St Michael's C of E School Newsletter

NO 22

Dear Parents, Carers & School Community,

This week has bought the good news, that all pupils will be returning to school on 8th March 2021.
All of the staff, are very excited to see everyone in person again and are working hard, to prepare for this to be done, in the safest possible way.
Please do start logging onto Parent Pay as you normally would do and prepare yourselves too.
Hot dinners will be back and you can order these as you did before, with the deadline being, Tuesday at midnight, for the following week.
And you will also be able to book for the before and after school clubs, from 8am until 4.30pm, with the deadline being Thursday at midnight for the following week.
If you have any questions, about either of these things, please do send me an email in the office.

Warmest Regards,
Mrs Dena Gardner,
School Secretary

ATTENDANCE

Critical Worker and Vulnerable Children in only

Remote Learning for all Children

Follow us on Twitter & Facebook
@stMschStewkley

SCHOOL OFFICE

To report a school absence or for any concerns or enquiries:
Call 01525 240248
Email: office@st-michaels.bucks.sch.uk
Text: 07786208889 (Text Only)

ABSENCES

Please report if your child is absence for any reason before 9.30am
and please confirm on every consecutive day they will be abscent until they return.

Please remember DO NOT send your children into school if they are displaying any of the following symptoms:
New continuous cough and / or high temperature and / or a loss of, change in normal sense of taste or smell.
Please contact the school by text, email or phone for advice if unsure or visit the following website:
https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/symptoms/

Farewell to Mrs Corkett

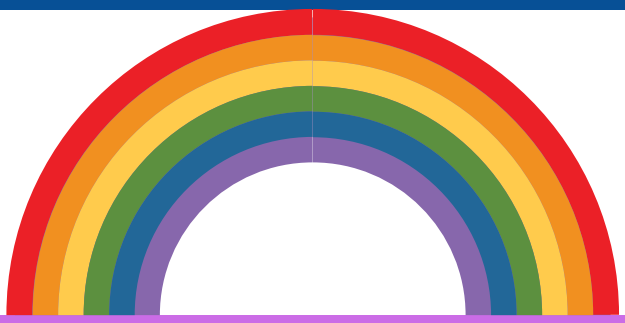
This week we say goodbye to Mrs Corkett, our much loved Teaching Assistant, who, after 19 years of dedicated service to St Michael's, is leaving us for new adventures! Thank you to all of the parents and staff, who have contributed to her leaving gift. We wish her well for the future!

Mrs Flavahan said "After working in the school for nearly 20 years, Mrs Corkett is very much a part of the St Michael's family. Mrs Corkett was a pupil in the village herself, and enjoyed sharing her school day photos, when we studied the history of the village - both Mrs Corkett's daughter's also attended St Michael's. Mrs Corkett joined as a nursery nurse and has since worked throughout the school. In recent years, helping to set up and run the nurture group, in our lovely ark. The children enjoy Mrs Corkett's help, especially on a 1-1 basis. She is very intuitive about how children are thinking and is always ready to sort out their problems. Mrs Corkett has been a very valued T/A, sensible, logical and wise. She always comes up with great ideas, in and out of lessons. I will miss her care of the children, her oganisational skills and her great sense of humour. I feel as if my right has has been chopped off!"

Mrs Quainton said "Working with Mrs Corkett has always been a pleasure. She is a wealth of knowledge and always the person to go to for anything creative."

Mrs Fraser said "Mrs. Corkett has been part of life at St. Michaels for many years. Having worked with various age-groups in that time, her contribution to classroom life has been invaluable. She would rarely (possibly never!) take 'no' for an answer and would get the best out of children 100% of the time. Mrs. Corkett's 'toolkit' is vast. She has an infinite number of ideas for activities, songs and methods of doing things in the most efficient way- useful when moving large quantities of children from place to place! There are sure to be many children, probably in their twenties now, who remember Mrs. Corkett fondly and who have benefited from her firm but fair approach! We will miss your fun and warmth, and your down-to-earth perspective on life, in and beyond the classroom."

Mrs Grant said "Let me take you back to 2006 and the world's first 'virtual' corridor, long before we had even heard of the word lockdown!
Back and forth we trudged, with 21 shivering four-year-olds, from an unfinished, handle-less Portakabin, to the main school through the corridor that hadn't arrived yet. Those were the days!
Being in charge of running the nursery, was a responsibility you took in your stride. I came to appreciate this was no mean feat! When I turned up on my first day, you helped me settle in - so a big thank you for showing me the ropes.
You have always approached your job with patience and understanding, whatever the challenges. Over the years you have continued tirelessly to help and support our children in every way they needed.
You have been an invaluable member of the St Michael's Team and you will be sorely missed. Take care of yourself!"



World Book Day

St Michael's will be promoting World Book day throughout the week, next week. Each teacher will be doing something different with their classes so keep an eye out for lots of fun and lots of book reading!

We had a local resident inform us of this village initiative, I thought you might like to get involved with:

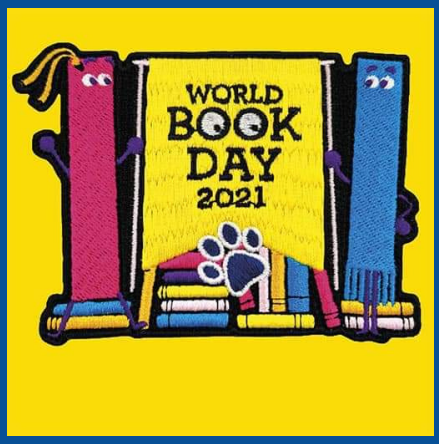
Households in the village are invited to decorate your window on the theme of a favourite book. This could be with pictures, decorations, toys and props and you can choose whether or not to include the book, or to leave it to people to guess which book you're depicting.

The advent windows and pumpkin trail were such a success so hopefully you'll all be keen to be involved once more. It's such a lovely activity for children and adults alike to go round and have a look at the windows around the village.

If you'd like to be involved please email sally_kay@outlook.com

Our Bookshop in Tring, have kindly offered to sponsor the initiative and provide a £10 book voucher coin for the winning window, which we will do a vote for after the windows have been displayed.

We look forward to seeing lots of lovely windows.



A donation to you this time!

We have recently replaced our office printer and wondered if any of our Parents or School Community, have a small business that could benefit from a FREE Printer with Ink Cartridges. It works absolutely fine, but the colour can be a little temperamental, but I'm sure it will do someone a good turn!

If you know of anyone that could use this, please email Mrs Gardner, in the office.

Apps to help children stay safe online

The BBC has a website and app called Own It. The website helps children navigate their online lives, and the free smartphone app comes with a special keyboard which can intervene with help and support in the moments that children need it the most. It can be downloaded for free in the Google Play Store and Apple App Store. SafeToNet is an app for parents to help them protect their children from online risks like cyberbullying and sexting, while respecting their child's rights to privacy.

The SafeToNet Foundation is providing UK families with free-for-life access to SafeToNet during the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak.

YST After-School Club

Please check out the live after-school clubs organised by the Youth Sport Trust.
These take place on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 5pm
https://www.youthsporttrust.org/AfterSchoolSportClub

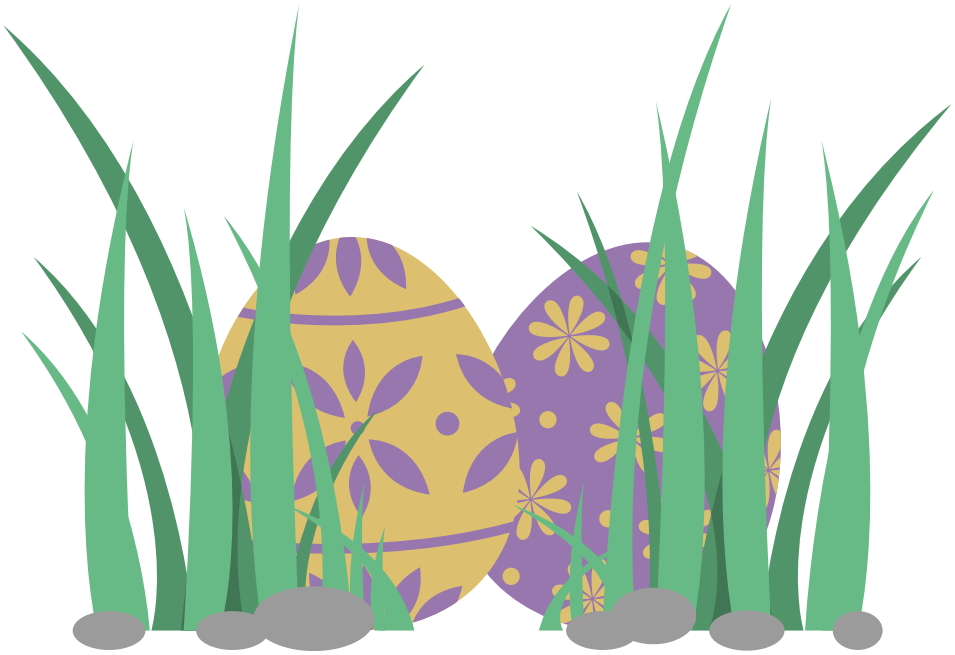
Jumpstart Jonny

Head to the following website
https://www.jumpstartjonny.co.uk/home
For fun and lively routines set to music.

ST MICHAEL'S SPORTS

Supporting families through the power of play
real PE home learning

Well done to Olivia (year 5), Jack (Year 2) and Freddie Year 2) on their fantastic work, with Real PE at home.
They have all really worked hard on the challenges and activities set by the Real PE tasks for to all pupils and have also kept themselves active during the lockdown.
Just a reminder, to all pupil and parents, that PE at Home tasks, have been set for all pupils, across the school, over the last few weeks.
Mrs Munday would love to see more completed challenges sheets/timetables and any photos.

#together

Why not make an Easter garden?
During lent, I like to make an Easter garden with my children, to remind them of the story of lent and the events during Holy Week, that lead up to Jesus' resurrection.
I often use a seed tray for this, but you could use a little patch in your own garden.
During the weeks of lent, I add things to the garden, such as soil, sand, rocks and stones to remind me of the wilderness that Jesus was in.
I might place a small donkey or cut out some palm leaves to remind me of Jesus riding into Jerusalem. I make a small hill and get a large stone to represent the tomb where Jesus lay and stone covering the opening. I might make a lolly stick cross, and a garden path using small shale.
Lastly, I then plant lots of flowers so that on easter day when the stone is rolled away I am reminded of Jesus' resurrection from the tomb and the new life that is around me.
There are many ideas of what you can do online! It doesn't even need to be a living garden, it could be made from playdough or even lego.
Why not have a go and send me your photographs of what you have created, i would love to see them.
Rev. Donna