ST MICHAEL'S C.E. COMBINED SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER NO 14

www.st-michaels.bucks.sch.uk

Thursday 12th December 2019

Dear Parents / Carers,
Attached to this newsletter are:

1. **Eco Pledges for all pupils – see information contained in this newsletter. Please return pledges on stickers to class teachers on Monday. Thank you**
2. **Year 4 Swimming Letter – lessons begin Wednesday 8th January 2020. Voluntary contributions via Parentpay please.** https://www.parentpay.com/
3. **KS2 Chess After School Club Spring Term 2020 – letter for existing Chess Club members and this terms beginners to join.**
4. **After School Clubs for Spring Term 2020 – contained in this newsletter. New registers for next term so make sure you sign your child up for any they want to do. Send a note/text/email/call the school. Most start w/c 13th January**
5. **Chartwells Special menu – Thursday 16th January 2020 – New Year Celebrations – flyer attached.**
6. **Reminder - Stewkley Methodist Chapel Starlight Nativity – Sunday 22nd December – poster attached. Not to be missed – live animals will be present!**

School Lunches – have you ordered for next term? Deadline is midnight Tuesday 31st December

https://www.parentpay.com/

Attendance – message from Mr Morley

Early in January we will be writing to parents of children whose attendance so far this academic year has fallen below 92%. Regular attendance in school is a vital factor in pupil progress with attainment levels dropping significantly as children move towards 90%. Average attendance at St Michael's is around 96%.

Can you help?

A company based in Milton Keynes are donating two sofas in good condition to us... all we need to do is collect them! Is there anyone who could help to collect and deliver them for us sometime between 6th and 9th January??

Next week's reminders: w/c 16th December

*****TOMORROW – Foundation Class Nativity 9.45am. Refreshments from 9am.**

Sunday - St Michael's Church Carol Service 6pm – KS2 Choir performing
Monday - KS1 Christmas Production 2pm
Tuesday - KS1 Christmas Production 6pm
Wednesday – End of Term Church Service at St Michael's Church – 9.30am
Thursday - School closes for the Christmas Holiday 3.30pm
Tuesday 7th January 2020 – Spring Term begins

*****127 Christmas Boxes have been received – THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR YOUR GENEROSITY. We presented 50 boxes to representatives from The Women's Refuge earlier this week and the remainder are going to MK Food Bank today.******

So much to report on in this week's newsletter – in case you do not see the Twitter feed /Facebook pages please see some lovely photos of recent events below.

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Waddesdon Manor – Wednesday 4th December

It was great to see so many families making their way over to Waddesdon Manor, after school on the 4th December, to look around the stunning display of lanterns and art work down Miss Alice's Drive, the woodland walk– including the lanterns made by Foundation and Year 6 buddies.

Year 1 and 2 Warwick Castle –Wednesday 4th December

Year 1 and 2 had an amazing time at Warwick Castle on 5th December reinforcing their current topic 'Towers and Tiaras' and experiencing life inside a real castle. Many thanks to all the parent helpers who accompanied the trip.

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‘Beauty and the Beast’ Day- Friday 6th December

A tremendous effort made by all families and staff to transform the school into characters from Beauty and the Beast last Friday.
Mr Morley said to the children and staff “Thank you to everyone who dressed up and planned great activities for Beauty and the Beast Day. It was a very successful morning”

Christmas Fayre –Saturday 7th December

The Christmas Bazaar was fantastic on Saturday – an enormous thank you to The Friends Association for putting on a great family event and thank you to everyone who came and supported the event, either by helping or shopping!

Year 5 Christingle – Wednesday 11th December

Mrs Clarke was really pleased with how The Year 5 inaugural Christmas Christingle Service went on Wednesday. Many thanks to Reverend Donna for all her support with costumes and Christingles and to grandparents Mrs Wheeler and Mrs Goddard for all their help with making the Christingles.

Music Concert –Tuesday 10th December

A really great music concert on Tuesday evening– well done and thank you to all the KS2 pupils who took part – choir, drummers, orchestra and instrumentalists. We are very grateful to parent Mrs Handsley-Jones who runs the orchestra and drumming groups for us and to Mrs Deverill for the choir. Thank you also to peripatetic teachers; Mrs Wiseman and Mr Roberts who were able to put some of their students forward to perform.

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Christmas Dinner and Jumper Day – Wednesday 11th December

A huge thank you to all the parents who came along and helped serve Christmas lunch yesterday. All the Christmas jumpers looked great too with our handmade party hats! A special thank you to parent Mrs Wiseman who kept us entertained with carols and Christmas songs on the piano. A really festive day!

Hello, we are the Eco Council.

We are all worried about plastic in the environment and how it causes pollution and affects wildlife. We have been talking to pupils in Year 3 about the "Eco Pledges" that they made in their class assembly last Friday. They made promises to do something to help the environment, such as turning off the tap whilst they clean their teeth, switching off lights, computers and other electronic devices when they are not using them and avoiding single use plastics. They suggest avoid buying crisps and chocolate which have lots of plastic wrappers (and they say it's healthier too!) We would like every pupil at St. Michael's School to make an "Eco Pledge". We want everyone to talk to their family and decide what would be the best pledge for them and write it on the sticker which is being sent home on Thursday. (The stickers are a waste product from a local printing factory and we are saving them from landfill.)

Please return your sticker to your teacher on Monday 16th December so it can be added to our "Eco Wall". We all have a part to play in looking after our world and its future. Here are a few suggestions for you…Turn off the tap whilst you clean your teeth, switch off lights and computers you when are not using them, try to walk to school if possible, use bars of soap instead of liquid soap in plastic bottles Use less paper, use scrap paper and recycle paper, grow your own vegetables, don't litter and take a bag and gloves to collect rubbish when you go out for a lovely walk in the country or at the seaside, drink tap water instead of water in plastic bottles, buy sauces etc. in glass bottles, re-use plastic pots and plastic bags.

What will your pledge be? PLEDGES ON STICKERS TO YOUR CLASS TEACHER ON MONDAY 16TH DECEMBER PLEASE.

Thank you, The Eco Council Joshua and Rosie-Year 1, Harry and Lois-Year 2, Jet and Reuben-Year 3, Blu and Ruby-Year 4, India-Rose and Scarlett-Year 5, Evie and Matthew-Year 6

After School Clubs for Spring Term 2020

Start w/c 13th January EXCEPT some sports clubs run by Mrs Munday and Mrs Grant, these will start back later in January due to the dark evenings.

Day	After School – with outside agencies/parent volunteers.
Mondays	**KS 2 Chess Club with Mr McClellan commences on Monday 13th January to Monday 30th March to 4.30pm 11 weekly sessions £33**. Cheques made payable to 'B McClellan'. All pupils who have been members of the beginners club this term are welcome to join us plus members from last Spring and Summer Terms 2019. **Letters to join coming home today.** **Year 5 and 6 Hockey with Mrs Munday to 4.45pm commencing on Monday 27th January** **Year 3,4 5 Parkour – commencing Monday 13th September to Monday 30th March to 4.30pm** for 11 sessions. £22 for 11 sessions. Payment through Parentpay
Tuesdays	**Year 3 and 4 Multi Skills Club with Mrs Munday to 4.45pm commencing Tuesday 14th January (in the hall)**
Wednesdays	**Year F,1 and 2 Multisports Club by Sports Fever -3.30pm to 4.30pm starting on Wednesday 15th January.** Please note priority will be given to any Foundation children who may want to join this time and any Year 1 and 2 pupils who haven't joined before.
Thursdays	**Year 5 and 6 Netball Club to 4.45pm with Mrs Grant commencing Tuesday 30th January** **Year 1-6 Karate Club with Mr McMahon in the hall– Year 1-6 commencing Thursday 16th January.** £25 per half term. Karate is a great way to gain extra confidence, coordination, fitness, stamina and desire to progress.

✂……..

HOCKEY AFTER SCHOOL CLUB (Years 5 and 6)

Name of child(ren) ……..

I would like my child(ren) to join the **Hockey Club** starting on **Monday 27th January**. 3.30pm to 4.45pm.

Signed……

✂……..

PARKOUR AFTER SCHOOL CLUB (Year 3 4 5)

Name of child(ren) ……..

I would like my child(ren) to join the **Parkour Club** starting on Monday 13th January 2020 to Monday 30th March 3.30pm to 4.30pm. for 11 sessions. I will pay £22 via Parentpay next term.

Signed……

✂……

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MULTI SPORTS AFTER SCHOOL CLUB (Years 3 and 4)

Name of child(ren) ……..

I would like my child(ren) to join the **Multi Sports Club** starting on Tuesday 14th January . 3.30pm to 4.40pm.

Signed……

✂……..

Year F, 1 and 2 MULTISPORTS CLUB BY SPORTS FEVER

Name of child(ren) ……..

I would like my child(ren) to join the **Multisports Sports Fever Club** starting on Wednesday 15th January 3.30pm to 4.30pm to half term initially.

Signed……

✂……..

NETBALL AFTER SCHOOL CLUB (Years 5 and 6)

Name of child(ren) ……..

I would like my child(ren) to join the **Netball Club** starting on **Thursday 30th January** 3.30pm to 4.45pm.

Signed……..

✂……..

KARATE AFTER SCHOOL CLUB (Years 1- 6)

Name of child(ren) ……..

I would like my child(ren) to join the **Karate Club** starting on Thursday 16th January. 3.30pm to 4.45pm. £25 to half term. Cheques payable to 'Simon McMahon'.

Signed……

ST MICHAEL'S SCHOOL SPORTS INFORMATION

Buckingham School Sports Partnership Y4 Gymnastic Festival Thursday 5th December –report by Mrs Grant

Last Thursday, 6 of our Year 4 girls represented St Michael's at the Buckingham and Mandeville SSP Gymnastics Competition held at Stoke
Mandeville Stadium. The first discipline was Body Management in which 3 of the girls had to memorise a series of skills which tested their flexibility, core strength and control. These were performed to a very high standard by Emily, Poppy-Victoria and Zuzanna. After this, all 6 girls participated in the vault which they had to execute without the use of a springboard! All 6 completed their vaults successfully. Finally, it was the turn of Constance, Flic and Isobelle to perform their floor routines which they

did so flawlessly. This is the first time that St Michael's has entered this competition and our girls did us proud. They worked as a team and supported each
other. Out of 15 schools, our team finished up in 2nd place, narrowly missing 1st place by only 0.04 of a point! Congratulations to all the girls for a fantastic gymnastics display. A big thank you also to Mrs Towse and Mrs Norfolk for helping with transport.

Buckingham School Sports Partnership Y5 Badminton Festival –Tuesday 10th December

This year, on the advice of Badminton England, the Sports Partnership have introduced a new format for their badminton festival. The Flo tournament, a team event where teams of 4 (2 girls and 2 boys) play singles rubbers and scores are added together.
This event gave some of our stronger badminton players in Year 6 the chance to challenge themselves across a whole badminton court against the top players in other schools.
With six schools participating, games were timed for 5 minutes and St Michael's got off to a great start, winning all 4 games in their first match. As the competition progressed, all 4 players really improved their game and improved all aspects of their play. Out of 20 games played, only 4 games were lost and the team scored 82 points out of a possible 100, winning the event from High Ash by 3 points.
Well done to Matthew, Aimee, Freddie and Baylie-Rae, not only for their superb play but also for their determination, enthusiasm and fair play throughout. Thank you to the parents who transported them and stayed to support their children; we now look forward to seeing them play again in the Partnership Finals in January.

Woven Sports Badges

Please note that if your child has represented the school in a sport they can buy a sports badge (or 2) from the office. They can only obtain one badge for each sport even if they have played in several events for that sport. Not all sports have specific badges e.g. Skipping, dodgeball so your child will receive a SPORT badge instead. Please let us know if you have not received a slip as we have a list in the office.

PE Kit

Once again please ensure that your child has a full PE kit in school including a tracksuit AT ALL TIMES. There are many children who often don't have trainers, trousers socks etc. Please check their kit over the holidays and ensure all clothing and footwear fits them **and is named**. It would also be useful for children in KS2 to have shin pads and football socks in their bags at all times (great stocking fillers!!) Thank you.

Kind Regards
Alison Cooper, School, Secretary

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