



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.*

3rd October 2025

Dear Parents and Families,

The Sunday Gospel



In this Sunday's Gospel Jesus reminds us of the power and the responsibility that comes with having faith in God. Faith and love go hand in hand. Helping our children to grow in faith, to know and love God, is one of the greatest gifts we can give them. Putting our faith in Jesus helps us to know God as our loving Father, and this changes how we see the world — it can free us from anxiety, give us confidence and inner strength, and help us keep growing in our love for one another.

Ask your child what the word 'faith' means to them. Ask your child they have faith in to be there for them always (e.g. parents, carers, relatives, school staff, friends, Jesus)?

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 5th October.

Parent Governor Elections

School has a vacancy for one parent Governor. Today, your child will bring home the information if you are interested in this role. Please check your child's book bags for the letters and information. Nomination forms to be returned to Mrs Mabbott by 12.00 noon on Monday 13th October 2025.

EYFS Harvest Assembly

Well done and thank you to our EYFS children who led part of our celebration assembly this morning all about Harvest. It was wonderful to see the work they have been doing and all their learning about healthy food and in particular how they have been thankful to God for all the food they have and recognise not everyone has enough food. Their singing was wonderful too.

Thank you to all the relatives who came to watch and well done EYFS. We are so proud of you!



Breakfast Club and Afterschool Club

Progressive Sports are our wrap around childcare provider, their focus is on delivering trusted, reliable, and expert childcare that extends your child's school day with enriching and inclusive activities.

Breakfast club starts from 7.30 am and afterschool club finishes at 6.00 pm.

Progressive Sports are also providing activities afterschool until 4.30 pm. If you wish to book your child a place, please visit the link below.

[Enrolmy | Progressive Sports South Lancashire](#)



Harvest Foodbank Collection

Thank you very much for all the kind donations for our Harvest Appeal. The last day to donate is Wednesday 8th October after which they will be collected by Mr Downes (Vice Chair of Governors), who will take them to the Foodbank for us.



Harvest appeal



Help support your food bank this Harvest

In the three weeks leading up to Harvest, the food bank will provide over 80 food parcels for local individuals and families facing hardship.

Donate food



Donate an item or two from our shopping list, ensuring we can provide food for people facing hardship in your community.

Donate money



Help to cover the costs of storing and distributing food, as well as developing sustainable projects.

Shopping list

Tinned meat/fish
Tinned veg/fruit
Cooking sauces
Coffee
Milk (UHT or powdered)
Chocolate
Fruit juice (long-life)
Sponge pudding
Jam
Instant mashed potato

Ribble Valley Foodbank
Ribblevalley.foodbank.org.uk

Ribble Valley Foodbank is part of Ribble Valley Gateway Trust. Registered Charity no: 1167281

Data Collection Sheets and Educational Visits Form

Just a polite reminder if you haven't already done so, please can you return your completed data collection forms and consent forms for local educational visits, which were sent out last week, the deadline for the returns was on Wednesday 1st October, completing this information will allow us to ensure our school database is kept up to date. Many thanks.

Football News

Congratulations to our Year 5/6 football team who played on Monday. They played in the Ribble Valley cup against 7 other teams from our area. The team played really well together. Congratulations to Ellie, Roman, Dexter, Alex, Jacob and Mykyta from Year 6 and William from year 5. Thank you to Mr Currid for taking them.



On Tuesday after school, Year 5 and 6 girls played in a football tournament at Ribblesdale High School, they played 5 fantastic matches - the scores were 0-0 for the first two matches, the girls then won the third match 1-0 and won the four match 2-0, but unfortunately lost the final match 2-0.

The girls were a credit to the school and showed good sportsmanship throughout the tournament well done, Isabella, Phoebe, Pyper, Eleanor, Edie, Una, Nahri, Penny, and Lula. Thank you to Mr Duckworth for taking them.



School Lunches

Thank you to all our parents' who are now pre-ordering school meals online via Parent Pay.

Just a polite reminder: To please choose your school meal choices over the weekend with your children.

If pre-orders have not been completed in advance, pupils will be unable to receive a school meal at lunchtime.



Mental Health Day - 10th October 2025

Our school will be taking part in Hello Yellow on Friday 10th October (World Mental Health Day) to raise awareness and funds for YoungMinds, the UK's leading charity for young people's mental health.

No young person should feel alone with their mental health and that's why Hello Yellow matters.

We're taking this opportunity as a school community to come together and show our students that we're with them and they're never alone with their mental health.

We'll be taking part by wearing yellow clothing and/or accessories to school. You can also donate to support our school's fundraising by going to the YoungMinds website and clicking on the donate button at the top of their page. Most importantly, we want to share the resources which YoungMinds offer to support parents and carers if you ever need help and advice to support your children. This includes:

- online resources (www.youngminds.org.uk/parent/)
- A phone line, open 9.30am-4pm (0808 802 5544)
- An online chat for parents and carers to speak to trained professionals if you're concerned about your children's mental health www.youngminds.org.uk/parents-helpline/

SSMJ Open Morning - 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 will be holding our next annual Open Day this year on Tuesday 14th October at 2.00 pm. However if you are not available at this time, please contact the school and we will arrange a convenient time for you to visit.

We invite families of children looking for a primary place for September 2026 to come and enjoy refreshments, view the school in action, talk to Mrs Mabbott (Headteacher) and to some of our Pupil Leader 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://primariesite-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>

Is your child due to start school in September 2026?

St Michael & St John's
RC Primary School

Ofsted Inspection- Good
CSI Inspection - Outstanding

**JOIN US FOR OUR
OPEN DAYS**

Thursday 18.9.25 9.30am
+ Tuesday 14.10.25 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

Clitheroe Torchlight Procession



Friends of SSMJ are taking part in the Clitheroe Torchlight procession taking place on Saturday 11 October 7pm from Trinity Church.

If your children want to be involved, we are meeting at 6.45pm at Trinity Church and you can walk with your child and the Friends of SSMJ.

Everyone is welcome to come along and join in. It would be great to see as many of our children and families taking part.

Please bring your own Lantern, which preferably need to be on a stick we have included an example of how to make one below. Please be as creative as you want, the brighter the better, just no naked flames. We recommend a battery operated tea lights or glow sticks.

Live music, entertainment, stalls and activities are on at the Castle band stand beforehand, from 2.00 pm.

DIY Kids Lantern Craft (Using Recycled Supplies)

 Materials Needed (Makes 1 lantern):

- 1 clean, empty plastic container (milk jug, water bottle, yogurt tub, or mason jar)
- Battery-operated tealight or glow stick (for safe lighting)
- Tissue paper, scrap paper, or old magazines (for decoration)
- White glue or mod podge
- Paintbrush or sponge
- Scissors
- Hole punch + string/pipe cleaner for handle
- Optional: stickers, washi tape, glitter, nature bits (like leaves or pressed flowers)

 Directions:

1. Prep the Lantern Base:

Wash and dry your recycled container thoroughly. Remove any labels.

Cut off the top (if using a jug or bottle) to create an open top—or keep it closed and light from the bottom if using a mason jar.

2. Decorate the Outside:

Tear tissue paper or old paper into small pieces.

Apply glue or Mod Podge over the lantern surface and stick the paper pieces down, overlapping slightly for a stained-glass effect. Seal with another glue layer on top.

3. Add the Handle:

Use a hole punch to make two holes near the top. Thread string, yarn, or a pipe cleaner through both holes and twist or tie securely.

4. Light It Up:

Place a battery-operated tealight or glow stick inside the lantern. Never use real flames for kids' lanterns!

5. Enjoy the Glow:

Turn off the lights or head outside and

Music Lessons



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

<https://uklancashire.speedadmin.dk/registration#/>

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.

Year 6 - Secondary school admissions

If your child is in Year 6 you can now apply for their secondary school place at: [Starting secondary school \(Year 7\) - 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 secondary applications for September 2025 is on Friday 31st October 2025.

Flu Vaccinations

Flu vaccinations will be taking place on Tuesday 4th November in school. Please scan the QR code in the poster below to give consent or refusal for the vaccination.



IntraHealth

**Your child can be a
Real Life Superhero!
Protect your
Friends And Family
Against
FLU.**

NHS
Lancashire (inc. Blackburn & Darwen)
School Aged Immunisation Service

ST MICHAEL & ST JOHN'S RC PRIMARY

Vaccination Date: TUESDAY 4TH NOVEMBER

To complete a consent or refusal form online,
Please scan the QR code:

For any queries... Call: 0333 358 3397 Option 2, Option 2
Email: team.lancashire@intrahealth.co.uk

To find out more about the flu vaccine, please scan the following:
Info available in multiple languages



Clubs and Afterschool Activities



Activity	Year Group/s	Teacher	Date/Times
KS2 Dodge Ball	3,4,5 & 6	Progressive Sports	Monday 3.30 - 4.30 pm
Burnley Football Club	5 & 6	Burnley Football Club	Tuesday 3.30 - 4.30 pm
KS1 Dodge Ball	EYFS, 1 & 2	Progressive Sports	Thursday 3.30 - 4.30 pm

Progressive Sports activities will need to be booked via their website and Burnley Football Club can be booked on Parent Pay.



Happy birthday to Sadie in Year 5 and Ms Brindle who have celebrated a birthday this week.

Celebration Assembly



EYFS	Charlotte and Alexander
Yr 1 & 2	Coby, Thomas, Jessica and Lily
Yr 3 & 4	Magdalena, Riley, Theo and Ethan
Yr 4 & 5	Alessandro, Finley, Rosie and Darcey
Yr 6	Willow, Lula, Oliver and Elsie-May

Top Table Winners



EYFS	Callie
Yr 1	Coby
Yr 2	Max
Yr 3	India
Yr 4	Noah P
Yr 5	Ruby
Yr 6	Edie

Diary Dates

Date	Event
Monday 6 th October	TriKids Triathlon Activates - Whole School Event
Wednesday 8 th October	Last day for Harvest Donations
Friday 10 th October	World Mental health Day - Children can wear Yellow clothing or accessories
Monday 13 th October	Individual School Photographs
	1.30 pm ~ Year 6 Play Leaders Training
Tuesday 14 th October	2.00 pm - 3.00 pm ~ Open Day - Prospective Parents'
Friday 17 th October	1.15 pm ~ Year 2 - Child Fire Safety Session
	2.15 pm ~ Year 6 - Road Safety Session
Wednesday 22 nd October	Parents' Evening
Thursday 23 rd October	Parent's Evening
Friday 24 th October	School closes for half term
Monday 3 rd November	School Re-opens
Tuesday 4 th November	Flu Vaccinations
Thursday 13 th November	Athletic Event - Whole school sponsored activity
Friday 21 st November	Year 4 - 'Rivers in the Classroom' River Ribble Trust

Thursday 27 th November	Let's Go Sing Visit @ SSMJ - School Choir
Monday 8 th December	PM ~ EYFS & KS1 Nativity
Tuesday 9 th December	AM ~ EYFS & KS1 Nativity
Wednesday 10 th December	PM ~ School Pantomime Trip
Monday 15 th December	4.00 pm ~ KS2 Nativity
Tuesday 16 th December	6.00 pm ~ KS2 Nativity
Friday 19 th December	School Closes for Christmas (Early Closure)
Monday 5 th January	School Re-opens

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.



Fun Palaces in Clitheroe Library - Saturday 4th October

Join us for our annual Fun Palace, where the magic of creativity and community spirit comes alive! Unleash your inner artist with our engaging art-making activities.

This event is all about celebrating the brilliance and creativity within our community, fostering connections, and having a fantastic time together.

Whether you're a seasoned pro or a curious beginner, there's something for everyone. Share your unique skills with others or take the opportunity to learn something new. From yoga, music and art, the Fun Palace promises a day filled with joy, discovery, and community bonding. Don't miss out on this wonderful celebration of talent and togetherness!

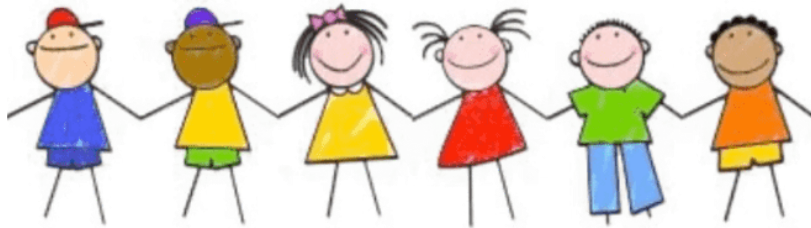
So far, we are hoping to bring you:

- Ukulele Orchestra
- Crafts and activities
- Lego Challenge - build a Bugatti
- fun family yoga
- Join the Brownies
- Craft and Play
- Super Stem

Follow the link to find a Fun Palace near you:

[LCC Events](#)

Baby & Toddler GROUP



**Seedlings Toddler Group at St Michael and St John's Parish
needs your HELP!!
(For parents, carers and their young ones 0-4yrs)**

Have you got a few hours to spare on a Wednesday morning to support this fun, chatty & very rewarding group?

Support is readily available from existing volunteers.

Kay our lovely leader is moving on to new projects from October half term 2025.

We'd love to hear from you or come and join us for a chat, brew and a look round on a

Wednesday (9:00-11:00am, term-time only).

Please get in touch with Susan (Mob: 07887690402 or email:
susan_fellows@hotmail.co.uk)

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



Clitheroe Mosque invites you to our Mosque Open Day!

Date: Sunday 5th October 2025

Time: 1pm - 4pm

Address:

93-97 Lowergate, Clitheroe, BB7 1AG

(No booking required)

Visit us to learn about:

- Islam & British values
- Services of the Mosque
- The Quran
- The Prophets
- Q&A
- Refreshments and much more!



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

Age 0-19

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

**talk
zone**

Text 07786 51 11 11

Talk online lancashire.gov.uk/youthzone

Call 0800 51 11 11

lancashire.gov.uk



Lancashire
County
Council



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