ST MICHAEL'S C.E. COMBINED SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER NO 32
www.st-michaels.bucks.sch.uk
Thursday 22nd May 2025

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Dear Parents/Carers

And just like that, another half term has passed. I'm sure you are all looking forward to the half term break and I'm really hoping the favourable weather stays with us for plenty of outdoor fun.

The second half of our Summer term is always packed with residentials and sporting activities with a sprinkling of emotion as our Year 6s enjoy their last few weeks at St Michael's. There's so much for them to look forward to before they embark on their secondary school adventure.

There has recently been an increase in the amount juice/squash in water bottles. Please ensure that your child/children only bring in water in their sports bottles.

Tomorrow is an Inset day so please do not come into school. Have a wonderful break and we will see you all back in school on Monday 2nd June.

Best wishes
Mrs Fiona Phimester

DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES:

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
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 2 Class Assembly – ***amended date***
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
Thurs 10th July – Year 1Class Trip to MK Museum
Thurs 10th July – Year 1 Cake Sale
Fri 11th July – Year 3 Assembly

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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

Thank you very much to those who came along to Tuesday's "Chat with Carol". It was an incredibly powerful session that everyone who attended said was of immense benefit. Special thanks to Carol Nash for being so supportive, clear and kind in what she shared. It was thought-provoking and humbling to say the least.
We look forward to developing this way of connecting further and to the next session.

Best wishes as always

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

SPOTLIGHT ON…

Mrs Davey can be found in Year 5 and bring great artistic flair to St Michael's. She was involved in the design of our current Year 6 hoodies which the class proudly wear every day.

1. **If you had one dream holiday location, where would it be?**

   As my dream holiday location, I would love to visit a historic city in Italy, such as Venice, Florence or Rome.
2. **What is the piece of art work that you are most proud of creating?**
   I did some illustrations for Cinderella, which are among my favourites in my portfolio. I especially enjoyed drawing the ugly sisters! Of course, I was also very proud to help design this year's Year 6 hoodies. I love seeing them being worn around the school.

3. **What is your favourite type of crystal and why?**
   My favourite type of crystal is an Amethyst because they look very mystical and I love the colour purple.

3. **Do you support any sports teams?**
   I'm afraid I don't really support any sports teams, but my favourite would be Red Bull Racing and Formula 1. My son, Callum, is a big fan of Max Verstappen.

4. **Who is your favourite artist and why?**
   My favourite artists are the Pre-Raphaelites as I love the intricate, historical detail in their paintings. Also, Hans Holbein as I love all things Tudor.

5. **At University your tutor was the famous author and illustrator Raymond Briggs... What was he like and what did you learn from him?**

   It was a privilege to have Raymond Briggs as my tutor. He was really inspiring and encouraging, funny, honest and down to earth. His advice was to "just get on and do it" and to keep filling sketch books. I now have quite a few!

GOLDEN LEARNERS

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

Foundation	**Ted, Thomas, Robyn**
Year 1	**Dilly, Aubrey, Aryan**
Year 2	**Bradley, Antonio, Betsy**
Year 3	**Rocco, Vidya, Yasmina**
Year 4	**Cecily, Niamh, Aleksander**
Year 5	**Bethany, Liam, Edith**
Year 6	**Zed, Azaria, Noah**

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ST MICHAEL'S CELEBRATIONS

These friends from Year 5 competed in a MK football championship tournament last weekend as part of their Tattenhoe Reds team. They very proudly walked away with the tournament plate after winning the finals. What a great achievement! Well done boys!

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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We have been fortunate to receive a 50% discount for the above music festival that is in Milton Keynes in June. Please feel free to use the below link and password to secure your tickets.

Here is the 50% offer link to share:
https://shop.axs.co.uk/QfhxBwAAAACOTn8%2bAQAAAABR%2fv%2f%2f%2fwD%2f%2f%2f%2f%2fDWFlZ3ByZXNlbnRzdWsA%2f%2f%2f%2f%2f%2f%2f%2f%2f%2f8%3d
Password: 50FOREVER

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NO SCHOOL BAG DAY!

27 JUNE

Bring your school things in ANYTHING but a school bag

PLEASE BRING IN A DONATION IN THE COLOUR OF YOUR YEAR GROUP TO PARTICIPATE

ALL DONATIONS FOR THE COLOUR RUN RAINBOW RAFFLE ON 4 JULY!

Your colour donation can be absolutely anything in that colour
e.g. sweets, candles, drinks, stationery, toys, hair accessories, toiletries, crafts, books etc

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GIVE RUGBY A TRY

MILTON KEYNES R.U.F.C.

PRIDE. PASSION. RESPECT

Experience the excitement of playing rugby in a friendly and supportive environment.

Great for beginners, starting from the age of 5 - 16! Boys & girls. No experience necessary.

29TH JUNE
10 - 12 P.M.

- Learn new skills
- Meet new friends
- Fun activities
- A *new love* for rugby!

BBQ & REFRESHMENTS

MILTON KEYNES RUFC
The Valley, Bowland Dr,
Emerson Valley, Milton Keynes MK4 2DN

OUR CITY.YOUR CLUB

FREE
TO ATTEND

More Information
enquiries@mkrufc.com

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BMT
Love Bucks, Love Music
BUCKS CHILDREN'S CHOIR
29TH MAY 9:30-12:30
THE BUCKINGHAM SCHOOL
OPEN TO ANYONE FROM YEAR 4 TO 8
NO PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE REQUIRED
PERFORMANCE AT THE END OF THE DAY
SIGN UP HERE
HTTPS://TINYURL.COM/YC5MRKVX
FOR MORE INFORMATION EMAIL AYLMUSIC@BUCKSMUSIC.ORG

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WYCOMBE MUSEUM

Half Term Events

Tue 27th & Wed 28th May

Discover & Make: Hydro Power!

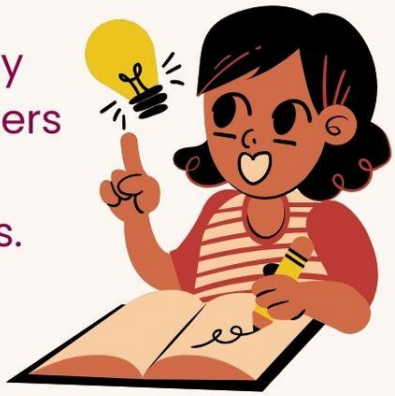
Create a spinning water wheel, and make a splash as you test it! Learn how local industry was powered through water mills along the River Wye.
For children aged 4 - 11.
Pre-book. £4.75 per child.

Fri 30th May

FREE Creative Writing with Arka Learning

ARKA LEARNING

Dive into creative writing inspired by Roald Dahl's unforgettable characters and magical storytelling.
For ages 6 - 11. Pre book. Free tickets.
Led by Wycombe based tuition provider **Arka Learning**.



Book at wycombemuseum.org.uk

01494 957210 info@wycombemuseum.org www.wycombemuseum.org.uk

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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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ST MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS'

PLANT & CAKE SALE

BRING & BUY PLANTS CAKE AND REFRESHEMENTS TOO!

SATURDAY 7 JUNE

10.30 AM-2.30 PM

AT ST MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS CHURCH STEWKLEY

DONATIONS OF PLANTS ON THE DAY ALSO GRATEFULLY RECEIVED

CASH OR CARD

IN AID OF THE CHURCH FABRIC FUND

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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.

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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