ST MICHAEL'S C.E. COMBINED SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER NO 29
www.st-michaels.bucks.sch.uk
Friday 2nd May 2025

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Dear Parents/Carers

Wow, what a warm week it's been. Get the paddling pools and flip flops at the ready!
With the sunshine appearing, please make sure that the children come to school with suncream applied and a sun hat. There is not a huge amount of shade on the playground so the children need to come prepared for being outside.
We all enjoy a sweet treat, but we do encourage healthy eating at school and therefore please do not put chocolate in packed lunches for school.

Enjoy your Bank Holiday weekend and we will see you back in school on Tuesday 6th May.

Best wishes
Mrs Fiona Phimester

DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES:

Mon 5th May – BANK HOLIDAY
Tues 6th May – Year 4 Everdon meeting, 5.30pm
Thurs 8th May – Visual Screening – Foundation class
Thurs 8th May – VE Day Celebrations
Sun 11th May - Sunday Breakfast at the Rec – details to follow
Mon 12th May – Year 6 SATS week
Wed 21st May -Year 2 Cake Sale
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
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
Thurs 19th June – Foundation Cake Sale
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
Fri 27th June – 'Anything But a School Bag' Day. Details to follow.
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

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Thurs 10th July – Year 1Class Trip to MK Museum
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

Conversation with Carol - Tuesday 20th May 2025
2-15pm refreshments to start session at 2-30pm
This is an invitation for Year 4, 5 and 6 parents/ carers to join me as I interview the lovely, local legend Carol Nash. I'll be asking Carol to share with you some of the ways she successfully navigated some of the challenges (and highlights) of supporting a child through their final years of primary school and into secondary school. This session is particularly relevant if your child has experienced any significant changes at home.

Please let Mrs. Phimester and I know via email or text if you will be attending.

Refreshments will be provided, including gluten free options.

I look forward to welcoming you to this session.

Best wishes as always

Helen Hann
Learning Mentor, Music Lead and DSL
My usual working pattern is Monday to Wednesday in school.

SPOTLIGHT ON…

After a little break, this week sees the return of our 'Spolight On…' article and I'm delighted to introduce Mrs Toland who recently joined us again following her maternity leave. Mrs Toland is a class teacher as well as our SENCo.

1. **If you had one place in the world that you could go to, where would you choose and why?**
   New Zealand to visit Hobbiton from the Lord of the Ring films.

2. **What is your favourite sport?**
   Netball

3. **What is your dream car?**
   An old school Cadillac convertible you see in the old American movies.

4. **Which year groups have you taught before?**
   I've taught every year group from Foundation to Year 6.

5. **How old is your baby?**
   She just turned one on the 22nd April

6. **If you could describe yourself in three words, what would they be?**
   Kind, hard-working & sociable

7. **Sweet or savoury?**
   Sweet

GOLDEN LEARNERS

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

Foundation	**Edward, Lily-Rae, Phoebe**
Year 1	**Lillie, Ellie, George**
Year 2	**Joshua, Lilia, Elizabeth**
Year 3	**Jacob, Reggie, Tayler**
Year 4	**Leo, Siena, Grae**
Year 5	**Deany-Lee, Sophia, Beau**
Year 6	**Riley, Cade, Ted**

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MR DAY'S ST MICHAEL'S SPORTING ROUNDUP

Our last game of the league season (girls cup semi final next week), ended with a dominant victory for High Ash. This was for one of our year 6 boys teams and was the last of 25 league games that our year 5 and 6 children have played this season.
At St Michael's this year 51 of our year 5 and 6's have played football for our school out of a possible 64, something we are very proud of. Most Primary Schools have one boys team and one girls team and pick 8 of their best players to represent their school. I am immensely proud that we have been able to put out 5 teams in to the league and had a lot of fun during the season.
Player of the match for this game was Harry Ba who did not stop running.
I will be doing a more in depth look at our football achievements in the next few weeks, as we are expecting the arrival of a few trophies.

St M's - Josh (capt), Riley, Benjamin, Harry Br, Harry Ba, Eddie, Henry, Edward T, Edward S, Cade

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Parents can you help with the Colour Run?

The Friends of St Michael's School are organising a Colour Run on Friday 4th July and are looking for businesses to sponsor the event either with a monetary donation or by supplying some of the equipment needed.

In return for sponsorship we will promote your company at our event, in our newsletter and on our social media page.

If you work for or own a company that can help with sponsorship or work for a company that offer match funding and are able to volunteer to help at the event please speak to a member of the Friends Committee or the School Office.

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Charity Number: 1049311

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St.Michael's School
Stewkley

COLOUR RUN

FRIDAY 4 JULY

2-4pm | School Field

Bar & Rainbow Raffle

Raising Funds for Friends of St Michael's School

Race Pack provided (£5 voluntary contribution)

More information to follow

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KRIS PRATT MEMORIAL TOURNAMEMT
A fun tournament in memory of one of our longest serving members, Kris Pratt.
Mixed event and all abilities welcomed!
OPEN TO MEMBERS AND NON-MEMBERS
SUNDAY 18TH MAY 10-2PM
Dm to sign up or email
jeremy.gibbs@hotmail.co.uk

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Don’t forget to secure your tickets for the Chanteuses concert at St Michaels on 17th May, please go to www.chanteuses.co.uk to book tickets

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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.