ST MICHAEL'S C.E. COMBINED SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER NO 10
www.st-michaels.bucks.sch.uk
Friday 15th Nov 2024

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office@st-michaels.bucks.sch.uk
07786208889 – Text only

Dear Parents/Carers

The week started with a bang with our Peter Pan performance. The school was afloat with all sorts of different characters. Everyone had made fantastic effort and lot had their own wee individual twist on the character costume. I hope the children came home with a skip in their step as there were definitely plenty of 'feel-good' vibes oozing out of the hall.

There have been several sporting fixtures this week. Please scroll down for Mr Day's Sporting Roundup. Our Year 5 boys' team were disappointed for a second time this week when the opponents unfortunately cancelled at the last minute. Hopefully it will be third time lucky for our Year 5s who I know are chomping at the bit to get stuck into a game. Mr Day will be in touch with you all as soon as the next fixture has been arranged.

Further to the communication that went out last half term, the NHS nurses will be coming on Monday 18th November as part of the national flu vaccination programme. If your child is receiving the vaccine, please do not give your child any pain relief e.g. Calpol or ibuprofen on Monday morning as the nurse will not administer the vaccine if this is the case.

As always, just a couple of reminders to keep everyone as safe as possible.

- **After you drop your child/children at the classroom in the morning, please vacate the playground as promptly as possible so we can secure the school gates.**
- **If your child is cycling/scooting to school, please can you remind them to dismount at the bottom of the school driveway and walk up to the office area where they park up.**

Thank you for your continued support.

Wishing you a restful weekend.

Best wishes
Mrs Fiona Phimester

DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES:

Mon 18th Nov – Flu vaccinations – all classes
Friday 22nd Nov – Year 3 Class Assembly
Friday 29th Nov – Year 6 Class Assembly
Wed 11th Dec – Christmas Jumper Day & Christmas Lunch
Wed 11th Dec – School Discos
Thurs 12th Dec – Year 1 Nativity 9.10am
Friday 13th Dec – Year 4 Christingle Service
Friday 13th Dec – Foundation Nativity 2.45pm
Wed 18th Dec – Year 2 Nativity 9.10am

Friday 20th Dec – End of Term
Mon 6th Jan – INSET DAY
Fri 14th Feb – Year 1 Class Assembly
Fri 28th Feb – Foundation – Tring Museum
Mon 3rd March – Class group and Leavers' photos
Fri 7th March – Year 2 Class Assembly 9.10am
Fri 14th March – Year 3 Learning Fayre
Fri 21st March – Year 6 Learning Fayre
Fri 28th March – Foundation Stay & Play 2.45pm
Fri 4th April – END OF TERM
Tues 22nd April – Start of the Summer Term

MESSAGE FROM MRS HANN

The Books Trust is an absolutely fantastic website full of hints and tips for making reading with and to your child become part and parcel of family life (if it isn't already). Growing up in a household where there wasn't much money about, books especially library books were invaluable; treasures to be read and re-read. Time spent sharing books with my family are still some of my fondest memories from childhood. Enjoy making memories with books with yours. Hope this website link helps.

Best wishes as always
H Hann

Learning Mentor, DSL and Acting SENCo
My usual working pattern is Monday to Wednesday in school.

GOLDEN LEARNERS
Well done to these superstars for being this week's Golden Learners.

Foundation	**Rex, Henry A, Phoebe**
Year 1	**Matteo, Aryan, Ava**
Year 2	**Harry, Louis, Elizabeth**
Year 3	**Rocco, Vidya, Edie A**
Year 4	**Harrison, Aleksander, Charlotte**
Year 5	**Samuel, Oliver, Sofia**
Year 6	**Scarlett, Tom, Carys**

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ATTENDANCE AWARD

A tremendous effort from our little ones in Foundation this week with a magnificent 99% attendance. Well done everyone.

BELLRINGERS #together

The joy on the faces of the 'Bellringers' always brings a smile to my face. Well done boys.

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PETER PAN PERFORMANCE

The school was full of amazing characters on Monday – so many Peter Pans, Tinkerbells, Lost Boys and crocodiles! The hall was filled with singing and laughter and it sounded like a great time was had by all. A huge thank you to the Friends Association who kindly funded the afternoon for the school and also to the M&M performers who did such a great job of entertaining all the children (and staff!).

Next year we will be enjoying a performance of '**Beauty and the Beast**.' Start planning your costume now!

We have recently adopted a new spelling scheme at St. Michael's School. Spelling Shed offers full coverage of the spelling curriculum and will improve consistency of spelling across the school. Spelling Shed is an online programme that allows all children to log on to their own account, play a range of fun and interactive games to practise their spellings and test themselves. Teachers are able to monitor the progress children are making and identify any areas that need additional focus. Spelling Shed lessons will be delivered in school for children in Years 2-6 and children may have assignments set for them to complete at home. Children will need to complete the assignments set for them by their teacher before further games will open up for them to play. Feedback from the children has so far been very positive with them telling us it makes spelling more interesting and we are pleased to see how happily they are engaging in practising their spellings. All children in Years 2-6 have log in details stuck into the cover of their Learning Journals.

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CHILDREN IN NEED

What a week for raiding the dressing up box! Everyone was so creative with their spotty outfits today. Thank you for all your generous donations towards a great cause.

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GENERAL SCHOOL INFO

ABSENCE

If your child is absent for any reason, please contact the office via phone/email/ text prior to 9.15am. Please confirm on every consecutive day they will be absent, until they return. Please note: If we do not know the reason by 9.15am, we will text or ring you and any unexplained absences will be reported as unauthorised.

If they have suffered from vomit or diarrhoea, please do not return your child until **48 hours** since their last episode.

Please also note that if your child is on a course of anti-biotics, we are able to administer the medication if they are prescribed 4 doses per day. The medication must be delivered to the office by a parent and a medical consent form completed before we can administer the anti-biotics.

SCHOOL DINNERS

School dinners can be ordered via Parent Pay.

The deadline for booking is a **Sunday at midnight, 1 week in advance**. If you require a Special/Medical Diet Menu please contact the office.

If you need to cancel a school dinner after the deadline, you must give 48 hours' notice and call Chartwells on 01908 615705 or email creativekitchenadmin2@comp.

BREAKFAST CLUB & AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS

Please book your sessions for Breakfast and After School Clubs via Parentpay before midnight on Thursday for the following week.

ATTENDANCE

Just to remind our parents if any child has an attendance rate of less than 92%, Mr Morley will be in contact with parents to make them aware of the situation with a view to improving the child's attendance at school which has a direct impact on their learning.

Our Attendance Policy states that all holiday related absence in term time will be recorded as 'Unauthorised'. From 1st September 2023, the school will be submitting this data to the local authority and Buckinghamshire Council will begin the process of issuing fines.

Penalty Notices for School Attendance

With the introduction of the new National Framework for Penalty Notices, the following will come into force for absences that start after 19th August 2024. This is nationwide and across borders if you move school or house. Term Time Leave is only allowed in exceptional circumstances when communicated in advance with evidence provided as soon as possible to the Headteacher.

FIRST OFFENCE

The first Penalty Notice issued for Term Time Leave of Absence or Irregular Attendance, the amount of the fine will be £160 per parent, per child if paid within 28 days and reduced to £80 per parent, per child if paid with 21 days

SECOND OFFENCE

For the second Penalty Notice (within three years of the first offence) issued for Term Time Leave of Absence or Irregular Attendance, the amount of the fine will be £160 per parent, per child if paid within 28 days. No reduced rate will be offered

THIRD OFFENCE AND SUBSEQUENT OFFENCES

The third time an offence is committed for Term Time Leave of Absence or Irregular Attendance, a Penalty Notice will not be issued, and the case will be presented straight to the Magistrates' Court. If found guilty there could be up to a maximum fine of £2,500 or a term of imprisonment not exceeding 3 months.

PLEASE ENSURE YOU COMMUNICATE WITH YOUR CHILD'S SCHOOL

In law only the headteacher of a school can authorise a child's absence. A pupil's attendance forms part of their official school record.

Parents do not have an automatic right to remove their child from school during term time for the purpose of a leave of absence and are strongly advised not to do so.

Headteachers are unable to authorise leave of absence during term time unless they are satisfied that there are exceptional circumstances.

The fundamental principles for defining 'exceptional' are rare, significant, unavoidable and short. 'Unavoidable' implies that an event could not reasonably be scheduled at another time.

<u>10 sessions in 10 weeks</u>

Penalty Notices will be considered for any 10 sessions of unauthorised absence in 10 weeks.

5 consecutive days of term time absence can trigger a Penalty Notice.

Do not forget that Penalty Notices are issued Per Parent. Per Child.
i.e. Two siblings absent would result in each parent receiving 2 fines. This could amount to £640

MR DAY'S ST MICHAEL'S SPORTING ROUNDUP

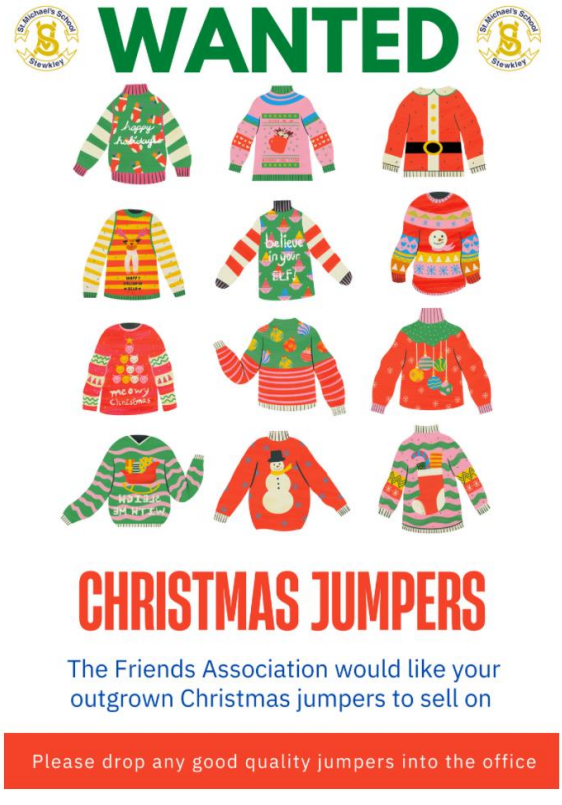
St Michael's 8-0 Swanbourne

Our year 6 girls who won the league last year, started their new campaign with a thumping victory over Swanbourne. Goals were shared between both Rosie's, Gracie, Maddie and Scarlett. Some of our passing was amazing, showing the girls have even improved since last year.
St M - Rosie Ta, Rosie Tu, Chloe, Gracie, Carys, Emily, Madison, Scarlett

Overstone 2-0 St Michael's

On Tuesday our year 5 girls played their first ever game against an experienced year 6 team at Overstone. The girls were fantastic, especially as most of them had never played a real match before. Special mention to Katherine who played in goal for the first time and grew with confidence as the game went on. Well done girls, this team are going to have some great games in the next couple of years.
St M - Luisa, Emily, Katherine, Kaitlyn, Edith, Bethany, Amelie, Willow

FRIENDS ASSOCIATION



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Christmas Tree Festival

At St Michael and All Angels Church Stewkley

Mulled wine, mince pies cake and raffle throughout

6 DECEMBER

Open for viewing
3.30pm - 7.30pm

Santa's Grotto

opens its magical doors
from 3:30pm

7 DECEMBER

Open for viewing
3.00pm - 7.00pm

Live Organ medley of Christmas numbers

from 3.15pm

8 DECEMBER

Open for viewing
3.00pm - 7.00pm

Songbirds

from 3.15 pm

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Coming to Stewkley

THIS NOVEMBER

STEWKLEY VILLAGE HALL

ALADDIN

DOESN'T GO QUITE AS PLANNED

WEDS 20TH- SAT 23RD NOVEMBER AT 8PM - £7.50

SAT 23RD FAMILY MATINEE 2PM - £5

LICENSED BAR OPENS 30 MINS PRIOR TO THE SHOW

TICKETS ON SALE AT STEWKLEY VILLAGE HALL:

SUNDAYS 27TH OCT, 3RD, 10TH AND 17TH NOV 10AM - NOON

MONDAYS: 28TH OCT , 4TH, 11TH AND 18TH NOV 7-9 PM

Enquiries: stewkleyplayers@gmail.com

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Preloved parent, children and baby goods

nct Nearly New SALE

Profits go to NCT Charity

Nearly New Sale – Leighton Buzzard

Toys, nursery items, buggies, dressing up, maternity, shoes and clothes from newborn to 15 years!

Saturday 16th November
2.00 p.m. to 3.30 p.m.

£1.50 per adult (no need to book)

1.30 p.m. early entry for NCT members

Limited pre-bookable early bird entry 1.45p.m £2.50 (non-members)

Seller places £5 – keep up to 80% of profits! (contact to book)

Brooklands Middle School
Brooklands Drive, LU73PF
nns.leightonbuzzard@nct.org.uk

NCT is acting as the agent for sellers at NCT Nearly New sales.

NCT is a trading name of The National Childbirth Trust.
Limited company registered in England and Wales: 2370573.
Registered office: Brunel House, 11 The Promenade, Clifton Down, Bristol BS8 3NG.
Registered charity in England and Wales: 801395 and Scotland: SC041592.

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