



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.*

2nd October 2026

Dear Parents and Families,

Please keep Mrs Ritchie, one of our Teaching Assistants and Tommy (who is in Y4) in your thoughts and prayers as they have both had surgery this week. The children have made them some lovely cards which will help to cheer them up.

A huge thank you for all the Harvest items you have sent into school and well done to Francis class, supported by Benedict class and some children from Year 6 for leading our Harvest assembly this morning.

On Tuesday we celebrated the Feast Day of St Michael the Archangel, thank you to Mrs Russell for leading a special Celebration of the Word.

This week has been a busy week for sport at SSMJ with Football and Cross Country events.

The Sunday Gospel



In this Sunday's Gospel, the servants represent God's messengers (the Prophets) and the tenants of the vineyard represent the leaders of Israel at that time. Jesus told this story because some of the leaders were not listening to God's messengers.

Ask your child what the word 'messenger' means to them.
Who do they think are God's messengers today?
Who brings the message of Jesus to them?

Which of Jesus' messages does your child like best, and which is your favourite?

Burnley Football Club - Together Against Racism

Thank you to Mrs Bradford who delivered an assembly on Monday to introduce our children to the Together Against Racism competition. Mrs Bradford talked to us about how we are all unique and should respect one another, which links to our school mission statement. The children have been busy this week designing a shirt for the competition. Our children are working with BFC to make this competition a huge success and inspire as many young people as possible to stand Together Against Racism.

There are a number of schools taking part and the winner will have their design printed onto the Burnley men's warm up shirt before the match on Tuesday 16th October.



Sacramental Program

Father Paul has sent a separate letter which has gone out via email to any current Year 3 children or older children who wish to be part of the Sacramental Program this year. The initial meeting will be after the 9.30 am Mass on Sunday 18th October.

Harvest Assembly

This morning Francis Class with the help Benedict Class and some Y6 pupils presented an assembly focussing on Harvest. Thank you, all the children and parents who have made donations for the food bank. We are very grateful for your generosity.

During the assembly the children sang a song, shared some pictures and as a school community we said a prayer for those less fortunate than our selves at harvest time. Well done to all involved and particularly to the new EYFS children for being so brave and standing up in front of the whole school with parents and relatives in attendance.



Coffee morning

Thank you to the parents/relatives who were able to attend our SEND coffee morning on Wednesday. We hope you found it useful.

Year 5 & 6 Cross Country Event

On Thursday, Year 5 and 6 represented the school at Cross Country. The boys were fantastic and recorded some amazing finishing times. Including a 10th place finish out of almost 190 participants. Thank you to Mr Currid for training and accompanying.



Year 5 & 6 Football Competition



On Monday, Year 5 and 6 represented the school in the Ribble Valley Kids' Cup. Congratulations to all the boys that played. Thank you to Mr Currid for accompanying them.

October Plank Challenge



Mrs Canavan has signed up to do the Plank Challenge in October for Cancer Research UK. She will be doing a plank everyday throughout the month. This is her way of giving something back after members of her family have been affected by cancer in the last 6 months.

Please find below a link to her giving page:

<https://fundraise.cancerresearchuk.org/page/claires-giving-page-14096807>

We are very proud of you Mrs Canavan!

Crosses and Crucifixes



We are kindly asking for your help to rehome any spare crosses/crucifixes. This would really help to enhance the children's RE lessons and worships. We would love a variety of different sizes, colours and materials. Please pass them on to Mrs Whyman or to the office. Thank you in advance.

Cauliflower Cards



Cauliflower Christmas artwork was sent home on Friday last week. Parents will need to order their Christmas items online through cauliflower cards, using the order codes on your child's artwork. The artwork then needs to be returned to school by Monday 5th October.

School Photographs

A letter was e-mailed home to parent's last week, regarding school photographs, which will take place on Monday 12th October.

Healthy Snack and lunches



A polite reminder to all parents and carers to please ensure that children bring in healthy snacks for breaktime, such as fruit or breakfast bars. We kindly ask that packed lunches contain a healthy and balanced selection of food.

Please remember that crisps, sweets and chocolate bars should not be included in children's snacks or lunchboxes. Thank you for your cooperation.

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)

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>

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.

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. One has taken place this week. The next is:

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.

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

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](#)

Board Games Club, BFC and Tennis Club are booked through Parent Pay.

Top Table Winners



EYFS	Tommy
Yr 1	River
Yr 2	Zane
Yr 3	Thomas
Yr 4	Katy
Yr 5	Lottie
Yr 6	Marcus

Celebration Assembly



EYFS & Yr 1	Gabriel, Thea & Sid
Yr 1 & 2	Connie, Adley, Callie, Ainsley & Mateusz
Yr 3 & 4	Luna, Noah, Theo, Isaac & Maksym
Yr 4 & 5	Alessandro, Leo, Paul, Finley & Sebastian
Yr 6	Joseph, Mason, Rosie, Charlie & William



Happy birthday to Thomas & Isaac in Year 3 and Sadie in Year 6 who all celebrate a birthday this week. Also, Happy birthday to Miss Brindle who also celebrated her birthday this week.

Diary Dates

Date	Event
Monday 5 th October	1.00 pm – 3.00 pm ~ MySkillz Project at The Grand
	Cauliflower Artwork to be returned back to school
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)



ST MICHAEL & ST JOHN'S HOLIDAY LIST 2027/2028

Autumn Term 2027

Re-open on: Thursday 2nd September 2027
Half Term Monday 25th October to Friday 29th October 2027 (inclusive)
Re-open on: Monday 1st November 2027
INSET DAYS Friday 26th November and Monday 29th November 2027
Christmas Holiday Early closure on Friday 17th December 2027

(Number of openings: 70)

Spring Term 2028

Re-open on: Tuesday 4th January 2028
Half Term Monday 14th February to Friday 18th February 2028 (inclusive)
Re-open on: Tuesday 22nd February 2028
Easter Break Monday 3rd April to Tuesday 18th April 2028 (inclusive)

(Number of openings: 58)

Summer Term 2028

Re-open on: Wednesday 19th April 2028
Bank Holiday Monday 1st May 2028
Half Term Monday 29th May to Friday 2nd June 2028 (inclusive)
Re-open on: Monday 5th June 2028
Summer Holiday Early closure on Friday 21st 2028

(Number of openings: 62)

(Total number of openings: 190)

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.

Bowley Scout Camp - Holiday Club

East Lancashire Scouts will be running a holiday club over the October half term holiday, to book a place please follow the link below:

[Bowley Holiday Club - October 2026 Registration - Page 1 of 6](#)

They are also running a Wonderland Christmas Experience; further detail can be found on the link below:

[Christmas Experience - Bowley International Scout Centre](#)

Fun Palace - Clitheroe and Chatburn Libraries

Clitheroe and Chatburn Libraries will be holding their annual Fun Palace on Saturday 3rd October 11am-3 pm. Fun Palace is a celebration of creativity, community and shared talents. Library staff will be sharing their skills and passions with visitors, offering opportunities to explore crafts, enjoy music, learn something new and have fun together. No booking needed, just turn up.



PERCUSSION DAY 2026

SIGN UP!



£7.50 PER YOUNG PERSON

VENUE

ST CHRISTOPHERS CE HIGH
SCHOOL, QUEENS ROAD WEST,
ACCRINGTON, BB5 4AY

WHEN

SUNDAY 11TH OCT 2026 | 10AM-3:30PM

SPECIAL GUEST

SIMONE REBELLO & BACK BEAT



LANCASHIRE
MUSIC SERVICE

CLITHEROE  TENNIS CLUB

INDOOR MINI TENNIS



FUN!
ACTIVE!
ALL AGES
WELCOME!



11th Sept – 18th Dec
(Excl. 30 Oct)



Reception – Year 2:

3:45pm – 4:30pm

£84



Year 3 & 4:

4:30pm – 5:15pm

£84



WEST BRADFORD VILLAGE HALL



CONTACT COACH NICK: **07985605565**



HALF TERM EVENTS

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





PB & ME

Personal Best. Mental Endurance.

MOVE | DEVELOP | CONNECT



COMMUNITY | OPPORTUNITY | BELONGING



SAME
OPPORTUNITIES
BRIGHTER
FUTURES

FOR YOUNG PEOPLE
AGED 7 - 14
ALL ABILITIES
ALL BACKGROUNDS
ALL WELCOME

MOVE • DEVELOP • CONNECT

PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT. POSITIVE PEOPLE. REAL OPPORTUNITIES.

IGNITE is delivered by PB&ME, in partnership with Clitheroe Wolves FC, using physical and skill related fitness training alongside proven training methods that support every participant to develop from their own starting point.

Sessions focus on building fitness, skills, confidence and resilience, with mentoring opportunities to support personal and social development.

This programme is a progression of our trial projects and ideas, creating more structured opportunities for young people.

"HARD WORK
BUILDS
PROGRESS.
BUILDS
CONFIDENCE.
ENJOY THE
JOURNEY."



FRIDAYS
5PM - 6PM



HIGHMOOR
PLAYING FIELDS



AGES 7 - 14
ALL ABILITIES
ALL WELCOME



£5 PER SESSION
CONCESSIONS
AVAILABLE

DEVELOPMENT
OPPORTUNITY
BELONGING
POSITIVE PEOPLE

HOW IGNITE HELPS



IMPROVE FITNESS AND SKILLS

Build fitness, movement skills and core abilities in a supportive environment.



DEVELOP AT YOUR OWN PACE

Progress at your own level with guidance and support.



MENTORING AND SUPPORT

Positive role models, regular conversations and opportunities to build confidence and wider life skills.



REAL OPPORTUNITIES

Be part of a team, make new friends and contribute positively to your community.

MENTORING IN PARTNERSHIP WITH CLITHEROE FOOTBALL CLUB

Mentoring opportunities will be developed through a working partnership with Clitheroe Football Club, with a view to inspiring our community and supporting young people to contribute positively and add social value to their lives and to our wider community.

FOR COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS



If you are a community organisation, please get in touch so we can work together and help guide young people towards services that can make a real difference.

OUR JOURNEY

A progression and development of our trial projects and ideas, creating more structured opportunities for the future.

BOUNCE BACK

Building resilience

PHYSICAL FRIDAYS

Getting active together

PERFORMANCE & PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

Growing skills and confidence

IGNITE

Mentoring, opportunity
and brighter futures



SCAN HERE
TO FIND OUT MORE
OR GET IN TOUCH



07359940773

TOGETHER
WE MAKE A
DIFFERENCE

PEOPLE

POTENTIAL

PROGRESS

COMMUNITY