ST MICHAEL'S C.E. COMBINED SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER NO 18
www.st-michaels.bucks.sch.uk
Friday 26th Jan 2023

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Dear Parents/Carers

Another busy week at St Michaels with most of our After School Clubs back up and running. It's great to see the children making the most of an extra hour with their classmates and doing something that they love.

Tuesday and Thursday afternoons are particularly busy with Football/Parkour and Football/Hockey Clubs taking place and after Half Term we will also have Multi-Skills on a Tuesday afternoon. Collecting your children from the office those days are going to be a little busy, so please be patient whilst we safely despatch the children to you.

With approx. 75 children taking part in our clubs on Tuesday and Thursdays, please refrain from driving up to the school car park at 4.30pm as space is limited and it will become very congested. Thankfully the afternoons are now starting to get lighter and so it won't be so dark to walk the short distance from the main road/village hall.
Many thanks in advance.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

Monday 30th January – Chess & Netball 5/6 Club
Tuesday 31st January – MK Dons 5/6 Football Club & Parkour Club
Thursday 2nd January – MK Dons 3/4 Football Club + Hockey Club
Wednesday 8th February – Parents Evening
Thursday 9th February – Parents Evening
Friday10th February – Year 1 Class Assembly
Friday 10th February – last day of school before half term
Wednesday 22nd February – Tenancity Street Dance Club starts
Friday 24th February – Foundation Class Assembly
Thursday 2nd March – World Book Day
Saturday 11th March – District Cross Country

*****Multi Skills After School Club will now start after half-term. *****

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, a text will be sent to 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.

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SCHOOL DINNERS

School dinners can be ordered via Parent Pay.
The deadline for booking is a **Tuesday at midnight, 2 weeks 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.

MESSAGE FROM THE CHURCH

Each year on 25th January the Church remembers the famous story of the conversion of St Paul on the road to Damascus. St Paul is responsible for a significant proportion of the New Testament literature and without doubt was (and still is) a somewhat controversial figure. In his time it is clear that he had both some very ardent supporters but also some opponents, even among the early Christian community as people were emphasizing different aspects of the many things Christ said and did. He is in many ways a classic example of the trials involved in coming to terms with the call to follow a path that is somewhat unfamiliar (especially at first) while communicating that call to others in a way that is, as far as possible, accessible. He is clearly not always at home even in his own body – some of his letters suggest a disquieting ailment of some description – but his courage of conviction has led to a long-lasting legacy in the Church's liturgy, writings, tradition and memory to this day. His journey was far from straightforward, and he may not always have been an easy person to know (often quite the reverse), but he is assuredly an example that discipleship is developed and strengthened through perseverance and through overcoming trials and tensions, both with others and within oneself. An important example to ponder.

All best wishes

Andrew Krauss

GOLDEN LEARNERS

Congratulations to all these superstars this week:

Foundation	Antonio Conza, Muriel Woodward, Casey Chapman
Year 1	Iris Godfrey, Lucy Gold, Charlie Lee
Year 2	Harriet Babbage, Samuel Duthie, Oliver Meads
Year 3	Emily Boonstra, Jacob Dixon, Oliver Wheatley
Year 4	Eddie Hill, Teddy Cox, Eliza Shears
Year 5	Zak Dickens, Gabriella Conza, Tegan Goss
Year 6	Finley Duthie, Jessica Welch, Emmanuel Lee

ATTENDANCE AWARD

It was a close call between all of the classes this week, but top of the Attendance chart is YEAR 6!
Well done everyone.

MESSAGE FROM OUR LEARNING MENTOR, MRS HANN

Hello again. One of the main aspects of my role is helping children understand their feelings and how these ebb and flow; are triggered and then self- regulated.

We find it helps for children to be able to name their feelings beyond simply *happy*, *sad* or *angry*. We are having real success using "Zones of Regulation". Here is a link with some free, downloadable resources that may be useful for you.
https://www.zonesofregulation.com/free-downloadable-handouts.html#

With best wishes
H Hann
@MrsHannStMSch

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BIG BIRDWATCH

Between Friday - Sunday this weekend (27th -29th January), the children are taking part in the Big Garden Birdwatch. They are going to birdwatch for an hour to gather information for the RSPB (The Royal Society for the Protection of Birds). The children have taken home a tally chart for their homework to record their results on. You can then upload this to the RSPB website. Have a look at the following information from the RSPB.

How to take part.

1. Count the birds for one hour in your garden, from your balcony or your local park between **27 and 29 January 2023.**

   Only include those that land, not those flying over. Count the most birds of a particular species you see at any one time. So, if you see a group of eight starlings, but later see six together, please write down eight as your final count.

2. Submit your results by **19 February 2023**. Online is the best way to do it, as it's quick, easy and saves us money, so we can spend more on saving nature. Go to our website at **rspb.org.uk/birdwatch**, and using the code **BH30**, tell us what you saw. Remember even if you saw nothing, it still counts.

AFTER SCHOOL CLUB – PLEASE NOTE NEW LEGO CLUB DATE!

St. Michael's ASC After School Club

At our in-house after-school club we have fun activities on offer

Stay and Play - Mondays & Fridays

Changing Tuesdays
31/01/23 - Lego club
07/02/23 - Well being Club

Art Club Wednesdays **Book Club Thursdays**

To book a place on the after-school club for either **1** hour or **1.5** hours please do this via Parent Pay by Thursday at midnight for the following week.

Children to be collected at 4.30pm or at 5pm

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#together bell ringers from this week – Well done!

A PLEA FROM MR DAY
If anyone would like to donate some dry wood for our Secret Garden campfire, please contact the office.

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The MK Dons are offering an exclusive group booking discount for local schools to use. 25% off for school groups. Please see the attached flyer for further info.

Contact MK Dons box office on 01908 622933, or on our website link: https://www.stadiummk.com/whats-on/2023-arnold-clark-cup/

FRIENDS ASSOCIATION

Join our Facebook Page - @friends&parentsofstmichaelsschoolstewkley

HEART MONTH

Friday 10th February 2023 will be a non-school uniform day for all pupils for a donation. The charities that will benefit are Little Hearts Matter, St Michael's Friends association and The British Heart Foundation.

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ST MICHAELS CELEBRATION

Well done to Cameron Thackrah in Year 5 who attended the Linslade Crusaders Swimming Club presentation evening last Saturday and was awarded the Phil Conacher Cup which is an award made by the coaches for the rising star in the junior squad. Cameron also won first place in the Club Championships in his age group.
Congratulations Cameron – everyone at St Michaels are very proud of you.

ST MICHAEL'S SCHOOL SPORTS INFORMATION

Year 6 Badminton Festival

On Thursday ten of our Year 5 pupils travelled over to Waddesdon School for the Team Badminton Tournament. This competition consists of an fast-paced 'rotating-player' team game with 5 girls and 5 boys representing each school. Not only does it test a player's badminton skills but it also tests their concentration, teamwork and resilience as each team attempts to put their opposition under pressure, causing them to make mistakes and removing them from the game.
During the competition our pupils came up against some experienced and talented players, but they worked well as a team to win some of their games and made great progress as they advanced through the games.
With 8 schools taking part from across the Waddesdon & Aylesbury area, St Michael's finished in joint 4th place overall, a fantastic achievement.
Well done to Jet, Primrose, Elliette, Azzie, Seth, Oliver H, Harry J, Toby, Alfie and especially Grace C for stepping in at the last minute.
Thank you to Mrs Johnson for transporting several of the children to Waddesdon and back.

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Team Kit

Once again please can we ask parents to check in their cupboards, drawers and pupil bags for any team kit their child may have worn in recent years; we have many items missing especially the royal blue and pale blue football socks, blue and gold polo shirts and goalkeeper shirts. Many thanks.

5/6 Hockey Club - message from Mrs Munday

After 13 years of running a St Michael's hockey club at the school, the 9th of Feb will sadly be my final session. It has been wonderful to see so many children enjoy a sport I love and go on to extend their experience at Leighton Hockey Club; some of them are even now playing for the senior teams. However, the hockey will not stop at our school and I am delighted to say that the 5/6 after-school club will continue on most Thursdays after HT, under the watchful gaze of highly experienced local hockey legend , Clare Fitzboydon. Clare is a qualified coach and first team player for Leighton Buzzard and will be an invaluable asset to the school in terms of accessing high quality coaching, offering more sporting opportunity within school and maintaining links with the club.
She will be available on the following dates:
March 2nd, March 9th, March 16th and March 30th

Please ensure your children have their gumshields and shinpads for these sessions and encourage them to speak to Clare if they are interested in furthering their hockey experience at Leighton Buzzard Hockey Club.

Wishing you all a lovely weekend!

Best wishes,
Fiona Phimester
School Secretary

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