ST MICHAEL'S C.E. COMBINED SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER NO 24
www.st-michaels.bucks.sch.uk
Friday 14th March 2025

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

Dear Parents/Carers

I bet not many of you worked with the sound of a live orchestra floating into your workspace this week? We were so lucky to host the New Mozart Orchestra Concert on Wednesday who captivated the children for the afternoon. The music was wonderful and provided such a fabulous opportunity for the children to experience live music in such close proximity. Thank you to Mrs Hann for organising.
It's been another busy week with numerous sporting fixtures. Please see Mr Day's report below.
This Saturday sees the annual District Cross Country event at Ascott House. The first race is at 11.45am. Spectators welcome to cheer on our St Michael's teams. This is a particular favourite of mine – I love the grit and determination on everyone's faces as they take on those hills! Good luck everyone.
Thank you for everyone's patience with the 3-way traffic lights this week. Please may I remind everyone that if you are exiting the school driveway, please turn left and drive round the island rather than immediately turning right.

Wishing you a safe and relaxing weekend.

Best wishes
Mrs Fiona Phimester

DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES:

Sat 15th March – District Cross Country – Ascott House
Thurs 20th March - Foundation & KS1 Movie Night – pls see poster below
Fri 21st March – Year 6 Learning Fayre
Thurs 27th March – Year 4 Cake Sale
Fri 28th March – Foundation Stay & Play 2.45pm
Fri 28th March – Non uniform day for chocolate tombola donation
Tues 1st April – Year 4/5 performance – 2.15pm
Wed 2nd April – Year 4/5 performance – 6pm
Wed 2nd April – Author visit for KS2 – Jacob North's 'Ice Apprentices'
Thur 3rd April – Easter Tombola
Fri 4th April – Easter Church Service – 1.45pm. Parents/Carers welcome, but standing room only.
Fri 4th April – END OF TERM
Tues 22nd April – Start of the Summer Term
Thurs 24th April – Class photos and Year 6 Leavers photos – *amended date*
Thurs 24th April – Year 3 Cake Sale
Wed 30th April – Year 3 Swimming lessons start
Thurs 8th May – Visual Screening – Foundation class
Thurs 22nd May – Grandparents Assembly – Foundation, Year 1 & Year 2 at 2.45pm
Fri 23rd May – INSET DAY
w/c 26th May – Half term break

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Thurs 5th – 6th June – Year 3 Caldecotte residential trip
Wed 11th – Fri 13th June – Year 4 Everdon residential trip
Fri 13th June – Year 2 Class Assembly
Mon 16th – Fri 20th June – Year 6 IOW residential trip
Fri 20th June – Foundation trip to Waddesdon Manor
Fri 20th June – Year 4 Class Assembly
Tues 24th June – KS1 Sports Day
Wed 25th June – KS2 Sport Day
Fri 27th June – Year 1 class picnic – 2.30PM
Tues 1st July – Year 6 Transition Day
Wed 2nd July – Year 6 Transition Day
Fri 4th July – Foundation Class Assembly
Fri 4th July – Colour Run
Tues 8th – Thurs 10th July – Year 5 Hudnall Park residential trip
Thurs 10th July – Year 1 Cake Sale
Fri 11th July – Year 3 Assembly
Fri 11th July – Transition Games – Year 6 at Cottesloe School
Fri 18th July – Year 5 Class Assembly – Hudnall memories
Wed 23rd July – Leavers Assembly 1.50pm
Wed 23rd July – Last day of term

MESSAGE FROM MRS HANN

On Wednesday, St Michael's were delighted to welcome the New Mozart Orchestra from Bucks Music Trust to give a live performance of Peter and the Wolf. The children were enthralled and were a perfect audience! Thank you to all involved on making this happen. If you would like to follow up by listening to the music at home, here's a link: https://youtu.be/fO4aZzS7jn4?si=Kd7KMQXo9owopEV4

The best way to contact me is via the School Office or via the school's email office@st-michaels.bucks.sch.uk marked for my attention. The Learning Mentor email address is no longer active or monitored.

Best wishes as always
Helen Hann
Learning Mentor, DSL and Acting SENCo
My usual working pattern is Monday to Wednesday in school.

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GOLDEN LEARNERS

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

Foundation	**Robyn, Toby, Theodora**
Year 1	**Florence, Grace, Joe**
Year 2	**Charlie, Lily K, Freya**
Year 3	**Theo, Siena, Rebecca**
Year 4	**Bobby, Harrison H, Paige,**
Year 5	**Kaitlyn, Ben, Luisa**
Year 6	**Riley, Freddie, Chloe**

Well done Year 3 for 99% attendance this week! Great work!

BELLRINGERS #together

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ECO COUNCIL – PETS INITIATIVE

'The Eco Council are keen to have pets in school so we have been in touch with Pets as Therapy. As soon as they find us a suitable pet, they will visit the school. If you are interested in becoming a local volunteer, please get in touch with PAT. We look forward to our new visitor!'
https://petsastherapy.org/

https://petsastherapy.org/information/for-volunteers

SPOTLIGHT ON…

Miss Hart! Possibly the person in the school who wears the most hats through out the day.
Miss Hart runs Booster Groups sessions at 8am, is a TA across various different classes, including 1-2-1 support, can be found in the dining hall at lunchtime and then at the end of the day she does a marvellous job of running our After School Club until 5pm.
In which capacity do you know Miss Hart?

1. ***Growing up, did you have any nicknames amongst friends and family... And why did you have that nickname?***
   At Uni my house mates called me Al, because there was a singer with this name, that had curly hair.

2. ***Why did you decide to work at our school?***
   Well Hogwarts were not hiring! So, as I was a struggling artist and I needed another job with a regular income and I saw an advert for a lunchtime supervisor and thought that would be great to work with children.

3. ***What are your hobbies out of school?***
   Art and crafts, back stage roles at Stewkley Players Drama Group and singing with Rock Choir.

4. ***What was your dream job when you were younger?***

I had lots of dreams of lots of jobs, a few were to be a make up artist or a window dresser or an animator for Disney.

5. ***What was your favourite lesson when you were younger?***
   Art, it's just the best and I now love teaching art to.

6. ***Do you have any pets?***
   Not really but my Sister has a dog called Ivy who I love. I would love to have a cat but I'm allergic.

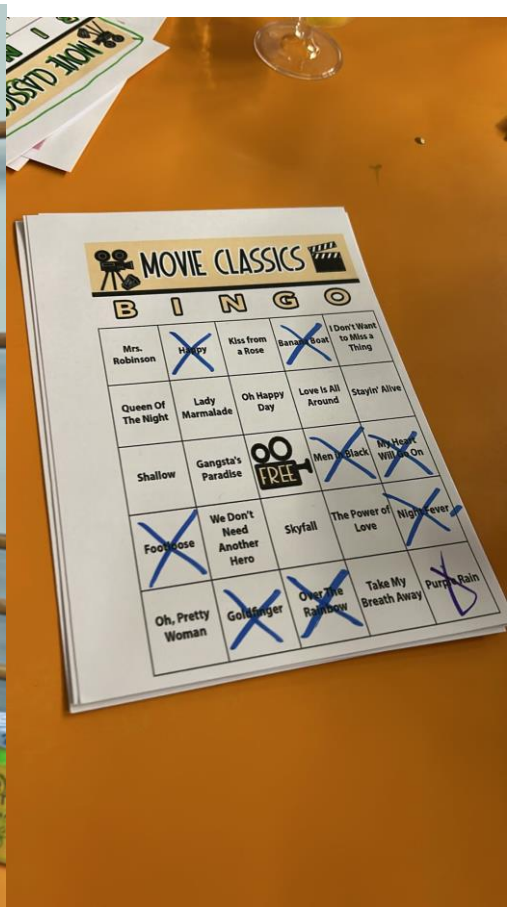
7. ***What is the best thing about St Michael's?***
   All of the lovely people, the staff, the children, everyone it's like one big family.

FOUNDATION – THANK YOU!

Mrs Fraser would like to say a big thank you to all of the parents who kindly donated pots and seeds to Foundation this week. The money raised from sales of chicken and duck eggs have enabled us to buy a lot of compost as well. Look out for quite a display of fruit and veg later in the year!

BOOZY BINGO

Last Friday evening saw our school hall come alive with music, laughter, prosecco, pink frills and patent platform shoes as Friends hosted 'Boozy Bingo'. What a success it was! Thank you to everyone who came along. I believe approximately £500 was raised and there are already pleas for another one! Thank you to Mr Morley, the Bingo Master and to all the Friends for organising such a great event.



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ST MICHAEL'S CELEBRATIONS

This rugby girl was warrior of the month for MK Rugby Under 11's team for 'TREDS' – Teamwork, Respect, Enjoyment, Discipline and Sportsmanship.

MR DAY'S ST MICHAEL'S SPORTING ROUNDUP

St Michael's 3-0 North Marston

St Michael's year 6 boys hosted North Marston last Friday in a league match. Goals from Harry Ba, Zed and Josh gave them a dominant 3-0 win and an important win to keep them in a chance of winning their league. 2 games to go for this hard working team, player of the match was our awesome goalkeeper Riley.
St M's - Josh (capt), Harry Br, Harry Ba, Edward S, Edward T, Riley, Zed, Eddie, Cade, Henry

St Michael's 2-1 Brookmead

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Our year 5 boys came up against a very good Brookmead team on Monday. After beating Overstone their confidence was up and a well worked corner lead to Alfie scoring after half time. Brookmead equalised shortly after and the game looked to be heading to a draw, but with everyone tiring, Liam took the ball on the halfway line, dribbled round 3 players and slotted the ball in to the corner of the goal. This was the last kick of the match and St Michael's had won! Congratulations to Blake and Perry who made their debuts and were excellent.
St M's - Lewis, Beau, Luke, Alfie, Yiannis, Blake, Perry, Liam, Samuel, Sebastian

GIRLS CUP QUARTER FINAL - St Michael's 3-0 Waddesdon

Our incredible girls cup team took on a fired up Waddesdon team in the quarter final of the cup on Tuesday. After a frustrating start with St Michael's on the front foot, they finally took the lead through a great goal by Madi. Two more goals came in the second half from Gracie and Rosie Tu and the girls cruised in to the semi finals. We should know there opponents next week and the girls will go and play this at a neutral school. Amazing performance by Emily who got a ferocious ball kicked in her face but recovered to come back on at the end. She shared player of the match with Rosie Ta.
St M's - Rosie Ta (capt), Emily C, Emily B, Louisa, Olympia, Rosie Tu, Gracie, Madi

Dodgeball tournament

On Monday, 22 of our year 5 and 6 pupils attended a dodgeball tournament at Kingsbrook School. Much fun was had by all as St Michael's split in to 3 teams. Dodgeball is probably the most popular sport in schools at the moment and it was great to compete against the other children that attended. This was called a non competitive event but didn't feel like that out on the court. Our 3 teams finished first, second and third! But more importantly, a massive amount of fun was had by all!

This was our Year 5 girls football team from last week's fixtures.

GETCOACHINGMK
LTA ACCREDITED COACHES
DBS CHECKED
SAFEGUARDING & FIRST AID TRAINED
FULLY INSURED
EASTER 2025 TENNIS CAMP
• Qualified Coaches
• Engaging Sessions
• Encouraging Environment
• Racquets to borrow
• 09.00-12.30 each day
• £25 per day
• £66 for all 3 days
• 10% sibling discount available
Great Linford Tennis Club & Stewkley Tennis Club
REGISTER NOW!
CONTACT US FOR MORE INFORMATION:
GETCOACHINGMK.COM

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PERM
26
04
25
STEWKLEY VILLAGE HALL
7:30PM-11:45PM
RAISING MONEY FOR THE YEAR 6 LEAVERS AND STEWKLEY FC
TICKETS £15
FOR TICKETS CONTACT
DAN-07921 867261
MELISSA-07904 436247

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KS1 MOVIE NIGHT

"Tiddler"

20th March 3:30-4:30pm

Popcorn/Crisps & a drink included

£3 to pay via Parent Pay

The Friends Association of St Michael's School

Non Uniform Day

FRIDAY 28 MARCH

Please bring in a donation of
Easter Eggs or other chocolate for the
Easter Chocolate Tombola

Thank you for your support

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“Are you a parent or carer interested in knowing more about ADHD? Come to our free MIND Morning event this March. To book on scan the QR code on the attached flyer or click this link: https://forms.office.com/e/Sv5XmdrmtR”

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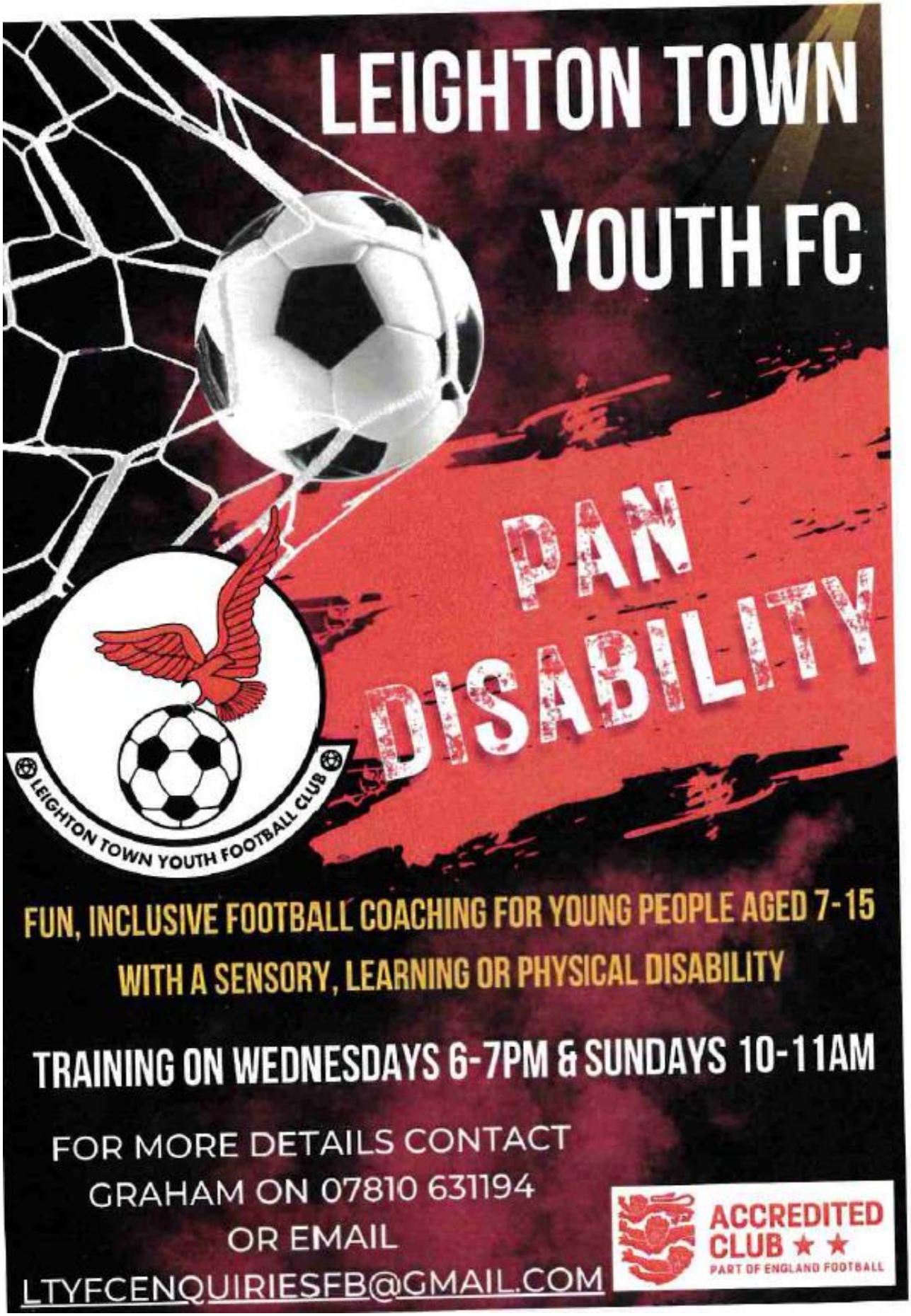
LEIGHTON TOWN
YOUTH FC
PAN
DISABILITY
LEIGHTON TOWN YOUTH FOOTBALL CLUB
FUN, INCLUSIVE FOOTBALL COACHING FOR YOUNG PEOPLE AGED 7-15
WITH A SENSORY, LEARNING OR PHYSICAL DISABILITY
TRAINING ON WEDNESDAYS 6-7PM & SUNDAYS 10-11AM
FOR MORE DETAILS CONTACT
GRAHAM ON 07810 631194
OR EMAIL
LTYFCENQUIRIESFB@GMAIL.COM
ACCREDITED
CLUB ★ ★
PART OF ENGLAND FOOTBALL

CHURCH & CHAPEL
QUIZ
NIGHT
SAT 22
MARCH
7pm, Tables of 6
Adults £10 each
Under 18's £5 each
Includes hot supper,
welcome drink & cake
at the chapel schoolroom
Pleas book by 16/03/25 contact
Lynda on 01525 240337

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

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.