



# St John with St Michael CE Primary School News

1<sup>st</sup> April 2021



## Headteacher's Message

Dear parents and carers,

What a term that was! We have had lots thrown at us all over the past few months – lockdown, a return to remote learning, snow, bubble closures and more snow(!) to name a few. Throughout this very difficult period, I have been continually amazed and impressed by the togetherness of our school community and the strength that we have all found in each other.

I want to extend my continued thanks to all of the staff team here in school who have worked tirelessly to ensure that they have adapted quickly to change and responded quickly to parents' concerns/questions to ensure that they provide the best possible support to all the wonderful children in our school.

I would also like to extend a personal thank you to all pupils, parents and staff who have made me feel incredibly welcome since I started here in January. This is my first taste of Headship and it has been lovely to get to know the school community over the past few months – thank you so much for welcoming me into the St John with St Michael family.

As we move forwards into the coming months, I hope that we all continue to be allowed to return to 'normal'. I plan to spend next week seeing some friends and family who I haven't seen for a long time – I'm sure that you will be doing the same! It would be lovely to think that we can start having assemblies in the hall in the near future where parents are also invited – we will have to keep checking what Boris says!

The next few days signifies a very important time in the Christian calendar – the death and subsequent resurrection of Jesus. I hope that you find time to spend quality time with loved ones, reflect and rest during this period.

I wish you all a very Happy Easter. Enjoy the time away from school and make memories with those people who matter the most to you.

As always, if there is anything at all that I can help or support with, please don't hesitate to get in contact.

Keep smiling 😊

D. Toddington - Acting Headteacher  
[head@sjsm.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:head@sjsm.lancs.sch.uk)



## AWARD WINNERS



### EYFS

**Wicked Writer** – Eve for pushing herself when writing sentences.

**Mighty Maths** – Niamh for creating own addition challenges.

**Superstar Award** – Betsy for improvement in attitude to learning.

**Marvellous Mindset** – Poppy for trying hard in lessons.

### Easter Bonnet awards

**Best Girls hat:** Taylor

**Best Boys hat:** Albert

**Most creative:** Kyra

**Most flamboyant:** Reggie

### Class 2

**Wicked Writer** – Maxwell for trying really hard with presentation and sentence extension.

**Mighty Maths** – Steven for amazing opposites work.

**Superstar Award** – Blake for being kind and polite and working hard all week.

**Marvellous Mindset** – Violet for trying her best in school and for homework.

### Class 3

**Wicked Writer** – Elsie for effort in scaffolded story writing.

**Mighty Maths** – Esme for phenomenal perimeter and area work.

**Superstar Award** – Anabella for adaptability in learning across the curriculum.

**Marvellous Mindset** – Niamh for persevering in learning despite challenges.

### Class 4

**Wicked Writer** – Megan for great planning for her magazine article.

**Mighty Maths** – Caddon for some great work on percentages.

**Superstar Award** – Harry for an excellent attitude and setting an example in class.

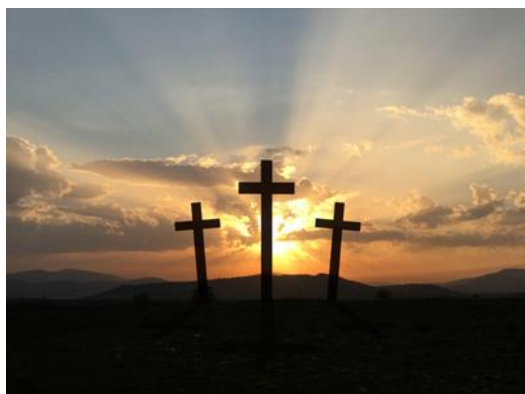
**Marvellous Mindset** – Brooklyn for a great attitude to work this week.

### Birthdays – 29<sup>th</sup> March to 11<sup>th</sup> April

EYFS – Isaac (3<sup>rd</sup> April), Poppy (10<sup>th</sup> April)

Class 2 – Violet (2<sup>nd</sup> April), Brooklyn (6<sup>th</sup> April)

Class 3 – Ocean (4<sup>th</sup> April)



1 Peter 1:3: Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.



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## Easter challenges and activities

This is a reminder that there are some Easter challenges which you may wish to try over the Easter period. I have created a page on the school website (new tab from the home page) with all the information and documents that you will need. Hopefully, you will get involved in these challenges and activities!

- Easter orienteering trails - There are 3 trails to have a go at and they all start at Rawtenstall market (marked with a triangle on each map). Find the Easter Eggs at each point and write down the words onto your answer sheets. Hand them back into the market when you have finished to claim your prize!
- Staircation challenge - Keep a track of how many times you climb your stairs over the Easter period and use the information and fact sheets to see if you have climbed the equivalent of different British landmarks!
- Family activities - Click the file to see ideas for healthy meals, local walks or mindfulness activities. There is also a photography challenge to get involved with too!

## Laptops/Devices loaned from school

There are still a few laptops which have not been returned to school following the lockdown period.

**These must be returned to school on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> April.**

We need them back in school so that we can use them to support children across school in lessons. I have included this on recent newsletters and also communicated this via our text messaging system.

If they are not returned by that date, I will have to seek further advice about how we get these devices back.

Thank you for your support in this matter.

## Covid reminders/Lateral Flow tests for your household

If your child, or anyone in your household, starts to display any of the symptoms, they **must** go for a PCR Covid test. Whilst waiting for the results, your household **must** all self-isolate. Please inform school immediately if this happens by emailing [head@sjsm.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:head@sjsm.lancs.sch.uk). **Please inform me if any of the children develop symptoms or go for a test, including during the Easter holidays.**

You can also now collect lateral flow testing kits for your household from a testing site. If you go to the testing site and say you are a parent of a primary school child, they should give you 1 or 2 lateral flow testing kits to take home and use regularly. Although this is not mandatory, it is highly recommended by the government. **These lateral flow tests are to be used for asymptomatic people only. If you display any of the main coronavirus symptoms, you must still arrange a PCR test.**

## Communication with school

If you have any questions, comments or problems about any aspect of school, please can I remind all parents/carers to either contact me or your child's class teacher. It is only by having this open dialogue that we can quickly resolve problems. If you hear other parents/carers in the playground saying anything negative about school, please encourage them to speak to school staff about it.

## Attendance at school

Our target for attendance is that all pupils attend school for at least 96% of the school year. **It is vitally important that your child attends school.** After Easter, I will be contacting families whose attendance is below this expectation to discuss this further. You will all receive a letter at the end of the first half of the Summer term to inform you of your child's attendance. Any Covid-related absences do not count towards this percentage.

*In Class 3 this week, they have enjoyed learning about the different stages of the digestive system and they explored this process by making 'poo'! They had a great time!! Also, EYFS had a great time at their Easter celebration.*

