ST MICHAEL'S C.E. COMBINED SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER NO 40
www.st-michaels.bucks.sch.uk
Friday12th Sept 2025

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

Dear Parents/Carers

A warm welcome to our new families joining St Michael's for the first time as well as to our families returning for another busy academic year with us. The new Foundation class have made a great start and I'm sure they will all be ready for the weekend by the end of tomorrow! It is always my mission to get to know them all by name by the October half term so wish me luck!
We are delighted to have you all with us and look forward to a great Autumn term.

Please see below for a list of dates for your diaries. I appreciate there are a lot of events listed and more details will follow as required.

We are fortunate to have some parent volunteers who come in and read with our children on a weekly basis. It is with a different class to your child's and offers a great opportunity for additional one-to-one reading sessions with some of our children.
If you have a spare hour or so in your weekly agenda and are interested in getting involved with some reading sessions, please contact the school office for further details.

Collection time at 3.30pm is a busy time on the playground. Please note that the children are not permitted to play on the outside equipment at pick up time.

The children are looking smart with lots of new uniform and shiny shoes around the school. We receive a huge amount of lost property which is often challenging to return to its owner due to the lack of name labels. Please can you ensure that all items (including PE kit and water bottles) are clearly named?
The temperature is definitely dropping now and there were plenty of rain showers this week. Please ensure your child comes to school with an appropriate coat for outside play. Thank you.

After School Clubs – we are pleased that our extra-curricular activities after school will recommence from Monday 22nd September. Please look out for an email with an attached online form arriving with you next week. We do our best to accommodate everyone's requests and thank you in advance for your understanding if this is not possible.

Wishing you all a lovely weekend

Best wishes
Mrs Fiona Phimester

DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES:

Tues16th Sept – Swimming lessons – Year 5
Thurs 18th Sept – Foundation Stay & Play – 3pm
Friday 26th Sept – Macmillan Coffee Morning

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Mon 29th Sept – Feast of St Michael's – details to follow
Tues 30th Sept – Friends Association AGM, 8pm at The Carpenters Arms. All welcome.
Mon 6th Oct – Harvest Festival – Chapel – 9.30am. Parents welcome to attend, but may be standing room only
Thurs 9th Oct – Individual and sibling school photos
Wed 22nd Oct – Flu vaccinations – details to follow
Wed 22nd Oct – Parents Evening – details to follow
Thurs 23rd Oct – Parents Evening – details to follow
Mon 27th Oct – Fri 31st Oct – Half Term break
Mon 3rd Nov – INSET DAY
Tues 4th Nov – all children return to school
Thurs 6th Nov – Beauty and the Beast performance – details to follow
Friday 5th Dec – Year 3 Class Assembly
Wed 10th Dec – Year 4 Christingle
Friday 12th Dec – Foundation Nativity 2.45pm
Wed 17th Dec – Year 2 Nativity – morning
Thurs 18th Dec – Year 1 Nativity – morning
Friday 19th Dec – Last day of Autumn term

INSET DAYS FOR 2025/2026
Mon 3rd Nov 2025
Mon 5th Jan 2026
Fri 27th March 2026
Fri 22nd May 2026

MESSAGE FROM MRS HANN

As we all begin a new school year #together, it can be useful to remind ourselves and our children of this… especially when we/they feel overwhelmed. So taking a few restorative deep breaths can literally help us/them calm.

Every best wish for the coming year,
Helen Hann
Learning Mentor, Music Lead and DSL

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My usual working pattern is Monday to Wednesday.

GOLDEN LEARNERS

Well done to these superstars for being this week's Golden Learners.

Year 1	**Aurora, Henry A, Freddy**
Year 2	**Ilyes, Kingsley, Mila**
Year 3	**Ellie, Layla, Joshy**
Year 4	**Iris, Jacob, Yasmina**
Year 5	**Niamh, Poppy, Sophie**
Year 6	**Monty, Joseph, Perry**

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Friends of St Michael's School 24/25

Peter Pan Panto	Playground Benches	Coaches for trips
SEN resources for each class	Giant Inflatable	Donation to Y6 Leavers Party
Folding Trolley for trips	Christmas Gift for the children	Kapla Workshop Deposit

Fundraising Total

£13,883.85

We have spent **£7,157.16** and have a list of exciting items we are looking to fund this year

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It's time for a Macmillan Coffee Morning

and you're invited

Let's do whatever it takes to support people living with cancer.

Place: St Michael's School

Date: Friday 26th Sept

Time: 10-11.30am

Contact:

Mrs Fiona Phimester

MACMILLAN CANCER SUPPORT

Registered with FUNDRAISING REGULATOR

Macmillan Cancer Support, registered charity in England and Wales (261017), Scotland (SC039907) and the Isle of Man (604). Also operating in Northern Ireland. MAC19933_InvitePoster

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Wear It Green

for Macmillan day

Change into your favourite green outfit for the day and help us raise money in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support, helping them do whatever it takes for people living with cancer.

When: FRIDAY 26TH SEPTEMBER

Suggested donation:* £1.00

Registered with FUNDRAISING REGULATOR

MACMILLAN CANCER SUPPORT

*No donation necessary.
Macmillan Cancer Support, registered charity in England and Wales [261017]. Scotland [SC039907]. Registered company [2129502]. Registered office: 4 Macmillan Way, Paisley PA2 7BU.

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Pre-school Phonics

A local company, Phonics with Robot Reg, is based in Buckingham and host phonics sessions for pre-school children.

For details of your nearest class, or to arrange a taster session, please contact becky@robotreg.co.uk for more information or visit www.robotreg.co.uk/buckingham

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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