ST MICHAEL'S C.E. COMBINED SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER NO 16
www.st-michaels.bucks.sch.uk
Friday 16th January 2026

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

Dear Parents/Carers

We are well into the swing of our new term with the return of After School Clubs. The outdoor activities will resume after the half-term once the days are longer and lighter. Information will be sent out closer to the time.
Mr Day is busy lining up lots of sporting fixtures for the coming months, the first of which is the County Football Finals for our Year 5 and 6s on 24th January. I wish them all the very best of luck and look forward to hearing how they get on.

Wishing you all a great weekend.

Best wishes
Mrs Fiona Phimester

DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES:

Tues 20th Jan – Year 4 Swimming lessons commence
Sat 24th Feb – County Football Finals – Y5/6
Thurs 5th Feb – Kapla Workshop – all classes
Thurs 5th Feb – Swimming gala, Stoke Mandeville – Y5/6
Friday 6th Feb – Thornton Trail
Wed 11th Feb – Parents Evening
Thurs 12th Feb – Parents Evening
Friday 13th Feb – Heart Day – non-uniform day & cake sale
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
Thurs 26th March – Easter Fayre
Friday 27th March – INSET DAY
Mon 13th April – Start of Summer Term
Thurs 16th April – Year 5 Cake Sale
Wed 22nd April – Year 3 Swimming lessons start
Thurs 23rd April – Class photos and Leavers' photos
Friday 24th April – Year 3 Learning Fayre
Thurs 14th May – Year 6 Cake Sale
Wed 6th May – Foundation visual screening
Thurs 14th May – Year 6 Cake Sale

MESSAGE FROM MRS HANN

Lots of children find drawing and doodling very relaxing; a way of decompressing after a busy day. Below are links to a couple of routes you may like to explore with your child:

1. ***Rob Biddulph****, children's author has a whole series starting here*
"***Draw with Rob***"
https://youtu.be/bhyCxVPb1qU?feature=shared

2. Easy Zentangle patterns ***@drawingpatterns*** *has a series of ideas that can be tackled over a few days*

https://youtube.com/shorts/SA2AnNvOx8o?si=ZPQt417MnIfTbDrO

Best wishes as always
H Hann
Learning Mentor, Music Lead and DDSL
My usual working pattern is Monday to Wednesday in school.

Bellringers #together

#together

These dancing superstars in Year 4 recently passed their Grade 1 ballet exams!
Congratulations from everyone at St Michael's.

Please see below for some links from our Friends Association. The first one is regarding the school lottery and the others refer to clothes labels.

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https://www.yourschoollottery.co.uk/lottery/school/st-michaels-school?utm_campaign=cause-page-social-share&utm_source=cause-page&utm_medium=social&utm_content=Hyperlink

Stikins Name Labels | School Clothes Name Labels | Stikins ®
Easyfundraising Fundraising | Charity Fundraising Online | You Spend Online, Brands Donate | Easyfundraising

BIG GARDEN BIRDWATCH 2026

Big Garden Birdwatch is the world's largest garden wildlife survey. Every year, hundreds of thousands of nature lovers like you take part, helping to build a picture of how garden birds are faring.

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FRIENDS OF ST MICHAEL'S SCHOOL INVITE YOU TO OUR FAMILY

Beetle Drive

Friday 30th January

To purchase tickets scan QR code or visit:
friends-of-st-michaels-school.sumupstore.com

SCHOOL HALL

5:45PM

Eyes down at 6pm

£3.50 per player (child/adult)

Supervising parents don't need a ticket but won't be able to play

Drinks & snacks available to purchase

NHS
Oxford Health
NHS Foundation Trust

Mental Health
Support Team
Buckinghamshire

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 20th of April 2026	Microsoft Virtual Events Powered by Teams	

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Heart Day
Friday 13th February

Wear something red to school,
Heart theme or just non uniform
Donations can be made via parent pay

After school there will be a cake and toy sale
Raffle for piñata and a chance to win a voucher for a made to order cake

Cake donations from all year groups would be much appreciated

Monies raised for LittleHearts Matter, The British Hearts Foundation & Y6 Leavers

Little Hearts Matter
Supporting every step of the half a heart journey

British Heart Foundation

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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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