St Michael's C of E School Newsletter

NO 3

Dear Parents, Carers & School Community,

Welcome to your "new look" weekly newsletter. I hope you like it.

My first few weeks have been very busy. Mrs Cooper spent time the first two weeks showing me the ropes - Thank you Mrs Cooper! She is now enjoying a well earned break away for a few weeks. And you will have noticed I'm in the office solo now! It has been so lovely to meet so many of you parents already and I'm overwhelmed at what a fabulous little community you have here at St Michael's. Everyone has been so warm and welcoming, I really do appreciate this. Thank you all.

Warmest Regards,
Mrs Dena Gardner,
School Secretary

ATTENDANCE

We are really pleased with our current attendance rate of around 97%, this is very close to normal. 99.5% of our children have returned to school since reopening in June following lockdown.

We have had no reports of any of our staff or pupils testing positive for Covid-19.

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

HOT DINNERS

Always place your order before midnight on a Tuesday, for the following week. If you need to cancel a hot dinner due to child absence, please try on Parent Pay first, otherwise call Chartwells on 01908 615705

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/

Also please see the quick guide for parents at the end of this newsletter

CURRICULUM NEWSLETTERS
These will be with you on Monday. Sorry for the delay whilst these are given a revamp.

NAMES IN UNIFORMS
We already have a number of un-named items in lost property. Please remember to label all of your childs belongings clearly.

WATER BOTTLES
Please can children bring only PLASTIC water bottles, with a sports lid, to school, with water in only. (No metal containers with screw tops)

YEAR 6 CHILDREN
Moving up to secondary school - Buckinghamshire parents can apply online from 8 September 2020.
Apply for your child's school place online at buckinghamshire.gov.uk
Application deadline - Midnight on 31 October 2020

BLUEBELLS AFTER-SCHOOL CLUB
We continue to be in contact with Emma from Bluebells about the reopening our After-School Club. Sadly, we are not in a position to bring you any news on when this might happen, but please be assured that we will continue to look for solutions.

HOODIES
Hoodies can **ONLY** be worn by Year 6 pupils.
These are the official Leaver's Hoodies, which will be available to our Year 6's in early November. Hoodies should not be worn as part of school uniform and are unavailable from our uniform shop. Several years ago, blue hoodies were part of PE kit for a short period of time, but were discontinued. Only cardigans and sweatshirt should be worn. These are available from: https://kedaphschoolwear.co.uk/product-category/find-your-school/st-michael-s-c-e-combined-school/. We do have a range of recycled uniform available to our parents, which is available by contacting the school office.

WALNUT TREE
In the last few days, we have discovered that we have a walnut tree growing in the grounds of the school. It would appear that this is the first time that the tree has reached maturity and produced nuts. We have been in contact with our two parents who have children with an allergy to walnuts, as well as the charity Anaphylaxis UK, who have provided some clinical advice. They have told us that there is limited risk from the tree or the nut whilst in its casing. Tomorrow we will take delivery of a telescopic tree pruner. Are there any parents who are free to harvest the walnuts? Please let us know if you can help. You are more than welcome to take the walnuts away with you!

Secret Garden
Thank you so much, to Mrs Lee, Mr Wessels and Mr Frampton, for their help in our Secret Garden. A little bit of creative fencing and it doubled in size!

MONDAY
Year 5 Netball
Year 3 Multi Skills

TUESDAY
Year 4 Multi Skills

WEDNESDAY
Year 2 Multi Sports
Year 6 Girls Football

THURSDAY
Year 6 Boys Football
Thursday Year 5 Hockey

FRIDAY
Year 6 Dodge-ball

All parents will be expected to be at the external gate on the car park at the club finish time and will not be allowed to access the field or playgrounds. Please follow social distancing rules as always.

KS1 PE DAYS
Year 1 - Wedneday
Year 2 Tuesday

KS2 PE DAYS
Year 3 - Tuesday
Year 4 - Wednesday
Year 5 - Thursday
Year 6 - Monday

ST MICHAEL'S SPORTS

Exciting News! Clubs are restarting!

Emails were sent out this week to Year Groups 2, 3, 4, 5, 6.

Over the next 2-3 weeks we are pleased to say that we will be re-starting some after-school clubs. These are available to all children regardless of experience or ability with the emphasis on acquiring new skills, increasing fitness levels and having fun!

As we cannot combine year-groups at present, these will be for individual classes. After speaking to children in school we are confident that we will have enough pupils who would like to take part, so please talk to your child about them as soon as possible.

Most clubs are free and open to any number of pupils but some, run by external coaches, have a nominal fee and restricted numbers. We plan to review the clubs at half -term and over the following months with the aim of providing as many different opportunities to all pupils throughout the school. For example, after Christmas, Sports Fever will become a Year 1 session and other sports will change year-groups. Parkour will also restart in November.

If your child would like to attend a club please email/text the school as soon as possible. We will then expect your child at every session unless we hear from you or they are absent that day. Please don't hesitate to contact Mrs Munday or the school office should you have any queries.

Many of our St Michaels pupils take part in the regular hockey sessions provided by Leighton Buzzard Hockey Club, at their home pitch at Vandyke School. More players are always welcome and the attached flier highlights when the sessions take place on Sunday mornings, in a COVID safe way. Do come along and have a go! All you need are shin pads and a gum shield.

Love - Hope - Respect - Forgive

#together
BELL AWARD WINNERS:

Well done all of you, for being St Michael's Superstars!

GOLDEN LEARNERS

YEAR 3
Teagan Goss
Joshua McCabe
Harry Short

YEAR 4
Robbie Dunn
Zaynab Rabiq-Hussain
Lottie Dunn

YEAR 5
Jonah Scott
Ruby Dancer
Jemima Dyer
Blu Pusey

YEAR 6
Kyle Pearson
Matilda Hall
Pacian Kirchin

Well done to you all,
keep up the good work!

#together

Two are better than one...
If either of them falls down,
one can help the other up.
Ecclesiastes 4:9-10

"God was helping us during lockdown: he just knows what to do and tells our brain" Quoted by a Year 2 Pupil

Reminder:
Thankful Harvest
19th/20th September

We can't wait to see all of the wonderful decorations!

For more details or to enter the competition or download the map please visit http://www.stewkley.org/thankfulharvest -

"Join our Facebook group: @friends&parentsofstmichaelsschool stewkley

Be part of the school community and help raise funds for different school projects and supplies.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS
Chairs: Hannah Pierce
Treasurer: Alex Towse
Secretary: Laura Lee
Publicist: TBC
Teacher Representative: Mrs Clarke
Other members: TBC After AGM

NEXT BAG2SCHOOL DATE
20th November 2020
more info coming soon!

Amazon Fund Raising Initiative
Every time you order something from Amazon, they will give 0.5% of the price to a charity of your choice. And the friends of St Michael's, Stewley is one of those charities you can choose. Thank you for your support!
https://smile.amazon.co.uk/ch/1049311-0

The Friends Association

FRIENDS AGM – THURSDAY 24TH SEPTEMBER

After we'd released the date of the meeting last week , the rules have now changed regarding meeting socially so the AGM will now be held via Zoom on Thursday 24th September at 7pm. If you would like to attend the AGM , please email smsfriendsassociation@gmail.com with your details so you can be added onto the zoom meeting. The meeting agenda will be sent out to you in advance, once you confirm your participation.Should you have any questions or issues to raise at the AGM but can't attend via Zoom, or want to ask something but don't want to be part of the AGM, (we know it's not everyone's cup of tea), please email using the friends email address, prior to the meeting, for you question to be raised..

Wishing you all a safe and healthy week ahead !

From all the Friends Association

Portaloo Fun this week
Four very fabulous parents have volunteered to help keep our Year 3 loos sanitised during the day:
Mrs Boonstra, Mrs Casey,
Mrs Pierce & Mrs Conza
HUGE THANK YOU LADIES!

EASYFUNDRAISING – FUNDRAISING THE EASY WAY !

You can help raise funds for the school without having to donate money yourself or spending time doing things like baking cakes for sales. Over 4,000 retailers will donate to us for free, every time you use easyfundraising to shop with them.This means you can support us at no extra cost to yourself, when you do your everyday shopping. Whether you're buying school supplies, clothes, groceries, takeaways, insurance, or anything else! Just find the retailer you want to shop with on the easyfundraising website or App, shop as usual and you'll raise a donation for us when you make a purchase. Joining is easy and completely FREE.

Just visit: https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/stmichaelsstewkley/?utm_campaign=raise-more&utm_content=en-e6

A polite reminder to purchase a balloon for the virtual balloon race by Monday 21st Septemeber. £3 a balloon. Please send cash donations to the office or pay via our PayPal link: https://paypal.me/pools/c/8spIpXHPYs

The St Michael's School Lottery has been set up specifically to raise money and make a difference for our children. It is a fantastic way to bring Parents, Carers, Teachers and the wider community together, in partnership with our school and at the same time, give something back. We hope to raise funds that can support and enrich the education of our children - we aim to provide extra resources and improve the school environment as well as run extracurricular activities such as music, art and sport. Unlike many other lotteries, our lottery tickets are only £1 per week, that's right, just a £1, with a draw every Saturday night. If it's your lucky day and you match all 6 numbers, you win the JACKPOT which is £25,000! St Michael's receives 40% of all ticket sales from supporters that sign up so please visit Your School Lottery online and search for St Michael's School. https://www.yourschoollottery.co.uk/lottery/school/st-michaels-school

COVID-19 (Coronavirus)
A quick guide for parents/carers

What to do if...	Action needed	Back to school...
...my child has COVID-19 (coronavirus) symptoms*	• Child shouldn't attend school • Child should get a test • Whole household self-isolates while waiting for test results • Inform school immediately about test results	**...if a child's test comes back negative and symptom free for 48 hours. The child should not be tested again unless they develop new symptoms*** **If the test result if positive, then see below.**
...my child tests positive for COVID-19 (coronavirus)	• Child should not attend school • Child self-isolates for at least 10 days from when symptoms* started (or from day of test if no symptoms) • Inform school immediately about test results • Whole household self-isolates for 14 days from day when symptoms* started (or from day of test if no symptoms) - even if someone tests negative during those 14 days • Other household members should not get tested unless they develop symptoms because even if they tested negative, they must still isolate for 14 days	**...after 10 days has passed so long as the child is feeling better and has been without a fever for at least 48 hours.** **They can return to school after 10 days even if they still have a cough or loss of smell/taste. These symptoms can last for several weeks once the infection is gone.**
...somebody in my household has COVID-19 (coronavirus) symptoms*	• Child shouldn't attend school • Household member with symptoms should get a test • Whole household self-isolates while waiting for test result • Inform school immediately about test results	**...if the household member test is negative, and the child does not have COVID-19 symptoms***
...somebody in my household has tested positive for COVID-19 (coronavirus)	• Child shouldn't attend school • Whole household self-isolates for 14 days from day when symptoms* started (or from day of test if no symptoms) - even if someone tests negative during those 14 days • No need for the child to get tested unless they develop symptoms	**...when child has completed 14 days of self-isolation, even if they tested negative during the 14 days**

 ...NHS Test and Trace has identified my child as a 'close contact' of somebody with symptoms* or confirmed COVID-19 (coronavirus)	▪ Child shouldn't attend school ▪ Child self-isolates for 14 days (as advised by NHS Test and Trace) - even if they tested negative during those 14 days ▪ Rest of household does not need to self-isolate, unless they are a 'close contact' too	**...when the child has completed 14 days of self-isolation, even if they tested negative during those 14 days**
 ...we/my child has travelled and has to self-isolate as part of a period of quarantine	▪ Do not take unauthorised leave in term time ▪ Consider quarantine requirements and FCO advise when booking travel ▪ Provide information to school as per attendance policy **Returning from a destination where quarantine is needed:** ▪ Child shouldn't attend school ▪ Whole household self-isolates for 14 days – even if they test negative during those 14 days	**...when the quarantine period of 14 days has been completed for the child, even if they test negative during those 14 days**
 ...we have received advice from a medical/official source that my child must resume shielding	▪ Child shouldn't attend school ▪ Contact school as advised by attendance officer/pastoral team ▪ Child should shield until you are informed that their restrictions are lifted, and shielding is paused again	**...when school/other agencies inform you that restrictions have been lifted and your child can return to school again**
 ...I am not sure who should get a test for COVID-19 (coronavirus)	▪ Only people with symptoms* need to get a test ▪ People without symptoms are not advised to get a test, even if they are a 'close contact' of someone who tested positive	**...when conditions above as matching your situation, are met**

*Symptoms include a high temperature, a new continuous cough and loss or change to your sense of smell or taste. See more at **www.nhs.uk/coronavirus**

For further information: **gmhscp.contracttracing@nhs.net**
www.gov.uk/backtoschool

New Government Guidance:
Only six people from multiple households can now meet up for social gathering, both indoors and outdoors. For more information please visit:
www.gov.uk/coronavirus

Buckinghamshire Council

Stay safe, protect Bucks