



Emma McGregor

Spectacular Social Worker!

Name:	Emma- Jane Evans (was McGregor)
Age:	43
My favourite memory from my time at St. Joseph's...	<p>I remember lots of lovely memories from my time at St Joseph's school. Here are just a few. I remember the tuck shop in the playground at lunch time, the bunk beds in the hall for when children felt poorly. Ringing the bell for lunch and break time and taking the register to the reception in the morning. I remember the scarecrow race at sports day and the fab presentations that happened in the hall. My grandma who was 80 at the time lived across the road and used to pass me sweets through the fence at playtime. I liked the summer when we could play on the field and the games we played in the playground. My headteacher was called Mrs Grass and she had trouble with her ears. We used to have to clap with our fingers rather than our hands so not to be too loud. There is a small island in the river Lune and once a term a man used to come and take the class to the island to talk about nature. I also remember the large TV on wheels! My class was small with 6 boys and 7 girls and most of us are still in touch. My mum went to the same school when she was young and a dinner lady called Mrs wearing had worked at school a long time and used to call me by my mums name which always made me laugh</p>
My message for the children at St. Joseph's now...	<p>Primary school is a place that when you are older will hold most of your memories. You will realise that this is because it was a fun and happy place to be. When you go to high school you will be in different classes than some of your friends but you will always keep in touch with the friends you made first as you did a lot of firsts together, such as nativity's and experiencing and learning new things. St. Joseph's is the start of the journey you are all about to take. I hope that</p>

	<p>when you look back you will remember all the fab times you had and the teachers that helped and supported you to get ready for high school and what comes after.</p>
What did I become?	<p>When I left high school I went to college to study nursery nursing. My first job was a Skerton school in the pre-school which I loved. I then decided that I wanted to help children and their families more. I wanted to make sure that children felt happy and safe and if they felt they needed support or someone to talk to, would always be heard and listen to. I then went to night school to take my A levels and went to study at Lancaster university. I graduated as a social worker and for the first 8 years worked in youth offending, helping young people who found them self doing things they shouldn't and helping them to become the best young adults they could. I even met prince Charles with one of the young people I was working with as he had worked so hard. For the last 10 ten years I have been social worker with children and families. Last year while working I went back to university and finished a post graduate degree in advanced child protection. I work in Cumbria in what is called a safeguarding hub with the police, health and education. I listen to any worries that someone may have about a family or a child. I also look at what is working well for the family. I speak to the other agencies I work with and we share information. When I have looked at all the information I will decide what will help support this family or child the best. That might mean me ringing them and having a chat or asking a social worker to go a visit to make sure everyone is okay. Once a month I sit on an adoption panel and talk to people who want to give a young person who is in foster care a forever home. This is a really lovely part of my work and it is nice to see children going to live in a loving home.</p> <p>Lots of people don't have nice things to say about social workers, these are the people who don't fully understand what the job is and how you get to talk to and meet different families everyday. Everyday at work is different and that means it is never boring and always beings new challenges.</p> <p>When I was your age I didn't know what I wanted to be when I grew up and that's a good thing as it means you don't know yet which path your next adventure will take you.</p> <p>Love Emma-jane x</p>

