ST MICHAEL'S C.E. COMBINED SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER NO 1

www.st-michaels.bucks.sch.uk

Thursday 5th September 2019

Dear Parents / Carers,

Our newsletters, term dates etc. are emailed to parents and posted on our web site www.st-michaels.bucks.sch.uk . If you do not receive an email from the office, and you have submitted your email address to us, please contact Mrs Cooper in the school office. Thank you

Attached to/contained in this week's newsletter!

1. **School Behaviour Policy Letter** – emailed yesterday
2. **School Attendance Letter** – emailed today
3. **School Vision document -** emailed today - see section below too.
4. **Diary Dates Autumn Term 2019 –** emailed today**.** Please note there will be additional dates added over the next few weeks – e.g. sports events, Friends Association events. We will keep you informed via the weekly newsletter, website, Facebook and Twitter pages and text messaging!!
5. **Year 5 Swimming Letter for lessons this term –** emailed today and paper copy coming home today
6. **Macmillan Coffee Morning – Friday 27th September –** see below
7. **School Nursing Service Year F and Year 6 National childhood Measurement Programme 2019 2020 –** parent/carer information letter – paper copy coming home and emailed.
   Please note you only need to respond to them if you DO NOT want your child to participate.
8. **Curriculum Overviews for Autumn Term 2019 - to follow**

New School Vision and Mission Statement #together

Over the past year we have been consulting with parents, staff, pupils, governors and the church regarding the School's 'Vision' and our 'Mission Statement'. I am delighted to inform you that this process has now been completed. Our vision is 'together'. Our mission statement lays out who we are and who we want to be. (see the attached document) Both of these have been displayed in all classrooms and over the coming weeks you will see these shared with our community throughout the school. We feel that 'together' very much encapsulates St Michael's School.

A huge thank you to last Y6 for their gifts including brand new mouse mats for out ICT suite which arrived yesterday and have been put into use straight away.

A huge thank you to Family Horwood for sprucing up our school entrance and painting the wooden gates. This is very much appreciated!

A huge thank you to the team of parents, staff, grandparents and children who gave up their time over the holidays to give our courtyard a massive make-over. Year 1 children are already making fantastic use of it!

NEXT WEEK –

w/c 9th	Peripatetic Music Lessons with Bucks Music commence
w/c 9th	School After School Clubs commence
10th	Year 6 11+ Preparation Tests
11th	'Meet the teachers Year 1- 6' 3.30pm to 4pm.
	An informal time for parents to visit their children's classrooms and say hello!
	Our Foundation children finish at 1.30pm at present so we are not expecting parents to return at 3.30pm. Foundation parents are invited to the reading presentation by Mrs Fraser and Mrs Croucher on Wednesday 25th September 9am instead.
12th	Year 6 11+ Tests
Sun 15th	St Michael's Church Harvest Festival 10am – KS2 Choir performing in church

Friends AGM Wednesday 18th September 2019 8pm at The Swan Pub. All welcome!

All parents/carers welcome. The Friends' have had another very successful year and have raised a large amount of money for our school. We are very grateful for all the hard work they put in and the money they raise helps provide our children with valuable resources and equipment. PLEASE JOIN US at the AGM. We welcome new members and helpers with open arms! We need new committee members too! We are a very friendly group of parents, so come along and join us!

September 27th 2019 – 9.30 – 11 am

WORLD'S BIGGEST COFFEE MORNING
WE ARE MACMILLAN. CANCER SUPPORT

'LAUGHING. YUMMY CUPCAKES. GETTING TOGETHER... AND HELPING FAMILIES AFFECTED BY CANCER.'

This year we are going it alone to hold the Macmillan Coffee Morning for everyone in the village! Macmillan's ambition is to reach and improve the lives of everyone living with cancer and to inspire millions of others to do the same.

Since holding these Big Coffee Mornings we have helped raise over £3,500. We managed to beat our highest amount raised last year, wonder if we can do it again?

In order to do so, we need the support of our amazing community. **On Thursday 19th September, your child will be given a paper plate and we are asking you to fill it with a cake or small cakes or even biscuits for us to all enjoy on Friday 27th September.**

#together

Cakes can be brought in on Thursday 26th or Friday 27th at the beginning of the school day. They can be any flavour, shape or size – we just ask that they do not contain sesame seeds or nuts. But most importantly we need your support in joining us on the morning of the 27th. The coffee morning will be held in the school hall from 9.30-11 am with coffee and tea being served with a choice of delicious cakes.

Come along with your family, or friends you haven't seen in a while and enjoy a chat and a treat. Some of our Year 5 pupils will be there to help look after you !

We hope you can help make this a fantastic morning. Tell your neighbours, friends and family.

As usual we will also be holding a raffle in which you can win the most amazing cake made by Ricarda Casey (ex pupil of the school).

Wide Awake Club – booking and payments are now via Parentpay

Can we remind parents that Wide Awake Club (WAC) does not begin in the mornings until 8am. We encourage the children to be dropped off at the entrance door once they are handed over to a member of WAC staff. They can then make their way to the cloakroom, hang up their belongings and join the club in the hall. Bookings and payments for WAC are now made via Parentpay. **Please ensure you have made any bookings by midnight on a Thursday for the following week.** Bookings can be made or amended by midnight on a Thursday. Please contact the school office a day before if you need to book your child in at short notice. All payments will be through Parentpay. The booking system seems to be working – it is is early days – so hopefully any glitches will be resolved. Contact Mrs Cooper, Mrs Khanbhai or Mrs Farran in the school office if you have any problems. Thank you for your co-operation.

Arrival at School

It is very important that your child arrives on time every day, unless there are extenuating circumstances or appointments to be attended. **A phone call, by 9.30am, to inform us of an absence is very important.** We welcome close contact with parents, but I would like to remind you that your child's class teacher needs to be free to prepare for the morning and register the class. If you wish to speak to the teacher before school on an **urgent** matter, please contact the school office. If it is not urgent, please make an appointment either by letter, a note or a phone call to the school. We are happy to help you. Children in all year groups may come into school as they arrive at 8.50am. (No-one should be arriving before 8.50am with the exception of the children attending the Wide Awake Club) It is helpful, once settled into their new classes, that pupils are encouraged to be as independent as possible and we ask you to leave them at the door.

Lunchtimes, cooked meals.

Our catering company, Chartwells Group, have asked us to remind parents (and inform new parents) that you can order via Parentpay as many or as few meals as you like, so long as they are ordered in advance. You can order week by week or for a full half-term. Orders for ALL pupils need to be placed via Parentpay **by midnight on the Tuesday** for the following week's orders**.** We will continue to encourage the children to eat their lunches without rushing. Those children who are bringing in packed lunches will be encouraged to finish what they bring to eat and we will continue to expect children to bring home any un-eaten food so that parents are aware of what their child is eating. If you are making up a packed lunch please make sure your child has a healthy lunchbox consisting of a good balanced and varied diet. Cooked meals by Chartwells will meet all the Government guidelines for healthy balanced and varied diet.

At morning break time Infants will be provided with a piece of fresh fruit or vegetable under the government scheme – **Juniors may bring fruit or vegetables from home**. **No other snack is permitted** at break-time but items like fruit bars or cereal bars are welcome as part of their balanced packed lunch. Please ensure your child's water bottle is replenished daily.

Pupil Premium Free Schools Meals

The school has to check current families in receipt of benefits which entitle a child to Free Schools Meals on a termly basis. If any other families believe they may be entitled to Free School Meals, please see Mrs Cooper. The school receives additional funding to be spent in the classrooms for the children entitled to free school meals – whether they take the meals or not. It is therefore important that every parent who believes they may be entitled has registered this with Mrs Cooper.

Please note – the continuing government initiative for all Foundation and KS 1 children to receive a free meal at lunch time. We still need to identify the families that would have been eligible for free school meals anyway, as they are in receipt of benefits in order for the school to receive the pupil premium funding. Confusion has arisen as both schemes are called Free School Meals! If in doubt please see Mrs Cooper.

Reminders:

- Water bottles for use in class (sports type, clear and containing water **only**) should be taken home daily for washing and replenishing and returned the next day. Please ensure your child brings in an additional drink if they are having a packed lunch, either a carton, or an additional water bottle – no glass bottles and no cans thank you. (New water bottles available from school £1.40 each or new tops 30p each)
- Please do not bring your car or dog onto the school grounds when bringing and collecting your children from school, this is a health and safety issue. Indeed, wherever possible you should not drive your car near the school but park away from the school and walk in. (The only dogs allowed in school are guide dogs – or pups training to be guide dogs.)
- Pupils should also dismount from their scooters and bikes at the school gates and walk with them on the pavement to the Scooter and Bicycle Park, again for health and safety reasons.
- If your child requires medication **prescribed by a doctor** during the school day, please ensure the actual medicine as prescribed, in its original packaging, is provided to the school office in the morning and collected in the afternoon, along with instructions on time and dosage. A parental agreement form for the school to administer medicine will need to be completed on the day or can be downloaded from our web site, completed and brought in with the medication. Thank you

Emergency Contacts

Data Collection checking sheets will be sent home with all pupils over the next couple of weeks. Please check all details, sign the form and return to the school office at your earliest convenience. Many thanks.

Appeal

Foundation would love to have some more dressing up shoes – especially princess style ones!
If you have any you no longer want please pass them onto us . Thank you !

ST MICHAEL'S SCHOOL SPORTS INFORMATION

Extra curricular Clubs

If your child would like to come along to any of the after-school clubs please return completed forms or email/text the office before they start. All clubs start next week. We intend to add more clubs to the schedule so please check the newsletter for updates.

5/6 Hockey club - players will need shin pads and gum shields to participate in matchplay

Lunchtime clubs:

Monday - **Running Club Years 3-6** (starting Sept 16th) Children are asked to bring extra kit in for these sessions and they are for those who just want to run for fun and fitness as well as those who would like to take part in cross country events later in the year.

Tuesday - Girls Football Years 5/6 (starting Sept 10th) Girls can wear football kit/PE kit. Boots/shinpads not required for first few sessions.

Thursday- Boys Football Year 5/6 (starting Sept 12th) Boys can wear football kit/ PE kit . Boots/ shin pads not required for first few sessions.
If children would like to play in the school football teams this winter they will need to attend these sessions on a regular basis.

Aldi Kit For Schools - TEAM GB for TOKY0 2020

We are now collecting Team GB stickers for Aldi's Kit for Schools Initiative. If you spend £30 at Aldi please pick up a sticker and bring it into school. There will be a collection box in the reception area and they will be stuck onto the huge poster displayed in the school. Collecting all 300 stickers before half-term will mean the school receives a special sports kit and we will have the chance to win £20,000!
For more details on the competition and Aldi's eating and well-being initiatives please visit:
https://www.aldi.co.uk/kitforschools

After School Clubs Autumn Term 2019

If your child is on the club register and cannot attend a session at any club for any reason, can they please inform the adult concerned to avoid office staff chasing parents for explanations for absence in the interest of the safety of the child? Many thanks.
There are no school run after school clubs for our new Foundation pupils until after Christmas.

Don't forget Bluebells After School Club for all pupils:

Bluebell Childcare

REMINDER - Call **07471 790343** to make bookings. You can book into the club as a regular booking, ad hoc or even last minute with a simple phone call or text on the day. Visit www.bluebellchildcare.co.uk You can also email amanda@bluebellchildcare.co.uk if you have any queries. The club is available from 3.30pm to 5.30pm and a snack can be arranged too.

Day	After School – with outside agencies/parent volunteers.
Mondays	**KS2 (Years 3 4 5 6) Introduction to Chess with Mr McClellan for new members to 4.30pm– on Monday 9th September to Monday 2nd December 2019 for 12 sessions** £36. Cheques made payable to 'B McClellan'. (Cheques can be post-dated to 9/9/2019) Letters coming home today with current Y 2 3 4 and 5 pupils. **(NB current Chess Club members can re-join Mr McClellan's Chess Club in January 2020)** **Years 5 and 6 Hockey with Mrs Munday to 4.45pm**commencing on Monday 9th September. (No charge) **Year 3,4 5 Parkour –** commencing Monday 9th September to Monday 2nd December for 12 sessions. £24 for 12 sessions. Payment through Parentpay
Tuesdays	**Year 3 and 4 Multiskills Club with Mrs Munday to 4.45pm** commences Tuesday 10th September. (No charge)
Wednesdays	
Thursdays	**Karate Club with Mr McMahon in the hall– Year 2-6 commencing Thursday 12th September to 4.45pm.** £25 per half term. Any cheques payable to 'S McMahon'. (If you would like to pay by bank transfer please contact the school office for Mr McMahon's bank details) Karate is a great way to gain extra confidence, coordination, fitness, stamina and desire to progress. **Year 5 and 6 Netball Club with Mrs Grant** commencing Thursday 12th September. (No charge)

Fridays	**<u>Year 1 and 2 Multisports Club by Sports Fever -</u>3.30pm to 4.30pm** commences on Friday 13th September – Sports Fever are an external coaching agency who teach and coach in many local schools. Children will enjoy a range of fun sporting activities. Numbers limited – first come first served. First half term initially. (No charge).

<u>INTRODUCTION TO CHESS AFTER SCHOOL CLUB on a Monday – reply slip on letter coming home with current Y 2 3 4 5 pupils</u>

✂……

<u>HOCKEY CLUB (Year 5 and 6)</u>

Name of child(ren) ……..

I would like my child(ren) to join the **Hockey Club** starting on Monday 9th September 2019. 3.30pm to 4.45pm.

Signed……

✂……

<u>PARKOUR AFTER SCHOOL CLUB (Year 3 4 5)</u>

Name of child(ren) ……..

I would like my child(ren) to join the **Parkour Club** starting on Monday 9th September 2019 to Monday 2nd December 3.30pm to 4.30pm. I will pay £24 via Parentpay next term

Signed……

✂……

<u>MULTISKILLS AFTER SCHOOL CLUB (Years 3 and 4)</u>

Name of child(ren) ……..

I would like my child(ren) to join the **Multi Sports Club** starting on Tuesday 10th September 2019 3.30pm to 4.45pm.

Signed……

✂……

<u>NETBALL AFTER SCHOOL CLUB (Years 5 and 6)</u>

Name of child(ren) ……..

I would like my child(ren) to join the **Netball Club** starting on Thursday 12th September. 3.30pm to 4.45pm

Signed……

✂……

<u>KARATE AFTER SCHOOL CLUB (Years 2- 6)</u>

Name of child(ren) ……..

I would like my child(ren) to join the **Karate Club** starting on Thursday 12th September 2019 to half term. 3.30pm to 4.45pm. £25 to half term. Cheques payable to 'Simon McMahon' or cash or bank transfer (Please see office for Mr McMahon's bank details)

Signed……

✂……..

<u>MULTISPORTS CLUB BY SPORTS FEVER (Year 1 and 2)</u>

Name of child(ren) ……..

I would like my child(ren) to join the **Multisports Club by Sports Fever** starting on Friday 13th September 2019 3.30pm to 4.30pm.

Signed……