ST MICHAEL'S C.E. COMBINED SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER NO 24

www.st-michaels.bucks.sch.uk

Thursday 12th March 2020

Dear Parents / Carers,

Message from Mr Morley- Coronavirus

There has been much speculation in the news over the last few days about school closures as a result of coronavirus, especially after today's decision by the Irish Government to close all schools and colleges. Whilst we are not aware of any imminent decision by the UK Government, we need to be prepared for that possible eventuality. When the decision is made, it is quite likely to come suddenly and we would like to suggest to parents that they have plans in place for childcare.

In the event of a school closure, we will continue to communicate with you via email and text. I would like to apologise in advance as this is likely to result in an increase in the number of messages we send to you in the form of updates and information about where work for pupils has been set.

We will also endeavour to come up with a plan for children entitled to a free school meal. We will share these details with the families concerned in the event of a school closure.

SPORT RELIEF TODAY, NON UNIFORM DAY – Thank you for your support – what a fabulous effort from everyone dressed up in sports gear of many kinds!! Lew in Y6 and John in Y3 won the sport prizes for their costumes. Well done everyone! We have raised £172 for Sport Relief.

We sent several sports fixture letters home yesterday with team members. Please try and keep up to date with all the events this term – I am keeping the calendar section on our web site as up to date as I can. Thank you - https://www.st-michaels.bucks.sch.uk/Calendar/

Diary Dates from the Friends Association

Mother's Day Gift Shop – Thursday 19th March from 9.30am. Open to all pupils. Gifts available for pupils to purchase from 50p to £5.

St Michael's Summer Event and Camp Out – Friday 10th and Saturday 11th July – details coming soon- make a note of the dates!

'St Michael's Rock!' – details soon about this new and exciting Easter event for all pupils.

TOMORROW – YEAR 4 CLASS ASSEMBLY 9.10AM. Parents of Year 4 pupils welcome to attend.

TOMORROW – YEAR 4 CAKE SALE after school – donations of cakes welcome

REMINDER - Year 3 and 4 Parents – Times Tables Check Parent Briefing – next Tuesday 17th March 6pm. A brief presentation about the forthcoming statutory testing for Year 4. Year 3 parents are invited along too so they are aware of what standards the government is expecting their children to achieve for next year. No need to book on line, just turn up. Meeting held in Y4 classroom

REMINDER - Parenting Support 'Drop Ins' on a Monday afternoon from 3pm until 3.30pm providing an opportunity to sit down informally, with a cup of tea, with our Nurture Team (Teaching Assistants Mrs Corkett and Mrs Quainton) - and discuss issues at home relating to parenting. Our team are keen to support

parents/carers and provide practical ideas that might help to make family life a little easier. None of our children come with instruction manuals, so the opportunity to talk through the challenges we face can be enormously beneficial.

Visit to School by Author Nicola Skinner for KS2 pupils – yesterday

We welcomed author Nicola Skinner to school yesterday morning. Our KS2 pupils enjoyed listening to her talking about her new book 'Bloom' and asked many questions before she signed copies of her new book. One pupil in Year 4, we have heard this morning, read the book last night as she couldn't put it down!

Mother's Day Breakfast –Saturday 21st March - fundraising for Year 6 Leavers Party in July – now open to all families

This event is in danger of being cancelled can you help? A delicious and beautifully prepared cooked breakfast is available on the morning of Saturday 21st March. This event is open to all families across the school. Get in touch with parent Sam Mardlin. Please email sammardlin@aol.com or message me on 0771 424 9722.

Messy Church this Sunday – see below

We are happy to let you know about a charity event on Sunday 3rd May at Leighton Town Football Club, organised by a family of the school in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support.

Ivy Lane Road Closure

Ivy Lane will be closed to traffic for two days next week – Monday 16th and Tuesday 17th March from 7am to 5pm.

ST MICHAEL'S SCHOOL SPORTS INFORMATION

Boys B Football Matches – home match v Ashmead on 27th February. Report by Charlie and Zach B.

The game started off as a good performance from each team. After the first five minutes we realised it was going to be a tough game. After some time, Jacob made a run down the wing and crossed the ball to Jenson. Jenson had a shot but it hit the crossbar – it was only a few centimetres away from going in. The first half ended 0-0. Then we started to get tired in the second half and after a while their number six ran and hit the ball straight in the goal. The game ended 1-0 to Ashmead. A tough game but great play by Ashmead. Thank you to all the supporters. St Michael's team were Charlie, Jacob, Zach B, Noah, Jenson, Thomas, Jack Bl and Zachary F.

Away match v Turnfurlong 2nd March

Well done to Lew, Jacob, Jack Bl, Jenson, Zachary F, Archie, Zach B and Charlie for a 2-0 win away against Turnfurlong. Scorers were Zachary F and Jacob. "Some great saves from Lew" said Mr Jones on Twitter.

Home match v Weston Turville on 9th March

Well done to Kyle, Zachary F, Charlie, Ethan, Jack Br, Archie, Noah and Thomas for a 3:3 draw at home against Weston Turville. Scorers were Charlie, Archie and Zachary F. Man of the Man was awarded to Zachary F.

Girls Football Match v William Harding Friday 6th March at home – report by Sarah and Emily

It was a cracking game, winning 4-0, with great support from the parents. There was amazing sportsmanship from both teams and we left with a smile on our faces. Anna scored a mind blowing hat-trick and Lottie who finished the game off with a goal in last four minutes! Sarah was awarded Player of the Match for hard work and great enthusiasm.

KS2 Dance Competition – Monday 9th March

Well done to the Year 6 dance group who took part in the KS2 Dance Festival last Monday at Buckingham School. Mrs Croucher was very proud of them and congratulated them on qualifying for the Dance Finals On 21st April. She said on Twitter, "So proud of those who competed in the Bucks Sports Partnership Dance Competition and now on to the finals!." Our usual thanks to the parents who transported the girls - your support is always appreciated.

Years 5/6 Boys Football - Cup match v Brookmead – Thursday 5th March

Despite the muddy pitch, the driving rain and being told we were too late to warm up, the boys made light of the situation during their quarter final match at Brookmead. With some superb attacking, passing and tight defending, the boys gained a fine 5-0 victory thanks to goals from man-of-the-match Stuie, Matthew, Syd and Jacob . Well played to all the team and thanks to the parents who braved the rain to support them.

Year 5/6 swimming festival – Wednesday 11th March

On Wednesday, 14 pupils from Years 5 & 6 participated in the annual swimming gala organised by the Mandeville and Buckingham Schools Sports Partnerships. With some of our children participating in their first swimming races, they were well supported by the more experienced swimmers. All children participated in 3 individual races (Backstroke, Breaststroke & Freestyle) as well as relays. Their times contributed to an overall team score for each team, whether they were taking part in the A or the B event. As we go to press we are waiting on the final results ....well done to all the swimmers who competed with great determination and enthusiasm throughout the event. Special mention to Isabelle, Pacian, Matilda and Matthew who WON all of their races!! Many thanks to Mrs Dyer, Ms Brister, Mrs Thackrah & Mrs Terry who transported and helped to supervise and support the children.

Update today - We are pleased to announce that the A team finished in an amazing 5th place out of the 15 participating schools, which included all of the larger schools. Within the Buckingham Schools Partnership they finished 2nd behind Brill, just missing out on a place in the County Finals.

The B team also finished in a fantastic 5th place out of 10 schools and 4th in the Buckingham Schools Competition.

Cottesloe School Sports Leaders

This half term the Year 4's have enjoyed a weekly visit from Year 10 Sports Leaders from The Cottesloe School. During the sessions, the leaders have had the opportunity to develop their teaching and leadership skills and the children have enjoyed some fun lessons of football, rugby and handball. It has been particularly great to see two ex-pupils, Ben & Jasmine, come back into school to share their footballing skills (see photos) and we look forward to seeing the students again over the following 3 weeks.

#together

Years 5/6 Buckingham Schools Basketball Finals

Tuesday 10th March

Buckingham School was once again the venue for this year's Partnership basketball finals. Playing eight games against other qualifying schools, the team started well winning 3 of their first 4 games including an exciting victory against eventual winners High Ash. The matches got tougher but the players worked well together to score some great baskets and secure some good results. Overall St Michael's finished in an excellent 5th place in a closely-fought competition . Well done to Patrick, Matthew, Max, Sam, Stian, Fin, Baylie, Issy, Poppy , Emily R and Ella and a special mention to Emily H from Year 5 who stepped into the team at the last minute and played brilliantly in a Year 6 dominated competition.

Thank you to the parents who transported the children over to Buckingham and cheered them on from the balcony

Year 5/6 MK Hockey League

Yesterday saw the second week of hockey for members of the after-school club at Woughton-on-the-Green in MK. Ruth , Lew, Sophie and Thomas were playing their first game alongside Sam, Patrick, Lucy, Ava and Jacob in goal. The team played some great attacking hockey to win their first game 1-0, thanks to an excellent strike from Sam . Olney proved tougher opponents but excellent defending from Ruth and Lew thwarted their attacks, resulting in a goalless draw. Well done to all the players and thank you to the parents and grandparents for transporting the children over to Milton Keynes.

A reminder ....please can parents wash and return any football kit/ team shirts ASAP as we have a lot of events and fixtures coming up. Thank you.

Yours sincerely,
Alison Cooper,
School Secretary