



St John with St Michael CE Primary School News

12th February 2021



Headteacher's Message

Dear parents and carers,
And here we are at the end of the half term! The children, parents and staff can all now enjoy a very well-earned rest!

This half term has thrown many challenges our way and I am incredibly proud of our whole school community for pulling together and overcoming them with a spirit of positivity and togetherness. I would like to thank everyone connected with St John with St Michael for their efforts this half term.

However, there is one group in our school community who I would like to give the biggest 'shout out' to – the children. I have been absolutely blown away by their positivity, attitude and effort over the past 6 weeks. It has been a pleasure to get to know them (albeit briefly with some due to lockdown!) and they are a credit to all of you and to our school.

At this moment in time, we are still hoping for a full school return on the 8th March and we are keeping everything crossed that we can get all children back in school, and keep them in school, from that date. I don't know any more than that currently and I will keep you informed of updates as and when we get them. As with all the government briefings, schools find out information at the same time as the rest of the country by watching the government briefings so let's keep our fingers crossed and pray that we can all be back together very soon.

I hope that you all manage to rest and recover next week over the half term break. Please try and limit screen time for the children as much as possible – it would be good for them to have a break! We are very lucky to be surrounded by beautiful countryside and I hope you manage to get out for some family walks and activities, while still sticking to the restrictions placed on us all currently! The urban orienteering challenges look really good and all the maps can be accessed on the 'Urban Orienteering maps' tab of the school website.

There is also a photography competition where children are being encouraged to photograph an area of natural beauty from our surrounding area. Please send photos to me with a caption to describe them. Top tips about a good photograph are: 1. Good visual impact – framing & background 2. Technical – sharpness, contrast & lighting 3. Theme & Content – mood, symbolism & subject impact 4. Characteristics – originality, style & vision.

Have a wonderful half term break. We look forward to seeing the children either online or in school on Tuesday 23rd February and then hopefully we can get all the children back in school from March 8th.

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

*The Lord your God is in your midst — a warrior bringing victory. He will create calm with his love; he will rejoice over you with singing.
(Zephaniah 3:17)*



AWARD WINNERS

EYFS

Wicked Writer – Reggie for writing letters independently.

Mighty Maths – Orla for good understanding of more, less and equal amounts.

Superstar Award – Niamh for dedication to home learning.

Marvellous Mindset – Poppy for a positive attitude to learning.

Class 2

Wicked Writer – Charlie for pushing himself to the harder option in both Reading and Phonics all week.

Mighty Maths – Jessica for using her times tables knowledge in all aspects of maths especially money this week.

Superstar Award – Elsie for getting on live learning and joining in with activities.

Marvellous Mindset – Max B for trying to do things independently and using harder language.

Class 3

Wicked Writer – Charlie for great gladiator vocabulary.

Mighty Maths – Rhys for enjoyment of maths challenges.

Superstar Award – Niamh for great enthusiasm to learning.

Marvellous Mindset – Saskia for keeping on trying with online learning.

Class 4

Wicked Writer – Hannah for her imagery poem, '10 things found...'

Mighty Maths – Mary for super understanding of 2D shape work and completion of problem-solving challenges.

Superstar Award – Natalie L for general all round super effort and engagement with on-line learning.

Marvellous Mindset – Eli for trying his best and impressing coach Dan with his sportsmanship and helpfulness in PE.

Birthdays from 8th February to 21st February

Class 2 – Daley (8th February)

Class 3 – Mason B (10th February)

Class 4 – Hannah (8th February), Megan (8th February), Cameron (15th February), Candice (17th February) and Caddon (18th February).



Communication with school

If you have any concerns, problems or questions about school, **please can I urge you to contact school and speak to Mr Toddington, your child's class teacher or the school office about them directly.** This is far more productive than taking to social media platforms to air your concerns, or speaking to others in the community. By speaking to us directly, questions/problems/issues can be resolved quickly. Voicing concerns on social media platforms **achieves nothing** and will not resolve any issues that you may have.

It is only by working together and keeping communication lines open that we can achieve the very best for all the children here at St John with St Michael CE Primary School.



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School News

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Half term dates reminder

School closed today at 3:30pm for the spring half-term break and will re-open for pupils on Tuesday 23rd February. **Monday 22nd February is an INSET day.**

21-minute challenge update

The 21-minute challenge has gathered a-pace this week at school. Matilda (Class 4), Stacey and Charlie (Class 3), Robert and Charlie (Class 2) and Albie (Nursery) have all sent pictures of them taking part in physical activity and these can be seen below. Please continue to support this initiative. There are some great activities for half term, including urban orienteering maps which will be a fantastic opportunity for some local walks (all maps available from the school website). Send any pictures to my email address on head@sjsm.lancs.sch.uk or message the Rossendale School Sports Partnership Facebook page directly.

Get Caught Reading – please get involved!

A huge well done to Orla (Nursery) for sending photos into school of her reading to her little sister! We still need more pictures please! This could be reading indoors, outdoors, whilst on a walk – anywhere really (current restrictions permitting of course!). Please could you email photos through to head@sjsm.lancs.sch.uk and we will add them to the display.

Covid reminders

If your child, or anyone in your household, starts to display any of the symptoms, they **must** go for a 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. If a bubble has to close, **all** children in that bubble must isolate for the required time period.

If any members of your household show symptoms or go for a test during half term, please still email to let me know.

I would urge all members of our school community to continue to follow the rules and guidance set out during this lockdown. We all need to do our bit to ensure that this lockdown lasts for the shortest amount of time possible so that we can hopefully welcome all the children back into school sooner rather than later.

Lockdown photos

Please can you send any photos you would like to be included in our lockdown photos presentation to either head@sjsm.lancs.sch.uk or e.dalton@sjsm.lancs.sch.uk and we hope to have this ready to publish on the website in a due course.

The more photos we have, the better this will be so please get involved and email a couple of pictures over. It could be anything at all – school work, baking, walking, exercising, doing your 21 minute challenge, reading – the list is endless!

This week's photos are from the 21-minute challenge and the Get Caught Reading display! Well done to everyone who has been involved in these so far!

