ST MICHAEL'S C.E. COMBINED SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER NO 4
www.st-michaels.bucks.sch.uk
Friday 29th September 2023

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Dear Parents/Carers

What a lovely sunny end to another busy week at St Michael's.
Today was a lovely community event with our Macmillan Coffee Morning. Our visitors spanned all generations and the turnout was amazing! A huge thank you to everyone who helped out, baked a cake, ate a cake and came along to enjoy a coffee and chat. Your fabulous efforts have raised £1200 for Macmillan which I'm absolutely delighted with. Thank you!
The Friends are hosting the Magic Show this evening – it's certainly a great Friday to end the week!
Next week we have school photographs on Monday morning followed by our Harvest Festival in the afternoon. Parents and carers are welcome to join us at the Methodist Chapel at 2pm.

Wishing you a lovely weekend as always.
Mrs Fiona Phimester

DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES:

Fri 29th Sept – Macmillan Coffee Morning & Wear It Green Day
Fri 29th Sept – Friends Magic Show
Mon 2nd Oct – Individual & sibling school photos
Mon 2nd Oct – Harvest Festival 2pm
Wed 4th Oct – Online Safety Training for Parents – details emailed on 28th Sept
Thurs 5th Oct – Year 5 Cake Sale
Thur 12th Oct – 2.30pm Secret Garden Visit for Year 1 parents
Thur 12th Oct – Flu Vaccination Clinic
Wed 18th Oct – Parents Evening
Thurs 19th Oct – Parents Evening
Fri 20th Oct – INSET Day
Thur 2nd Nov – Year 4 Cake Sale
Fri 10th Nov – 9am Year 5 Class Assembly
Mon 13th Nov – Robin Hood Day
Fri 17th Nov – Y6 Class Assembly
Fri 24th Nov – 9am Year 3 Class Assembly
Fri 1st Dec – 9am Christingle Service
Wed 13th Dec – Christmas lunch & Christmas Jumper Day

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, a text will be sent to 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 **Tuesday at midnight, 2 weeks 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.

HARVEST DONATIONS

Thank you to everyone who has brought in non-perishable food donations. We are still collecting for the foodbank from now on until Harvest Festival on 2nd October. Please feel free to drop off items to the classrooms or to the office. Many thanks in advance for your continued support and generosity.

HARVEST FESTIVAL

Parents, grandparents and carers are welcome to join us for our Harvest service at the Methodist Church at 2pm on Monday 2nd October.
Please note that it may be standing room only as it is a whole school event.

St Michael's C of E School Home Learning Schedule 2023-2024

	Reading	Spelling / Phonics	Homework can be any subject	Times Tables / Mental Maths / TTRS / Mathletics /Maths Seeds
Foundation	Every day with parents	Information on how to support your child at home can be found here	Weekly Topic based task after first half term Out Wednesday Back Monday	Maths Seeds
Year 1	4x Weekly at home Weekly at school	Information on how to support your child at home can be found here	1 piece Up to 15 mins Out Wed in Mon (Put in Learning Logs)	Purple Mash Maths Seeds
Year 2	3x Weekly at Home	Goes out Friday Test on following Friday After Christmas	1 piece Up to 15 mins out Wed in Mon (Put in Learning Logs)	Mathletics x 3 weekly
Year 3	Signed 3 times a week	Goes out start each Half Term Test on Thursday	1 piece Up to 1/2 hour Out Thursday In Tuesday	At least 3 times a week
Year 4	Signed 3 times a week	Goes out start each half term Test on Thursday	1 piece Up to 1 hour Out Thursday Back Tuesday	At least 3 times a week
Year 5	3 times a week	Goes out Monday Test on Monday	1 piece Up to 1 hour Out Weds- Back Mon	At least 3 times a week
Year 6	3 times a week	Goes out Wednesday Test on Monday	1 piece Up to 1 ½ hours Out Weds- Back Mon	At least 3 times a week

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Chess news from Mr McClellan September 2023

I am delighted that once again we have an eager group of children taking part in the "Introduction to Chess" course, which is suitable for both complete beginners and those who know a little about the game.
The learning and playing of chess helps to develop cognitive ability, attention span, problem solving skills and numerous other educational and social benefits.
Next term these children will be joined by children from within the school who have formerly taken the "Introduction to Chess" course and will be able to play against more experienced players, the best way to learn.
The combined group will be entered for the Delancey U.K. Chess Challenge, which provides the opportunity to play children from other schools in a National competition.

B. McClellan
English Chess Federation coach

PE Days at St Michael's C of E School 2023-2024

	Outdoor kit Navy jogger Navy Sweatshirt Trainers Or Plimsolls	**Indoor Kit** White T-shirt Royal Blue T-shirt Trainers/Plimsolls in good weather
Foundation	Friday Start date TBC by Mrs Fraser	Friday Start date TBC by Mrs Fraser
Year 1	Tuesday	Monday
Year 2	Tuesday	Friday
Year 3	Wednesday	Friday
Year 4	Wednesday	Friday
Year 5	Thursday	Tuesday
Year 6	Thursday	Monday

Information on compulsory PE Kits can be found HERE

Look out for Swimming Date Info From Classteachers

MRS HANN – LEARNING MENTOR

As we move into more autumnal weather, I hope that you and yours are enjoying the benefits of noting the changes the season brings in nature and enjoying stomping through leaves. There's lots of research out about the benefits of time outdoors, even for a short while.

In assemblies, we have been listening to one of the movements from Vivaldi's Four Seasons- enjoy!
https://youtu.be/Q8AN0jWNrJA?si=Dd4OCQO-fk5cZWfz

Coffee and a Chat on Monday after drop off. All welcome to this relaxed, informal session and a chance to make new connections.

Best wishes
H Hann, Learning Mentor, Music Subject Leader and DSL
@MrsHannStMSch on X/Twitter

GOLDEN LEARNERS

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

Year 1	**Marni, Bradley, Stevie**
Year 2	**Albie, Siena, Max**
Year 3	**Grae, Bear, Paige**
Year 4	**Oliver, Beau, Edie**
Year 5	**Joshua, Scarlett, Eddie**
Year 6	**Jack, Peggy, Aviya**

We had some over enthusiastic bell ringers this week and our Together bell needs a little bit of tender loving care. If any of our parents are able to do a bit of welding, please contact Mrs Phimester in the office. Many thanks in advance.

#together bell ringers this week – Well done!!

#together

St Michael's Celebrations

On Sunday, this little superstat (Y3) took part in the East Anglia School's Orienteering Championships and won his age category! He only really began orienteering earlier this year but has already completed in his first major competition up in Scotland this summer, won a trophy at his club championships and is getting faster every time he runs. Orienteering has been great for his confidence and as well as learning how to read a map he has met lots of lovely people, old and young, including a real life paleontologist!

#together

ATTENDANCE AWARD

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Year 3! Well done! 98% attendance from your class this week! Fantastic!

FRIENDS ASSOCIATION

***** Friends AGM – this will be in the Carpenter's Arms, Stewkley at 8pm on 18th October. All welcome. *****

FRIENDS ASSOCIATION
Join our Facebook Page - @friends&parentsofstmichaelsschoolstewkley

#together

In partnership with Knowsley CLCs, all parent/carers are invited to an:

Online Safety Information Session

This session is delivered virtually so can be watched from anywhere!
We will share the link with you privately.

Current trends – what children are doing online and what apps/games are popular amongst children.

Understanding the Risks – a look at the risks associated with using technology, in particular when using social media, online gaming & live streaming.

What can you do? – suggestions on how you can support your child with their online lives and what parental controls are available to help you.

Further Support – signposting to services that are available to help you.

WEDNESDAY 4TH OCTOBER 2023

4PM – 4.45PM

Knowsley City Learning Centres

#together

MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING & WEAR IT GREEN DAY

WOW!!! What a morning! Thank you so much to everyone who came along to support our Macmillan Coffee Morning. It was such a lovely buzz around the school and the children looked fantastic in the green clothes. You have all put an incredible £1200 into the Macmillan pot today. Thank you so much for your generosity and support.

#together

MESSAGE FROM THE CHURCH

Jesus said "I am the bread of life". That was the theme for this week's Tuesday assembly and to help us think about that, I'd covered a large circular cushion in brown paper. Fortunately, the pupils guessed quite quickly that it was meant to be a loaf of bread. It was meant to look like the large circular loaves baked daily in bible times. I did say I'd had to present the visual aid as I did because I couldn't buy a loaf of bread big enough in any of today's shops.
We talked about why they baked such large loaves and the fact that they baked several each day. The reason? Because they ate from a communal dish without cutlery so you broke off a piece of bread, dipped it into the dish, scooped up some sauce and meat and then put the whole lot into your mouth. The next mouthful needed more bread. Hence, large loaves were needed and there was always extra in case of unexpected visitors.
Bread was basic to their lives so Jesus, scouting round for everyday visual aids as he did, makes the connection between the bread and Himself. Christ offers a solid basis for our lives.

With every blessing,
Rev'd Howard Robson.
(there's Messy Church at St. Michael's Stewkley, 10am every second Sunday).

#together

LOST PROPERTY

Do you recognise this top? Please come and collect from the office if it belongs to you.

ST MICHAEL'S SCHOOL SPORTS INFORMATION

SPORTING NEWS

Watch this space as Mr Day fills it up with exciting sporting fixtures!

#together