# ST MICHAEL'S C.E. COMBINED SCHOOL

**NEWSLETTER NO 10**
**www.st-michaels.bucks.sch.uk**
Friday 21st November 2025

**01525 240248**
**office@st-michaels.bucks.sch.uk**
**07786208889 – Text only**

**Dear Parents/Carers**

**The snow on Wednesday morning came as a bit of a surprise, didn't it? Thankfully it disappeared as quickly as it arrived and didn't cause too much chaos on the roads. With the sudden cold snap, please do remember to send your child in with a warm coat, hats and gloves. When it's dry outside it's great for the children to get some fresh air, but important that they are dressed appropriately. In our KS1 classes it can be challenging to reunite hats, gloves and scarfs with the children so please do label them so avoid items becoming lost.**

**Our lost property basket is constantly overflowing with clothes, bottles etc. 95% of items are not named and therefore impossible to return to their owner. Please ensure that all items that come into school are clearly labelled and if they are pre-loved, please amend any existing name tag to the current owner.**

**It is important that we keep up to date with medical information regarding your child. Please ensure that you inform us of any changes that we need to be aware of so we make sure our records are up to date and the relevant staff are aware of any change in circumstance. Thank you.**

**Parking – a reminder that our car park is solely for the use of school staff and the disabled bay for Blue Badge holders. It can be challenging for our staff to park in the morning and at lunchtime if others are taking up parking spaces. Dropping off for Breakfast Clubs and collecting from After School Clubs is permitted, but other than that, please park elsewhere and walk up to school.**

**You received and email earlier this week regarding our Christmas Shoebox Appeal. Please scroll down for further information.**

**Have a great weekend and I will see you all back in school on Monday.**

**Best wishes**
**Mrs Fiona Phimester**

**DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES:**

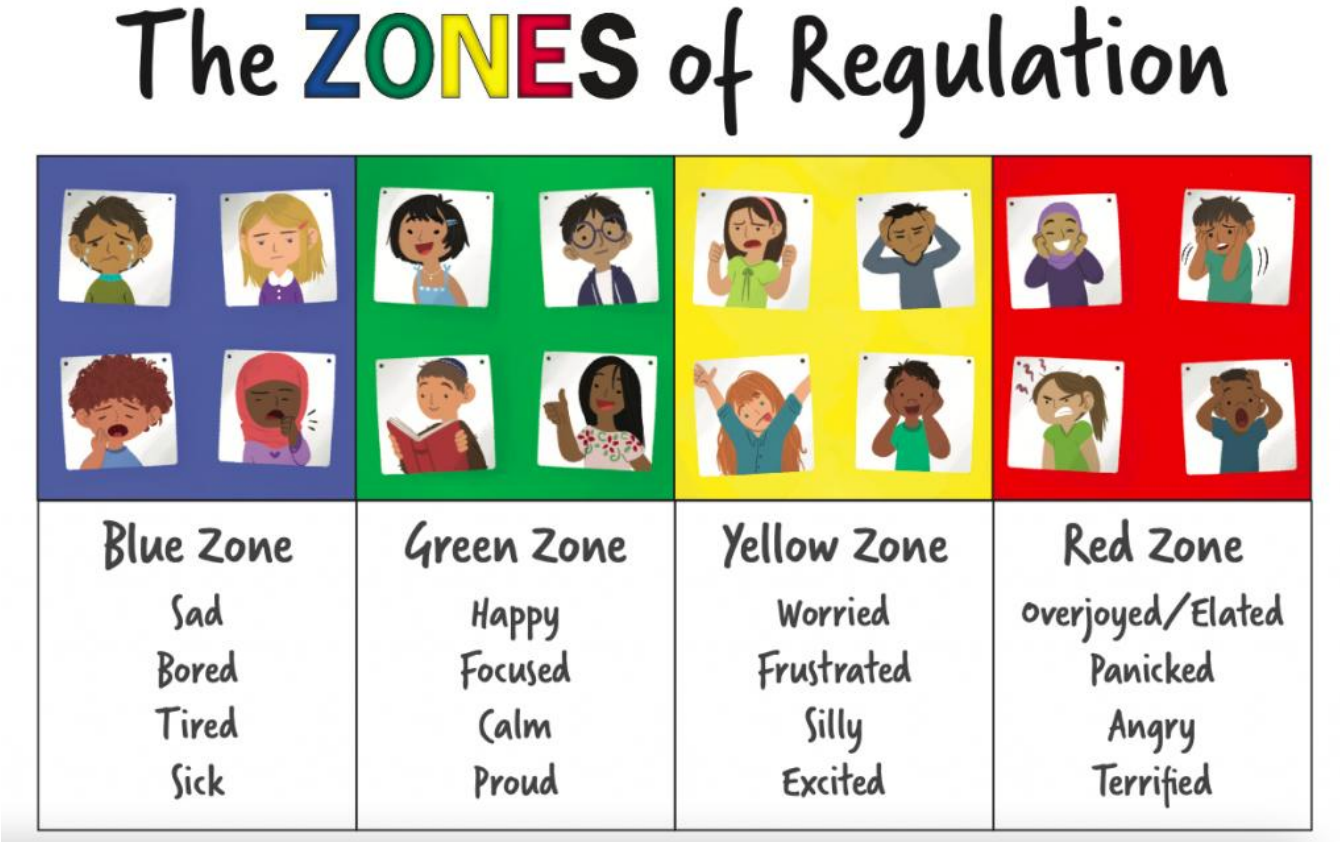
Wed 26th Nov – Foundation & Year 6 Height & Weight Screening
Friday 28th Nov – Year 6 Class Assembly
Mon 1st Dec – Thurs 4th Dec – Bikeability Level 2
Friday 5th Dec – Bikeability Level 1
Friday 5th Dec – Friends' Christmas Fayre
Friday 5th Dec – Year 3 Class Assembly
Wed 10th Dec – Year 4 Christingle
Friday 12th Dec – Foundation Nativity 2.45pm
**Friday 12th Dec – Leavers' Pre-loved Toy/Games Sales, 3.30pm**

**#together**

Wed 17th Dec – Year 2 Nativity – morning
Wed 17th Dec – Christmas Lunch and Christmas Jumper Day
Wed 17th Dec – Silent Christmas Discos
Thurs 18th Dec – Year 1 Nativity – morning
Friday 19th Dec – Last day of Autumn term
Mon 5th Jan – Start of Spring term
Thurs 15th Jan – Year 2 Cake Sale
Thurs 26th Feb – Year 3 Cake Sale
Thurs 19th March – Year 4 Cake Sale
Thurs 16th April – Year 5 Cake Sale
Thurs 14th May – Year 6 Cake Sale

**INSET DAYS FOR 2025/2026**
Mon 5th Jan 2026
Fri 27th March 2026
Fri 22nd May 2026

**MESSAGE FROM MRS HANN**




A quick reminder about Zones of Regulation… a really straightforward way to help children be able to indicate how they are feeling. Research shows that when we give children (and ourselves) a way of indicating how we feel to a trusted person, it can help in avoiding overwhelm.

*Best wishes as always,*
*Helen Hann*
**Learning Mentor, Music Lead and DSL**
*My usual working pattern is Monday to Wednesday.*

**#together**

**GOLDEN LEARNERS**

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

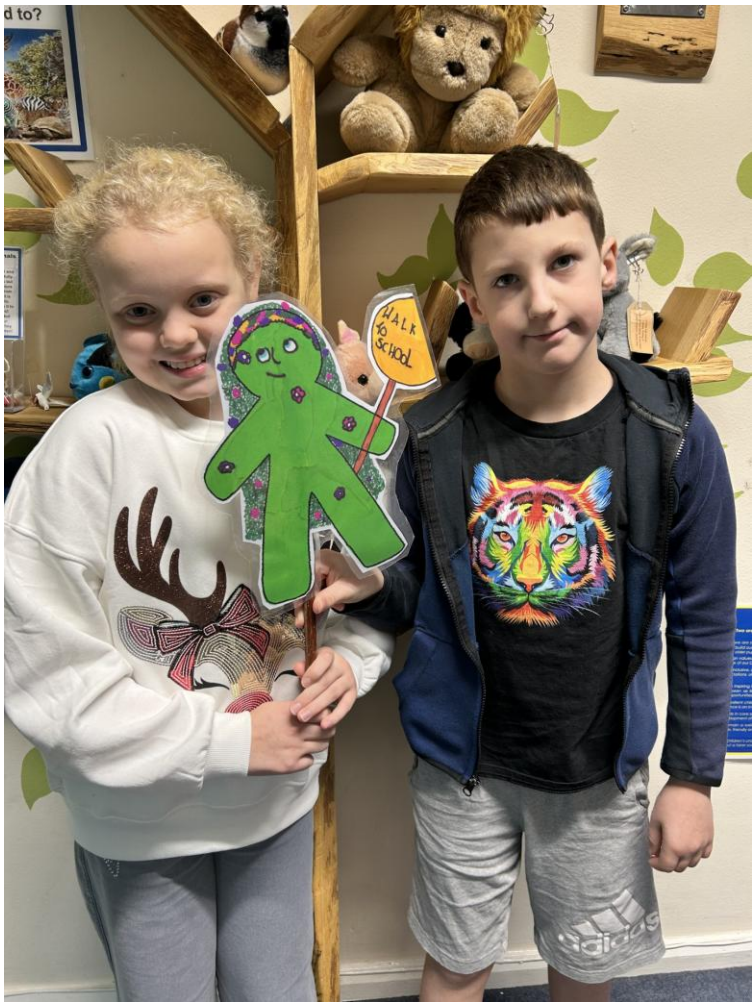
| | |
|---|---|
| **Foundation** | **Margot, Scarlett, Mollie** |
| **Year 1** | **Henry A, Kai, Phoebe** |
| **Year 2** | **Freddie, Rory, Ellie** |
| **Year 3** | **Stevie, Lily, Albert** |
| **Year 4** | **Albie, Darcie, Siena** |
| **Year 5** | **Paige, Maddie, Oliver** |
| **Year 6** | **Deany-Lee, Luke, Tia** |

**WALK TO SCHOOL WEEK**

The Eco Council and the School Council would like to promote 'Walk To School Week' next week (w/c 24/11/25). If you live too far away from the school, they would like to encourage everyone to park somewhere suitable and walk, scoot or cycle the rest of the way to St Michael's.

Our Eco Council and School Council are keen for us all to do our bit to help our planet.

Please see below for a Scavenger Hunt which you are welcome to print off and on the way home from school you can tick off all the items that you spot on your journey. No need to return it to school – it's just for fun. If you don't have access to a printer, please request a copy from the school office.




**#together**

# SCAVENGER HUNT

LIVING STREETS

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| A dog ☐ | Fountain ☐ | | Post box ☐ | Robin ☐ |
| | Road cone ☐ | Street light ☐ | Gate ☐ | Park bench ☐ |
| Pedestrian crossing ☐ | Telephone box ☐ | Feather ☐ | | Twig ☐ |
| Pebble ☐ | | Butterfly ☐ | Brown leaf ☐ | Flower ☐ |
| Green leaf ☐ | Duck ☐ | Something smooth ☐ | Puddle ☐ | |
| | Squirrel ☐ | Something yellow ☐ | Ladybird ☐ | A foot print ☐ |

## Bellringers#together

## MR DAY'S SPORTING ROUND UP

### Competitive Climbing

Last Friday our year 6's battled through Storm Claudia to make it to Sir Henry Floyd Grammar School for a competitive climbing event. This is where our team competed in a number of games and races on the climbing wall, which runs all the way round one of their sports halls.
Events included Simon Says, copycats, stretches and various relay races. Our team, some of which had never been on a climbing wall before, got there early and benefitted from a good half hour of practice on the walls before the other schools turned up. This practice seems to have paid off with St Michael's coming first in the whole competition.
Massive thanks to the parents who braved the weather and helped get the children to and from Aylesbury.

St Michael's Climbing Team - Jacob, Tia, Sofia, Sophia, Blake, Bethany, Beau, Monty, Amelie, Oliver

## 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.

**#together**

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.

**DOGS**

Dogs are not permitted anywhere on the school premises at any time. Please ensure that anyone accompanying you is also aware.

## St. Michael's Christmas Shoebox Appeal 2025

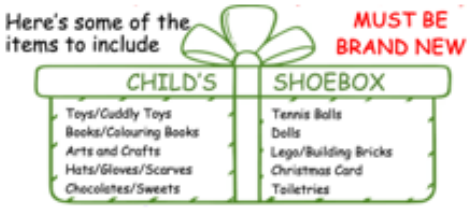
**"Kindness is giving hope to those who think they are alone in the world"**

We are pleased to announce that we will again be supporting this very worthy charity. Women's Aid is the national charity working to end domestic abuse against women and children.

**How can we help?**

Collecting shoeboxes or giftbags and filling them with gifts and essential items.

You can either bring in a filled shoebox/giftbag, or bring in any individual items for us to fill a shoebox, giftbag or hamper for you.



**ALL DONATIONS HAVE TO BE DROPPED OFF AT THE SCHOOL RECEPTION BY FRIDAY 5TH DECEMBER**

Thank you in advance to everyone who is able to help in any way.

**#together**

Friends of St Michael's School

# Christmas Fayre

FRIDAY 5 DECEMBER

KS1 Playground - 3:30pm

Weather permitting, otherwise in the school hall

## LOT'S OF CHRISTMAS THEMED STALLS & GAMES

Tokens for stalls will be available for sale prior to the event

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CHRISTMAS SILENT DISCO
WEDNESDAY 17th DEC
KS1 & FOUNDATION 3:30PM - 4:30PM
£4 PER CHILD INC CRISPS & SWEETS
KS2 4:45PM - 6PM
£5 PER CHILD INC DRINK, CRISPS & SWEETS
PLEASE PAY VIA PARENT PAY BY 10TH DEC
WE CANNOT GUARANTEE REFRESHMENTS WILL BE SUITABLE FOR ALL ALLERGIES.
PLEASE CONTACT THE SCHOOL OFFICE IF YOUR CHILD HAS ANY ALLERGIES

# WANTED

# CHRISTMAS JUMPERS

The Friends Association would like your outgrown Christmas jumpers to sell at the Christmas Fayre

Please drop any good quality jumpers into the office

# NON UNIFORM DAY

## Friday 21st November

## PLEASE BRING IN A DONATION FOR THE CHRISTMAS TREAT TOMBOLA AT THE CHRISTMAS FAYRE

Suggested donations:

Candy Canes Christmas Biscuits
Sweets Baubles Mince Pies
Christmas Crackers Christmas Cake
Hot Chocolate Panattone

**Fancy a great night out? Ella-Louise from Year 6 has been working hard twice a week for several months now to be part of this production. Please go along to show your support if you can.**

**#together**

FACE

# November Timetable

All sessions delivered live online via zoom. 90 minutes long

**£24 each or FREE with School Membership**

Book online at facefamilyadvice.co.uk

Recordings available for 48 hours (excluding Free Talk)

| | |
|---|---|
| Raising Self Esteem | 3 Nov 10am |
| Decreasing Depression | 3 Nov 7pm |
| Supporting Healthy Sleep | 4 Nov 10am |
| Understanding the Teenage Brain | 4 Nov 7pm |
| Improving Family Communication | 10 Nov 10am |
| Autism - Improving Communication | 10 Nov 7pm |
| Understanding Addictive Behaviour | 11 Nov 10am |
| Supporting A Child with ADHD | 11 Nov 7pm |
| **FREE ADHD Kids & Homework** | **13 Nov 6-7pm** |
| Understanding Anger | 17 Nov 10am |
| Supporting Healthy Screen Use | 17 Nov 7pm |
| Facing Defiance | 18 Nov 10am |
| Anxiety Based School Avoidance | 18 Nov 7pm |
| Cannabis and Ketamine Awareness | 24 Nov 10am |
| Anxiety Explained | 24 Nov 7pm |

**#together**

# 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

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