ST MICHAEL'S C.E. COMBINED SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER NO 12
www.st-michaels.bucks.sch.uk
Friday 5th December 2025

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

Dear Parents/Carers

With only two weeks of our Autumn term left, the Christmas spirit is in full flow at St Michael's. The travelling Christmas tree is making its way round the classes, much to the excitement of the children. The rehearsals for the nativities are well underway and there was a little line of camels, sheep and angels making their way past the office earlier today followed by lots of festive songs.
We have our Church Service on Tuesday 16th December and as per previous communication, all the children and staff are invited to dress as a nativity character for the day. No uniform required on 16th December as we wish to fill the village with wise men, shepherds, angels, stars, Marys, Josephs, sheep etc.

As per previous communication via Newsletter No 2 of this term, please note that white socks will no longer be acceptable after Christmas. All children need to be in grey socks or tights as per the school uniform policy. These need to be unbranded without the makers logo.
Earrings – we would much prefer children not to have earrings, but if they do, they must be taped for PE with tape provided by parents or be removed for the day. Earrings must be plain studs.

If you are having a clear out over the next few weeks and come across any old typewriters at home that are only heading for the bin, please consider donating them to our Foundation class who would love to have them.

ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH CHRISTINGLE SERVICE – SUNDAY 7TH AT 4PM

- ***All are welcome as we think about bringing light to the world's darkness. There's oranges, sweets and candles as well as some classic primary school hymns in this family friendly service.***

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 10th Dec – Year 4 Christingle – approx. 9.10am
Friday 12th Dec – Foundation Nativity 2.45pm
Friday 12th Dec – Leavers' Pre-loved Toy/Games Sales, 3.30pm
Tuesday 16th Dec – Church Service 9.30am, parents/carers welcome. Standing room only.
Wed 17th Dec – Year 2 Nativity – approx. 9.10am
Wed 17th Dec – Christmas Lunch and Christmas Jumper Day
Wed 17th Dec – Silent Christmas Discos
Thurs 18th Dec – Year 1 Nativity – approx. 9.10am
Friday 19th Dec – Last day of Autumn term

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Mon 5th Jan – Start of Spring term
Thurs 15th Jan – Year 2 Cake Sale
Tues 20th Jan – Year 4 Swimming lessons commence
Thurs 5th Feb – Kapla Workshop – all classes
Tues 11th Feb – Parents Evening
Wed 12th Feb – Parents Evening
Thurs 26th Feb – Year 3 Cake Sale
Friday 27th Feb – Year 2 Class Assembly
Friday 6th March – Year 6 Learning Fayre
Thurs 19th March – Year 4 Cake Sale
Tues 24th March – Year 4/5 performance – afternoon
Wed 25th March – Easter Church Service at 9.30am
Wed 25th March – Year 4/5 performance – evening
Thurs 26th March – Foundation Stay and Play
Friday 27th March – INSET DAY
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

Please take a look at the attached leaflet from Bucks Mental Health Support Team. They are offering webinars for parents/carers next term on a range of significant subjects. Previous webinars have been very well received and beneficial for those who attended. The leaflet is further down the Newsletter.

Best wishes as always,

Helen Hann
Learning Mentor, Music Lead and DSL
My usual working pattern is Monday to Wednesday.

GOLDEN LEARNERS

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

Foundation	**Evie, Grace, Charlie**
Year 1	**Nico, Harry, Henry L**
Year 2	**Lottie, Florence, Freddie**
Year 3	**Hayden, Reuben, Freya**
Year 4	**Jasper, Scarlett, Theo**
Year 5	**Wilf, Edward, Reagan**
Year 6	**Harry, Blake, Jacob**

St.Michael's School

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MR DAY'S SPORTING ROUND UP

Handball

On Tuesday our year 6 boys travelled to Kingsbrook to play in the first day of a handball league, playing against 6 other schools. They started with an impressive win against Thomas Hickman and then went on to draw their next game against a strong Haddenham team. This was followed by 3 wins and then a draw in their last game against Whitchurch. This meant at the halfway stage of the league, St Michael's are top and the only unbeaten school.

The boys played so well as a team and were constantly discussing tactics between games. Special shout out to Blake our captain who made the most interceptions and came up with some crucial goals, and to Charlie, our top scorer.

The second half of the league will be played next Tuesday.

St M's - Blake (capt), Lewis, Sebastian, Charlie, Harry, Joseph

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Girls football

Our year 5 and 6 girls went to The Mandeville School last week to play in a league against some of the bigger Aylesbury schools. The girls were amazing and finished the day top of the league having won 5 of their 6 matches. Special mentions to our defenders and goalkeeper (Reagan, Emily and Bethany) who only conceded 1 goal all day, and to birthday girl Olympia and Luisa who finished joint top scorers.
The second day of fixtures is in January.

St M's - Olympia (capt), Sophie, Grace, Reagan, Cecily, Bethany, Emily, Luisa

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Live Music
By Perm
At Stewkley Village Hall
Save the date
Saturday 7th March 2026
Tickets on sale January 2026
£15 per ticket
Fundraising for St Michaels Y6 leavers party
Little Hearts Matter & Stewkley FC

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New & Used Toy Sale

Yr 6 are holding a toy, game & puzzle sale

Friday 12th December
@ 3.30pm on the playground

Proceeds for Y6 leavers party

cash or card accepted

Great opportunity for a pre Christmas clear out!

Purchase a Christmas gift from our sale

Donations can be taken to reception from Monday 8th December

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Mental Health Support Team
Buckinghamshire

NHS Oxford Health NHS Foundation Trust

FREE

FOR PARENTS AND CARERS

LIVE WEBINARS

CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH

DATES: JAN– APRIL 2026

TIME: 6PM – 7.30PM

To register, scan the QR codes on the next page!

01865 901566

bucksmhst@oxfordhealth.nhs.uk

*PLEASE NOTE: YOUR CHILD MUST ATTEND AN MHST SCHOOL FOR ACCESS TO THE WEBINARS. IF YOU ARE UNSURE, PLEASE CONTACT US.

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SCAN THE QR CODE TO SECURE YOUR PLACE:

Topic	Date	Link	QR code
Exam Stress	Monday 12th[h] of January 2026	Microsoft Virtual Events Powered by Teams	
Awareness and understanding of eating disorders	Monday the 26th of January 2026	Microsoft Virtual Events Powered by Teams	
Understanding childhood development and behaviour	Tuesday the 10th of February 2026	Microsoft Virtual Events Powered by Teams	
Understanding Low mood	Monday the 9th of March 2026	Microsoft Virtual Events Powered by Teams	
Understanding adolescent development and behaviour	Monday the 9th of March 2026	Microsoft Virtual Events Powered by Teams	

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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.

DOGS

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

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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