ST MICHAEL'S C.E. COMBINED SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER NO 19

www.st-michaels.bucks.sch.uk

Thursday 30th January 2020

Dear Parents / Carers,

Attached to/contained in this week's newsletter:

1. **Rescheduled Y5/6 Girls Football League Match v Swanbourne School at home.** – Thursday 6th February. Kick off 3.45pm. Letter for team members went home yesterday.
2. **Pancake Day Tuesday 25th February** – flyer from Chartwells – special menu on offer. Make sure you order before midnight on Tuesday 18th February.

SOME DATE REMINDERS FOR YOU TO END OF HALF TERM:

31st Jan	Year 4 and Year 6 – an instalment due for residential trips
5th Feb	Y2 SATS parent meeting in school - 6pm – let us know if you can come by booking in the usual way: https://stmichaelscecombined.parentseveningsystem.co.uk/
5th Feb	Y6 SATs parent meeting in school – 6.30pm - let us know if you can come by booking in the usual way: https://stmichaelscecombined.parentseveningsystem.co.uk/
6th Feb	Girls Football League Match v Swanbourne at Home 3.45pm
7th Feb	Music Concert 9.10am – organised by Mrs Wiseman, Keyboard/Piano teacher. Parents of pupils having keyboard/piano lessons with her are welcome to attend.
7th Feb	Year 6 Friday Cake sale - donations of cakes welcome from Thursday evening and Friday morning. Look out for news from The Friends soon about how the fundraising will be spent!
11th Feb	Music Concert 9.10am – organised by Mr Roberts Guitar teacher. Parents of pupils having guitar lessons with him are welcome to attend.
11th	Vet Hannah Lyon and dog to visit Foundation –am – People who help us topic.
11th	Y5 Hudnall Park £50 instalment due
11th	Buckingham School Sports Partnership Y5 Squash Festival
11th	Parents Evening – bookings close 3pm Friday 7th February https://stmichaelscecombined.parentseveningsystem.co.uk/
12th	Boys Football match v Weston Turville at home 3.45pm,
13th	Parents evening – bookings close 3pm Friday 7th February https://stmichaelscecombined.parentseveningsystem.co.uk/
Fri 14th	INSET school closed for pupils
Mon 24th	School reopens after half term
28th Feb	Music Concert 9.10am – organised by Mrs Wiseman, Keyboard/Piano teacher. Parents of pupils having keyboard/piano lessons with her are welcome to attend.

Attendance

In line with our Attendance Policy, we will be writing to parents tomorrow where their child's attendance has fallen below 92%

Message from Stewkley Parish Council – Advisory 20mph Speed Limit - we are happy that the Parish Council have engaged with us about this trial and are very happy to pass on the following message:

An advisory 20mph speed limit throughout Stewkley village is to be trialled by the Parish Council's Traffic Subcommittee from this month. More details on the front page of the February Grapevine.
The Subcommittee is flexible as to the desired outcome of the trial. While it might tangibly reduce average speeds throughout Stewkley and persuade Bucks County Council and Thames Valley Police to support a permanent and legally enforceable 20mph speed limit for the whole village, the trial might instead show that a shorter 20mph zone or zones is more realistic and practical, such as from the War Memorial to Sycamore Close. The Subcommittee is very keen to hear from residents what they think and whether they would like a waste bin sticker. Please contact Rachael on 240950 or stewkley@20splentyforus.org.uk

Requests from Foundation Class

Donations of the following would be gratefully received for our Foundation Unit. Thank you in anticipation!
For outside:
Pallets, short scaffolding planks, new waste piping and connectors, flexi hose, medium cable reals (not cardboard) tyres, bike wheels, net with large holes.
For inside:
Dolls that look like babies, doll buggies, a typewriter, old style phones with push buttons or spinning dial.

Year Foundation Topic – 'People Who Help Us?

Foundation Class are enjoying their current topic and welcoming visitors in to talk about how they help people. So far Foundation Class have had a visit from Dr Peel and Reverend Donna. Visits from a vet, fire brigade, dentist and Police are to come! Due to operational issues the Fire Brigade and Police couldn't make it into school this week but are rescheduling! We are very grateful to all these visitors for giving up their valuable time to share their work experiences. Thank you for your support with their topic.

A message from the Eco Council: recycling crisp packets!

The Eco Council are doing a fantastic job this year, raising awareness of environmental issues and how we can help. A recent suggestion was to recycle crisp packets. We can collect them in school and deliver them at the Willen Hospice shop in Leighton Buzzard, where they wash, sort and send them off to be recycled. The collection point will be next to the Eco Pledge tree in the school entrance from Monday.
(Thank you for the offers of help from Eco Council parents to deliver our crisp packets for recycling. Mrs. Fraser will be in touch when the first consignment is ready!)

AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS

Sports Fever After School Club Year F,1&2 pupils– new register for second half of this term.

We have 11 pupils on the waiting list for Sports Fever after school club on a Wednesday. Stuart can only take 16 pupils in his club. This club is proving very popular so we are trying to sort another club for this age range. In the meantime, we will let the 11 pupils currently on the waiting list, (Oscar, Lewis and Liam in YF, William, Freddie, Scarlett, Zed and Sophie in Y1, Evie, Farah and Kate in Y2) attend after February half term for the 5 weeks to 25th March, instead of the current 16 pupils **So there are 5 spaces still available**. **If your child has not attended Sports Fever before and would like to give it a try for 5 weeks let the school office know ASAP and by Monday 10th February.**

*****NEW KS2 After School Club starting after half term – with Rob Norris – Dodgeball.**
Fridays 3.30pm to 4.30pm. £10 for 5 sessions from 28th February. All pupils who have asked for a space have been successful. Y3 – Imogen, Azura, Seth, Lucas, Jet. Y4 – Olivia, Georgia, Sofiia, Angus. Y5- Jack Br, Charlie, Sarah, Emily. Y6- Freddie, Jamie, Syd, Lew, Patrick, Fin D. Payment will be uploaded onto Parentpay in due course.

*****NEW KS2 After School Club starting after half term – with Cathy Hart – 'Hart and Crafts Club'**
Wednesdays 3.30pm to 4.30pm. Limited spaces - £25 for 5 sessions from 26th February to include all materials. Email/text/call the office if your child is interested in joining. Payment direct to Cathy in due course.

Message from Mr Morley – 'Thank a Teacher'
Last year, many of our parents very kindly took the opportunity to go on line at https://thankateacher.co.uk/ to thank a member of staff at St Michael's School. It doesn't cost anything and only takes a few minutes. You can thank any member of the St Michael's team, including teachers, TA's, office staff, cleaners, lunchtime supervisors for what they do to make a difference to the school life of your child. Last year, it made a huge difference to their morale and led to them feeling very valued and appreciated.

Buckingham School Sports Partnership Y3/4 Basketball Festival – Tuesday 28th January
On Tuesday afternoon, ten Year 4's along with 2 very excited Year 3's travelled over to The Fremantle School to participate in the Fremantle & Waddesdon Family Basketball festival. The team got off to a great start gaining several wins and draws in their first few matches. The opposition got tougher as the festival went on and St Michael's then suffered 3 losses against excellent teams to finish in 6th place overall out of 10 schools.
All of the pupils in Years 3 and 4 have progressed significantly in their basketball skills this term and the children taking part in this event were a few of many children who can now access this sort of competition. The team who did participate this time, took their chance with great determination and sportsmanship, supporting each other and showing a positive attitude throughout. They should be congratulated on their teamwork and perseverance as well as the spirit in which they played. Well done to Georgia, Angus, Louis, Ollie, Jack, Jemima, Olivia, Annabel, Penny and Ella and especially to Seth and Alfie from Year 3 who equipped themselves well against some VERY tall Year 4's! Thanks to the parents who transported and supported the children.

Buckingham and Mandeville School Sports Partnership Primary Young Leadership Conference-
Thursday 23rd January 2020 at Stoke Mandeville Stadium – report by Lottie and Ava Y5

We arrived at the stadium and were given sports leader t shirts which we put on. There were 170 children there from 18 schools! We all then did a fun warm up dance led by some sports leaders. We were split into groups, then smaller mixed groups for the upcoming activities.

We visited activity stations in our smaller groups and had the opportunity to lead some of the activity stations.

Then we went upstairs and had our lunch. (Zachary had left his lunch at home but we all gave him a bit of our lunch) Our afternoon was filled with more fun activities in different groups. We did lots of trust activities and swapped around several times. Our final activity was to build a really strong tower out of newspaper, tape, plastic cups and scissors. Ava's group won over all! The conference ended with awards. They were based on the partnerships values of showing honesty, passion, self-belief, determination, respect and teamwork. Lottie received one for honesty and Archie one for determination. Mrs Munday said we did really well as there were so many pupils taking part and she was really proud of us.

Well done to Zachary F, Archie, Lottie, Lily, Matilda, Ruth, Ava in Year 5 and Tilly, Angus, Annabel in Year 4

Yours sincerely,
Alison Cooper, School Secretary