ST MICHAEL'S C.E. COMBINED SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER NO 12
www.st-michaels.bucks.sch.uk
Friday 2Nd December 2022

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Dear Parents/Carers

And somehow it's suddenly December! The countdown to Christmas is on and the tinsel and shiny baubles have definitely appeared at St Michaels this week. Our fabulous travelling Christmas tree has started it journey around the school, visiting each classroom every few days to be adorned with even more sparkle and joy.

Lots of dates for your diaries. We are excited about the forthcoming Nativity performances – always something so magical for both the children and the adults. Whilst we look forward to welcoming parents/carers/grandparents to watch our performances, it may be standing room only depending on the popularity of these Box Office hits. May we also remind you that while you are welcome to take photographs of your own child/children and post them on social media if you wish, please do not post any pictures of anyone else's child. Many thanks.

Not quite as festive a topic, but please can we highlight the procedure that needs to be followed if your child is unwell with diarrhoea or vomiting - they need to be off school for 48 hours after their symptoms have ended.
Information about this and absence after other illnesses can be found here: www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/

Please can we also remind parents and carers that smoking or vaping is not allowed on any part of the school grounds and this includes the drive from Chapel Square. Thank you.

TRAVELLING TO SCHOOL

With the safety of everyone in mind, please could all parents & carers heed the following advice in order to significantly help ease congestion around the school:

- **Please walk to school if you can OR park & walk from the recreation ground, 5 mins walk away.**
- **DO not stop and drop children off on the zig zag lines outside school.**
- **Please do not park across driveways or in front of other cars.**
- **Do not let your children run across the square or up the driveway.**
- **Please use the crossing patroller as this is the safest place to cross.**

Eco Christmas Message

As usual, we will not be sending lots of Christmas cards this year, but if your child would like to make or send a single card for their class, they are very welcome.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES:

1. 9th Dec – Y1 Nativity 9.15am
2. 10th Dec – Christmas Fayre
3. 13th Dec – Y2 Nativity 9.15am
4. 14th Dec – Christmas Jumper Day
   Christmas Lunch
   Christmas Disco for KS1 3.30 – 4.30pm, KS2 4.45 – 6pm
5. 16th Dec – Foundation Nativity 9.15am
6. 19th Dec – Christmas Church Service

AFTER SCHOOL CLUB – FRIDAY 9TH DECEMBER

Please note that our After School Club will be closed on Friday 9th Dec due to staff training. Apologies for any inconvenience this may cause.

ADVANCE DATE:

King's Coronation will take place on Saturday 6th May 2023 and so there will be an extra Bank Holiday on Monday 8th May 2023.0

CHILDREN IN NEED

The children enjoyed the company of their teddies on Friday 18th November and your generosity raised a great £193 for Children In Need.

Christmas Fayre - Saturday 10th December

#together

Message from the Church

For your Christmas dinner, how would you fancy baked octopus? Perhaps not. For these last few weeks of term in the run up to Christmas, we're using the Giant Advent Calendar in assemblies and at Pop Up Church. In the GAC this week was an inflatable globe with which we played World Volleyball – as the pupils batted the globe across the assembly hall, they had to shout out the name of a country and they did well, including Portugal where baked octopus is a very special way to celebrate Christmas (according to my Portuguese sister-in-law).

We asked will it be Christmas all around the world? To which the answer is yes, Christmas is celebrated by Christians the world over. But! there are many different ways of celebrating and many people do not have a turkey with all the trimmings, as many do here in the UK (cue the octopus).

We reminded the pupils that the Christmas story is for the whole world and all the different ways of celebrating each contribute something to the whole – for the Jesus story is not contained by a turkey. With that in mind, it's really good that a South American Posada will be travelling around school families and we look forward to welcoming that at the 4pm church service on Christmas Eve.

With every blessing,

Rev'd Howard Robson.

Christmas Market

Sunday 4th December
11:30 - 3:30pm
Free admission
At Stewkley Rec Pavilion
Bar will be open

Craft stalls
Clothes
Bags
Keep sakes
Body shop
Coco chocolate
Fudge
Piñata's
Blackthorn nursery
Crepes
Gelato
Decorations

Tombola
Raffle
Father Christmas 12.30-2pm
Mulled wine and mince pies
Hot turkey rolls 12pm-2.30pm
Raising money towards new path through the rec

#together

ECO COUNCIL – a great new initiative

At St. Michael's School we would like to do some more recycling, to reduce the amount of plastic in the environment. We have bought a large bin which we will use to recycle soft plastics at lunchtime, from school lunches and packed lunches from home. Your child will not be allowed to recycle the plastic if there is still food in the packaging, as this contaminates the recycling process. The soft plastics will be taken to Tesco in Leighton Buzzard every week by Mr. or Mrs. Munday. (Thank you!) We are very excited about this opportunity and hope that you will support us with our recycling.
From the Eco Council.
Soft plastics include the following:

Crisp packets

Biscuit & Cake wraps

Pepperami wraps

Cheese string wraps

Yoghurt pouches

Clingfilm.

Plastic bags

#together

#together

After School Clubs
Details of the After School Clubs for our Spring Term will be going home in school bags this afternoon. Please complete and return the slip as appropriate.

New Parent Tours
Places still available on the following days –
Friday 9th December @ 11.00am
Email or call the school office to book in.

#together bell ringers this week – Well done!!

Congratulations to all our Golden Learners for this week:

Foundation	Jack Reeves, Lilia Mosely, Bradley Fox
Year 1	Iris Godfrey, Reggie Skilton, Yasmina Sereno
Year 2	Gabriel Well-Chappell, Carys Bowers, Amelia Junaid
Year 3	Beau Sheridan, Luke Smith, Willow Ward
Year 4	Azaria Kirchin, Rosie Turnbull, Freddie Hayers
Year 5	Peggy Cox, Dennie Fitzsimmons, Georgie Skilton
Year 6	John Taylor, Lucas Vaile, Eden Boyes

FRIENDS ASSOCIATION

Join our Facebook Page - @friends&parentsofstmichaelsschoolstewkley
Reminders – Loose Change Jars – these are in classrooms, please support us by bringing in any loose change.
Christmas Fayre – Saturday 10th December
School Disco – Wednesday 14th December

*****If you would like to volunteer to help with the forthcoming Christmas Fayre and/or Christmas Discos, please contact Kerry Turnbull on 07903 850 386 or email at k3rry.turnbu11@gmail.com*****

ST MICHAEL'S SCHOOL SPORTS INFORMATION

SPORTING NEWS

Mandeville SSP Basketball league

This winter we have entered a 5/6 team in the Mandeville Sports Partnership basketball league and we will be giving more children a chance to play in the games rather than taking the same pupils to every session.
On Wednesday, the team travelled to Mandeville School and enjoyed 2 competitive games against Brill and Thomas Hickman schools. With the girls playing first and the boys after the scores were combined to create an overall team result. The Brill girls proved tough opposition in the first game and despite Azzie scoring a let basket and boys fighting back, the team suffered a narrow feat. Using their knowledge and experience gained from this game the team played brilliantly in their second game against Thomas Hickman, resulting in a fine victory. Well done to Seb, Emmanuel, Harvey, Oliver, Harry, Jet, Primrose, Lottie, Mia & Azzie and thank you to the parents who transported their children across Aylesbury at a busy time and squeezed into the sport hall to cheer them on.

#together

Christmas Cross Country

Wednesday 7th Dec will see this term's final cross country session and there will be a Christmas-themed fun run. As it is now muddy please send your children in with an extra pair of old trainers or football boots. They are encouraged to wear a Christmas hat or accessory.

3 / 4 Hockey

Years 3 & 4 will do their final hockey session on Wed; just a reminder for them to bring shinpads/socks/gloves etc as usual. Thanks to parents for helping with this request over the last few weeks.

Wishing you all a lovely weekend.

Fiona Phimester
School Secretary