ST MICHAEL'S C.E. COMBINED SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER NO 7
www.st-michaels.bucks.sch.uk
Friday 24th Oct 2025

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07786208889 – Text only

Dear Parents/Carers

I blinked and our first half term is completed already. It's been a busy start to the year and I'm sure the children are ready for a week of rest and recuperation. I know I am!
We hit the ground running when get back with our Beauty and the Beast dress up day and performance on 6th November.
Please note that due to essential staff training, there will be no After School Club facility on Tuesday 4th November. Please do not book this on Parentpay for that date. Thank you for your understanding and apologies for any inconvenience this may cause.
Please note a few new dates for your diary, highlighted in bold.
We will be supporting the BBC's Children in Need on Friday 14th November. The children should wear normal school uniform and are invited to bring in a bear with spots for the day. Please don't bring in a bear if it's any bigger than your head!

I hope you all have a wonderful half term break, remembering it is an inset day on Monday 3rd November and we look forward to welcoming you all back to school on Tuesday 4th November.

Best wishes
Mrs Fiona Phimester

DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES:

Mon 27th Oct – Fri 31st Oct – Half Term break
Mon 3rd Nov – INSET DAY
Tues 4th Nov – all children return to school
Tues 4th Nov – NO AFTER SCHOOL CLUB AVAILABLE
Thurs 6th Nov – Beauty and the Beast performance and dress-up day.
Fri 7th Nov – Year 6 Football V Cheddington (away)
Thurs 13th Nov – Year 1 Cake Sale
Friday 14th Nov – Children In Need day – bring a spotty bear to school. School uniform please.
Wed 19th Nov – Year 6 boys Handball at AGS
Friday 21st Nov – Year 5 - 9.30am Chinese Dragon Craft – parents welcome
Friday 21st Nov – Non-uniform day for Christmas Tombola donation
Wed 26th Nov – Foundation & Year 6 Height & Weight Screening
Friday 28th Nov – Year 6 Class Assembly
Mon 1st Dec – Thurs 4th Dec – Bikeability Level 2
Friday 5th Dec – Bikeability Level 1
Friday 5th Dec – Friends' Christmas Fayre
Friday 5th Dec – Year 3 Class Assembly
Wed 10th Dec – Year 4 Christingle
Friday 12th Dec – Foundation Nativity 2.45pm

Wed 17th Dec – Year 2 Nativity – morning
Wed 17th Dec – Christmas Lunch and Christmas Jumper Day
Wed 17th Dec – Silent Christmas Discos
Thurs 18th Dec – Year 1 Nativity – morning
Friday 19th Dec – Last day of Autumn term
Mon 5th Jan – Start of Spring term
Thurs 15th Jan – Year 2 Cake Sale
Thurs 26th Feb – Year 3 Cake Sale
Thurs 19th March – Year 4 Cake Sale
Thurs 16th April – Year 5 Cake Sale
Thurs 14th May – Year 6 Cake Sale

INSET DAYS FOR 2025/2026

Mon 3rd Nov 2025
Mon 5th Jan 2026
Fri 27th March 2026
Fri 22nd May 2026

MESSAGE FROM MRS HANN

Sensory Activities with Leaves

Jump and Crash in a Leaf Pile
Kids get heavy work and proprioceptive input through their joints and muscles as they jump, crash, and push through leaves. This type of "heavy work" helps calm and organize the body's sensory systems.

Leaf Toss and Catch
Have kids scoop up handfuls of dry leaves and toss them into the air, trying to catch them as they fall. This activity provides visual tracking, bilateral coordination, and vestibular input as they move, reach, and watch the leaves drift down. It's playful, regulating, and great for outdoor sensory breaks.

Leaf Rubbing and Sorting
Use crayons and paper to do leaf rubbings, or sort leaves by size, shape, and color. These activities target fine motor skills, visual discrimination, and tactile exploration.

Rake, Scoop, and Carry Leaves
Raking and gathering leaves builds core and upper body strength while offering deep pressure input. Have kids fill bags or buckets to carry, great for hand strength and endurance.

THE OT TOOLBOX

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

GOLDEN LEARNERS

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

Year 1	**Nico, Robyn, Henry L**
Year 2	**Lillie, George, Trystan**
Year 3	**School Trip**
Year 4	**Darcie, Max, Reggie**
Year 5	**Grae, Flynn, Grace**
Year 6	**Sophia, Beau, Bethany**

Bellringers#together

ST MICHAEL'S CELEBRATIONS

This little trio from Year 2 were delighted to be officially enrolled into Rainbows recently. Just look at those happy smiles!

MR DAY'S SPORTING ROUND-UP

Football

Cup latest: Newton Longville 0-3 St Michael's

Our boys cup team travelled to Newton Longville last Friday to take on the team that beat us in the cup last year.
St Michael's were playing up hill in the first half and battled through the first 10 minutes before taking control of the game and going one nil up with a great volley from Liam. Further goals from Grae and Charlie gave us a

comfortable win and the boys will go on to the next round to play Cheddington. Liam was chosen by the opposition as player of the match after a brilliant performance.
St M's - Luke (capt), Joseph, Yiannis, Alfie, Samuel W, Samuel D, Grae, Liam, Ben

St Michael's 1-2 St Michael's

On Monday our year 5 boys team had a home league game against our year 6 team! It's quite rare that our two teams get drawn in the same league and we've never had them start the season with a game against each other before.
The first half was very even with our year 5's really crunching in to their older opponents.
After a number of changes for both teams, Charlie scored a great goal for the year 6's to make it one nil. This was followed by a great goal from Lewis to make it two with 10 minutes to go. But our year 5's, playing in their first game together, battled back and scored through a fantastic goal by Oliver M to set up a nervy last few minutes. The year 6's just held on for the 3 points but probably won't face many better teams this year.
Edward got player of the match for year 5 for an unbelievable game in goal, pulling off some tremendous saves.
Lewis got player of the match for year 6 for his calmness on the pitch and nicely taken goal.

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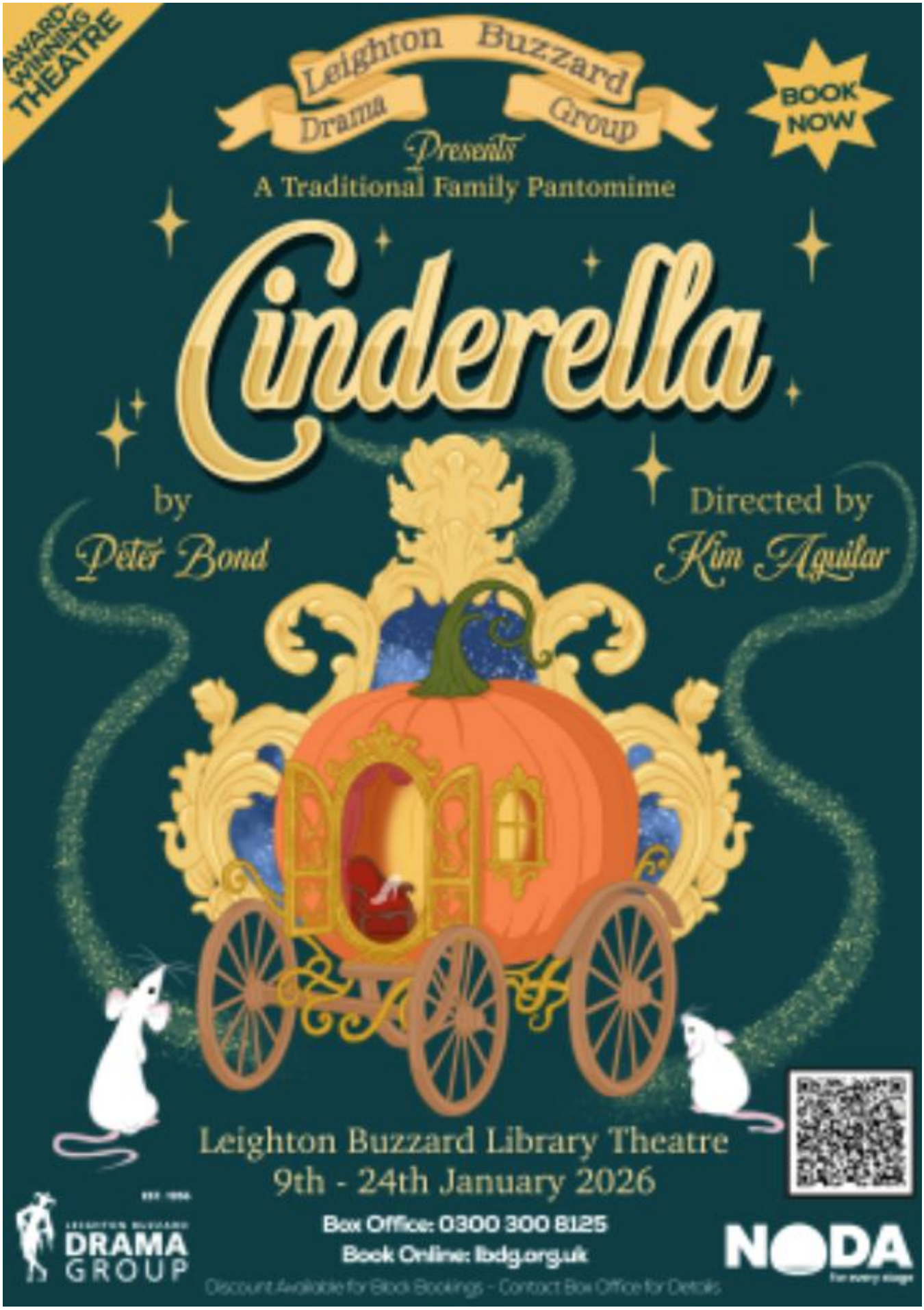
AWARD-WINNING THEATRE
Leighton Buzzard Drama Group
Presents
BOOK NOW
A Traditional Family Pantomime
Cinderella
by
Peter Bond
Directed by
Kim Aquilar
Leighton Buzzard Library Theatre
9th - 24th January 2026
Box Office: 0300 300 8125
Book Online: lbdg.org.uk
Discount Available for Block Bookings - Contact Box Office for Details
DRAMA GROUP
NODA

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NHS
Oxford Health
NHS Foundation Trust

Mental Health
Support Team
Buckinghamshire

FREE

FOR PARENTS
AND CARERS

LIVE WEBINARS

CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH

DATES:
OCT– DEC
2025

TIME:
6PM – 7.30PM

To register, scan the QR codes on the next page!

01865 901566

bucksmhst@oxfordhealth.nhs.uk

*PLEASE NOTE: YOUR CHILD MUST ATTEND AN MHST SCHOOL FOR ACCESS TO THE WEBINARS. IF YOU ARE UNSURE, PLEASE CONTACT US.

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SCAN THE QR CODE TO SECURE YOUR PLACE:

Topic	Date	Link	QR code
Overview of Mental health – Primary	Monday 20th of October 2025	https://events.teams.microsoft.com/event/c250a6a6-2c15-4997-be09-407feae1ef4e@759ac89b-2aa4-4973-b048-e6903b46a8b6	
Overview of Mental health– Secondary	Monday 3rd of November 2025	https://events.teams.microsoft.com/event/0d1c87a5-b3b5-4a9b-a4b2-dbbcbee77abf@759ac89b-2aa4-4973-b048-e6903b46a8b6	
Childhood Anxiety	Monday 17th of November 2025	https://events.teams.microsoft.com/event/741a9c4f-0eb4-4a23-9694-def68b6eb3b5@759ac89b-2aa4-4973-b048-e6903b46a8b6	
Adolescent Anxiety	Monday 1st of December 2025	https://events.teams.microsoft.com/event/ffeb1299-da8c-44dc-8d3b-6ad980e5c729@759ac89b-2aa4-4973-b048-e6903b46a8b6	

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JUNIOR OPEN DAY

HALLOWEEN SPECIAL

This fun day for juniors aged 6-12 for all abilities!

FANCY DRESS!

Tuesday 28th October 2025
and/or
Friday 31st October 2025

10:00	Arrival + Check In
10:15	Coaching with competitions on the Driving Range, Chipping area and Putting.
12:30	LUNCH (Nuggets, Chips n Beans)
13:15	Junior Texas Scramble First steps onto the golf course playing 3 holes as a team
15:15	**Halloween Pumpkin Pitching and Tombstone Challenges**
15:45	Results, Presentation and Prizes
16:00	FINISH

ALL THIS FOR

£35 per child

TO SIGN UP CONTACT
HEAD PGA PROFESSIONAL RUSSELL PHILLIPS ON
07843 692948 or r.phillips@avgc.co.uk

Please book at least 1 week in advance as days may cancel and please pay on arrival.

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FACE

November Timetable

All sessions delivered live online via zoom. 90 minutes long

£24 each or FREE with School Membership

Book online at facefamilyadvice.co.uk

Recordings available for 48 hours (excluding Free Talk)

Raising Self Esteem	3 Nov 10am
Decreasing Depression	3 Nov 7pm
Supporting Healthy Sleep	4 Nov 10am
Understanding the Teenage Brain	4 Nov 7pm
Improving Family Communication	10 Nov 10am
Autism - Improving Communication	10 Nov 7pm
Understanding Addictive Behaviour	11 Nov 10am
Supporting A Child with ADHD	11 Nov 7pm
FREE ADHD Kids & Homework	**13 Nov 6-7pm**
Understanding Anger	17 Nov 10am
Supporting Healthy Screen Use	17 Nov 7pm
Facing Defiance	18 Nov 10am
Anxiety Based School Avoidance	18 Nov 7pm
Cannabis and Ketamine Awareness	24 Nov 10am
Anxiety Explained	24 Nov 7pm

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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.

DOGS

Dogs are not permitted anywhere on the school premises at any time. Please ensure that anyone accompanying you is also aware.

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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