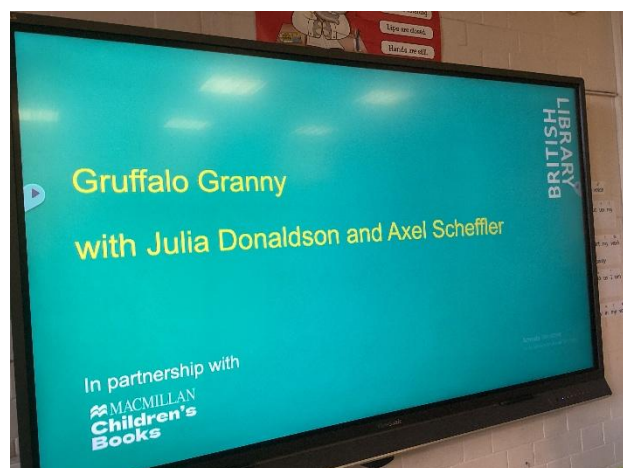
Pools to Schools

The children have really enjoyed the sessions so far. The swimming teacher has said how impressed he is with the children's attitudes, behaviour and efforts. Well done!



Year 1 and 2 Livestream Event

This morning, all of the children in Year 1 and Year 2 joined a livestream event. Julia Donaldson and Axel Scheffler performed the brand new story Gruffalo Granny! The children thoroughly enjoyed it.



PTA Classlist App



Please visit the link below to download the Classlist app and register your child to make future payments, for any upcoming PTA events.

<https://classlist.page.link/m58MKMpyoHjSAjP48>

Twilight INSET

Some of our staff enjoyed a 2-hour training session on Thursday evening, with ICT with Mr P - Tech to Raise Standards.

We explored the use of AI in schools, and how we can safely use it to enhance teaching and learning for our children. We are extremely excited to use the tech tools in our classrooms!



Wellbeing Warriors selection

The children in year 6 have been given an opportunity to apply to be a Wellbeing Warrior. There are two places available. They will need to write a letter stating why they would like the role, what would make them suitable for this role and what skills they have that they could bring to the position. Their letters need to be handed to Mrs Canavan by Friday 19th September.

Hello Yellow Day - 9th October



SSMJ will be taking part in Hello Yellow on Friday 9th October to raise awareness and funds for YoungMinds, the UK's leading charity for young people's mental health.

Many young people are struggling with their mental health right now and that's why days like Hello Yellow matter. By teaching young people to explore their feelings, how to talk about them and who to reach out to for help, we're giving them the tools they need. And by raising funds for YoungMinds, we're making sure that they have access to support when it matters most.

We'll be taking part by wearing items of yellow clothing or accessories to school on Friday 9th October.

Most importantly, we want to share the resources which YoungMinds offer to support parents and carers if you ever need help and advice. This includes:

- Online resources (www.youngminds.org.uk/parent)
- A phonenumber service for parents and carers to speak to trained professionals if you're concerned about your children's mental health: 0808 802 5544 (Open 9.30am-4pm)
- As well as an online chat and email service (www.youngminds.org.uk/parentshelpline)



Music Lessons

If your child is interested in peripatetic music lessons from September, please see the link below for more details.

[Registration - Cultural Services: Lancashire Music Service](#)

Pre-ordering School Meals



A gentle reminder to all parents and carers that school lunches should be pre-booked through ParentPay. Please ensure your child's meal choices are selected in advance so that our catering team can accurately prepare lunches each day, and your child receives a meal of their choice, this also prevents food wastage. Thank you for your co-operation.

'Our Little Chefs Kitchen'



Thank you for all your support with the Tesco Grants Appeal. We are delighted to let you know that following conclusion of voting in our local Tesco store, our project came second and has been chosen by Tesco Customers to receive a grant award of £1,000.00!

We look forward to developing our Little Chefs Kitchen, and thank you to Mrs Russell for putting this bid together.

EYFS Admission ~ September 2027

Does your child start school in September 2027?

If so, the closing date for primary applications for September 2027 is Thursday 15th January 2027.

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-aef044b83365/10268317-st-michael-and-st-johns-roman-catholic-primary-school-clith.pdf>

To apply for a primary school place, follow the link below:

[Applying for a primary school place - Lancashire County Council](#)

Clubs and Afterschool Activities



Activity	Year Group/s	Teacher	Date/Times
Board Games Club	Years 3 & 4	Mrs Whyman	Tuesday 3.30 - 4.30 pm
Archery	Years 1 & 2	Progressive Sports	Tuesday 3.30 - 4.30 pm
Burnley Football Club	Years 5 & 6	Burnley Football Club	Wednesday 3.30 - 4.30 pm
Tennis Club	All Years	Tennis Coach	Wednesday 8.00 - 8.45 am
Choir	KS2	Mrs Russell	Wednesday & Thursday Lunchtime

Progressive Sports are booked through progressive sports: [Enrolmy | Progressive Sports South Lancashire](#)

BFC and Tennis Club are booked through Parent Pay.

There is no charge for the board games club, however, booking is required through Parent Pay as we can only facilitate a maximum number of 15 pupils per session.

Celebration and Leavers' Assembly

There was no celebration assembly this week due to the swimming pool being on site. We look forward to seeing you at Celebration Assembly next Friday at 9am.

Top Table Winners



EYFS	Gabriel
Yr 1	Alex
Yr 2	William
Yr 3	Lily
Yr 4	Hollie
Yr 5	Archie C
Yr 6	Frank



Happy birthday to Alessandro in Year 5 who celebrated his birthday Last week. Also happy birthday to River in Year 1, Layla in Year 4 and Lottie in Year 5 who all celebrate a birthday this week.

Diary Dates

Date	Event
Monday 14 th September	1.00 pm - 3.00 pm ~ MySkillz Project at The Grand
	5.00 pm - Year 6 SARCHS Prospective Parents' Evening at SSMJ
Wednesday 16 th September	Meet the teacher evening
Thursday 17 th September	6.00 - 8.30 pm ~ Bowland High School Prospective Parents' Evening

Monday 21 st September	1.00 pm - 3.00 pm ~ MySkillz Project at The Grand
Tuesday 22 nd September	Let's Go Sing visiting the school Choir and Mrs Russell
Thursday 24 th September	9.30 - Open Morning for Parents of children due to start school September 2027
	6.00 - 7.00 pm ~ SARCHS Welcome Mass
Monday 28 th September	1.00 pm - 3.00 pm ~ MySkillz Project at The Grand
Wednesday 30 th September	SEND Coffee Morning
Thursday 1 st October	National Poetry Day
	10.30 am ~ EYFS Vision Screening
	5.00 - 7.00 pm ~ SARCHS Open Evening
Friday 2 nd October	Harvest Celebration Assembly
Monday 5 th October	1.00 pm - 3.00 pm ~ MySkillz Project at The Grand
Wednesday 7 th October	2.00 - 3.00 pm ~ Open Afternoon for Parents of children due to start school September 2027
Friday 9 th October	Mental Health Day - Pupils are encouraged to wear yellow
Monday 12 th October	School photographs
	1.00 pm - 3.00 pm ~ MySkillz Project at The Grand
	5.00 pm ~ MySkillz Showcase at The Grand
Wednesday 21 st October	Parents' Evening
Thursday 22 nd October	Parents' Evening
Thursday 22 nd October	School Closes for half term holiday
Friday 23 rd October	INSET Day
Monday 2 nd November	School re-opens
Tuesday 3 rd November	Let's Go Sing visiting the school Choir and Mrs Russell
Wednesday 11 th November	Remembrance Day
Friday 13 th November	9.30 am ~ Flu vaccinations
Monday 16 th November	Anti-bullying Week - Odd Sock Day
Thursday 19 th November	Non-Uniform Day
Thursday 26 th November	Non-Uniform Day

Friday 4 th December	3.30 - 5.30 pm ~ Christmas Fair
Monday 7 th December	2.30 pm ~ EYFS & KS1 Nativity
Tuesday 8 th December	9.30 am ~ EYFS & KS1 Nativity
Wednesday 9 th December	Pantomime @ The Grand
Thursday 10 th December	Human Rights Day
Monday 14 th December	Reports out today
	4.00 pm ~ KS2 Nativity
Tuesday 15 th December	6.00 pm ~ KS2 Nativity
Wednesday 16 th December	Christmas Dinner and Christmas Jumper Day
Thursday 17 th December	Parish and School Christmas Carol Concert
Friday 18 th December	1.30 pm ~ Early School Closure for Christmas Holidays

Take Care & God Bless.

Mrs Zoe Mabbott - Headteacher



ST MICHAEL & ST JOHN'S HOLIDAY LIST 2026/2027

Autumn Term 2026

Re-open on: Thursday 3rd September 2026
INSET DAY Friday 23rd October 2026
Half Term Monday 26th October to Friday 30th October 2026 (inclusive)
Re-open on: Monday 2nd November 2026
Christmas Holiday Early closure on Friday 18th December 2026

(Number of openings: 71)

Spring Term 2027

Re-open on: Tuesday 5th January 2027
INSET DAY Friday 29th January 2027
Half Term Monday 15th February to Friday 19th February 2027 (inclusive)
INSET DAY Monday 22nd February 2027
Re-open on: Tuesday 23rd February 2027
Easter Break Friday 26th March to Friday 9th April 2027 (inclusive)

(Number of openings: 51)

Summer Term 2027

Re-open on: Monday 12th April 2027
Bank Holiday Monday 3rd May 2027
Half Term Monday 31st May to Friday 4th June 2027 (inclusive)
Re-open on: Monday 7th June 2027
Summer Holiday Early closure on Wednesday 21st July 2027

(Number of openings: 67)

(Total number of openings: 189)

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.



Join us for our Open Evening



Thursday 17th September 2026 6pm-8.30pm

Speeches will be held at 6.15pm, 7pm and 7.45pm

Please note: There will be NO vehicular access or parking during Open Evening at the school or in the surrounding lanes.

A free 'Park & Ride' system will operate from Clitheroe Auction Market commencing at 5.45pm.

Open Day

Wednesday 23rd September 2026 9.15am-2pm

Come to see the school in action

Please email/telephone to book a tour between 9.15am and 1.20pm (duration approximately 45 minutes)

Unfortunately we can only accommodate parents/carers who pre-book a tour

01200 441374

enquiries@bowland.atctrust.org.uk

CLITHEROE  TENNIS CLUB

INDOOR MINI TENNIS



11th Sept – 18th Dec
(Excl. 30 Oct)

**FUN!
ACTIVE!
ALL AGES
WELCOME!**



Reception – Year 2:

3:45pm – 4:30pm

£84



Year 3 & 4:

4:30pm – 5:15pm

£84



WEST BRADFORD VILLAGE HALL



CONTACT COACH NICK: 07985605565



Mosque at
the Mount



CLITHEROE MOSQUE *Open Day!*

Ever wondered what happens
inside a mosque?

Come and meet your local Muslim
community, ask questions, enjoy
refreshments and learn more in a
friendly, relaxed atmosphere.



SUNDAY
20 SEPTEMBER
2026



1:00PM – 4:00PM



93–97 Lowergate
Clitheroe
BB7 1AG

EVERYONE WELCOME

People of all faiths and none. ♥



WHAT TO EXPECT



Islam &
British values



Live call
to prayer
1:20PM



Observe
a prayer
1:30PM



Learn about
Islam



Ask any
questions



Meet local
Muslims



Tea, coffee &
refreshments

NO BOOKING REQUIRED

Just turn up – we look forward to welcoming you!

We can't wait to meet you!



www.clitheroemosque.org



Clitheroe Mosque



07973 360 320

**RAFFLE
PRIZES**

ST MARY'S CENTRE

Church Street, Clitheroe

**BAR OPEN
FROM 6PM**

FAMILY BINGO NIGHT



**SAUSAGE
BAPS £3**

SATURDAY | 26 SEPTEMBER 2026

30

Doors open 6pm

Eyes down 6.30pm

Ticket £5 pp

**Family ticket £15
(min 1 child)**

**B
12**

42

**Tickets include entry & first Bingo book
Line & Full House prizes**

**Box office - St Mary's Centre
9am-1pm Mon-Fri**

**More Info: www.stmaryscentre.co.uk
01200 425522**

**St Mary's
Centre**



HALF TERM EVENTS

LEAPING LIZARDS Play Centre AT LEAPING LIZARDS



**FRIDAY
23RD
OCTOBER**

Halloween Silent Disco

6pm - 8pm

£8 per child



**MONDAY
26TH
OCTOBER**

Pumpkin Trinket Tray Decorating

2pm - 4pm

£11.50 per child



**TUESDAY
27TH
OCTOBER**

Torr's Exotic Petting Zoo with creepy critters and baby owls

2pm - 4pm

£12 per child



**WEDNESDAY
28TH
OCTOBER**

Halloween Potion and Slime Making

11.30am - 1.30pm and 2pm - 4pm

£11.50 per child



**THURSDAY
29TH
OCTOBER**

Wicked theme party with Glinda & Elphaba

11.30am - 1.30pm, 2pm - 4pm

£20 per child



**SATURDAY
31ST
OCTOBER**

Halloween Party

9am - 11am

SEND party

11.30am - 1.30pm and 2pm - 4pm

Halloween Parties.

Facepainting, Games and Spooky Fun.

£10.50 per child



**TUESDAY -
FRIDAY
(HALF TERM)**

Spooky Film Nights

6pm - 8pm

£5 per child

Hocus Pocus, Frankenweenie, The Nightmare Before Christmas & Transylvania.



BOOK YOUR SPOT NOW!



www.bookwhen.com/leapinglizardsplay

