NEWSLETTER

Dear Parents/Carers,

The weather has been very kind to us this week and the children have enjoyed all the benefits of an Indian summer while being outside for their learning and play. Let's hope this fine spell continues, it is so uplifting for us to spend time outside in the sunshine.



As we approach the end of our 3rd week back in school (the time is seriously flying by), I continue to marvel at the resilience and responsibility demonstrated by so many of our children, during this challenging time in school. The incredible efforts of the staff team at St Michael's has allowed us to operate with the least disruption to our timetable, but the children are having to manage staying in bubbles and spend more time, than we would prefer, seated at desks during lessons. We recognise that this is a time of adjustment for us all, as the children adapt to working in a more formal environment.

Behaviour

At St Michael's we have the highest expectations for our children's behaviour and we are pleased that the majority of children fulfil these expectations. We appreciate these are challenging times for everybody, however it is disappointing that a small number of children have found it difficult to conform to the school's Behaviour Policy and the recently introduced, Home School Agreement.

We are proud of the close partnership we have developed with our parents and the way in which we work together to maintain our high standards. You will know from the Behaviour Policy (on the school website) that a letter will be sent to parents/carers if we have any concerns about their child's behaviour, while on school premises.

Should you receive one of these letters, thank you for supporting us in this, by helping your child to understand that their behaviour has been unacceptable and there may be consequences for the choices they have made. School and parents are then able to work together to make sure expectations are met and learning is not disrupted.

PTA

A huge thank you to the PTA for all their support with fundraising for the school. The Scarecrow Trail, promises to provide plenty of fun and exercise for the whole family. Informative flyers with instructions on how to take part and win prizes, will be in book bags shortly. Mrs Barrow is already busy collecting resources and ideas for her class' contribution.

Drop Off and Collection

Having been at the gates during the drop off and collection of children, I feel impelled to address the concerns of many parents and staff and ask you to abide by the following rules:

- Please wear a face covering when dropping off and collecting children
- Please do not linger outside the gates to chat with friends
- Please take responsibility and ensure that you socially distance from others

Parents/carers are responsible for the safety of their children before they enter the school site and once their child has been passed to them, at the end of the day. Following parental concerns about the safety of pupils waiting to access school, the council have observed the current plans and procedures; they are not unduly concerned, provided parents watch their children closely and the school encourages parents to drop off/collect and move on.

Parental responsibility also extends to those pupils in year 6 who have permission to walk home and are not collected from school. Please remind your children not to linger in groups around the school perimeter.

Thank you to those parents who have taken the time to address their concerns directly to the school. It is really helpful to work together during this time.

Earlier Drop Off for Siblings

We are constantly reviewing the procedures for children arriving at and leaving school. From Monday September 21st 2020, siblings will be welcome to arrive and enter school together, at **8.30am at Gate 2**. The children will be expected to remain in their family group, in the hall, until it is time for them to join their class. We hope this will help to further alleviate any possible congestion on the pavements around school.

MacMillan Coffee Morning

Sadly, the latest government restrictions around gathering in groups, prohibits us from hosting a coffee morning, on September 25th, as we hoped. Mrs King and her team are working closely with class teachers to bring individually sealed cakes into school, for staff to share with the children.

We will be supporting Macmillan in school, on Friday September 25th, in the following ways:

- Children and staff donate £1 for Mufti Day.
- Children and staff donate a minimum of 50p for a sealed cake to enjoy in school.

Coughs and Colds

Unfortunately, this is the time of year when our children (and consequently staff) are likely to develop colds and runny noses. I would urge parents not to panic and think the worse. **You know your child best** and are the most qualified to decide if you should seek medical attention. The following link provides information for parents in the event they suspect their child is displaying Covid -19 symptoms.

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/actions-for-schools-during-the-coronavirus-outbreak/guidance-for-full-opening-schools

The most recognised symptoms at present are:

- Temperature
- Continuous cough
- Loss of taste and smell

Always trust your instincts.

• England: NHS 111 online coronavirus service

Scotland: <u>NHS inform</u>

Wales: NHS 111 Wales

Northern Ireland: get advice from a GP or GP out-of-hours service

· Call 999 if your child is very unwell or think there's something seriously wrong.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

L Anderton Headteacher



AWARDS

The following children were awarded a



certificate for being "Responsible"

Year 6 Lola & Max

Year 5 Annika & Noah

Year 4 Theo & Dylan

Year 3 Beatrice & Maggi

Year 2 Arabella & Adam

Year 1 William & Primrose

Reception Blu & Rose

Dear Families of St Michael's

May I introduce myself and apologise for not writing sooner. My name is Becky Smith, I was appointed as the chair of governors at St Michaels in the summer term. I will be working in this role until July 2021 when I will let you know of the new governor structure. I have chaired at St Michaels previously, I know the school, Mrs Anderton, and the policies well.

Firstly, may I see thank you for the response you have given to Mrs Anderton's request for donations. It's a difficult time for many of us and the governors and school are very grateful for your generosity. Even without the backdrop of a global pandemic, the finances of a single-entry primary school have become tricky over the years. I have every confidence in the schools budgetary management, as governors we work with the school on a 6 weekly basis to collaboratively ensure every penny meets the needs of your children in the best way possible, please be assured your contributions through donations or working with the brilliant PTA are truly vital.

Please do let the school office know if you haven't donated and wish to. Thank you.

In terms of the current Pandemic processes we are following, Mrs Anderton has lead the school in producing an exceptionally detailed risk assessment to enable the whole school re-opening. It was a tremendous amount of work across the summer and it's wonderful to see the children back enjoying themselves. I wanted to take this opportunity of thanking you for working with the school on the implementation elements of these plans.

Going forward it will continue to be important for the school and the school families to work closely together. As a team will be better placed to steer our way through this unusual period. As I am sure you know the school leaders, teachers, teaching partners and all the support staff are working extremely hard to deliver learning in a new and safe way.

It may feel frustrating at times if processes don't quite run like they use to but there will be reasons for this, I ask you to be patient in such instances. There are some challenges we are overcoming; for example, being surrounded by roads whilst not having any significant entry space does make socially distanced drop offs and collections difficult as I know many of you have experienced. Please help the school by arriving at the times you are asked, remaining apart from other families, wearing a mask should you wish and leaving the area once your child is safely in school. I am sure you will understand from your own working experiences that there are many new processes that may need tweaking as we work alongside them, so do keep an eye on Mrs Anderton's newsletters where she will update you.

The Covid testing programme is a national problem and most schools are being effected by the lack availability and prompt response required to make it efficient. We are assured by ministers this is being addressed, however, we must continue to run the school safely whilst weathering the challenges the programme present. Please continue to follow the guidelines Mrs Anderton has already explained should your child or a member of your family group become symptomatic as defined by, a new continuous cough, a high temperature and or a loss of taste and sense of smell. Mrs Anderton and her excellent team will lead you through the process ensuring your child only returns when it is safe to do so. If the school are required to inform Public Health England of a positive test result you will be immediately informed of the processes they ask the school to adopt.

Your team of staff at St Michaels are working hard to deliver in unprecedented times. The school is open for business, nothing has changed in its values or commitment to delivering a first-class education to every child.

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Thank you for being	such a supportive group.	

Regards,

Becky.





CHRISTMAS PUDDING FUNDRATSER



Charity Number: 1053339

Dear Parents.

With lots to organise, we are here to help by giving you the chance to purchase a Christmas Pudding, which has proven very popular in past years and uses a secret family recipe that has been used by Fortnum and Mason.

The puddings will be labelled with the school logo and "Happy Christmas from St Michael's and can last for 12 months or so, should you decide to buy a few!

We also have a Luscious Lemon or Sticky Toffee sponge pudding option (which can be stored in a cupboard for up to six months).

To order, please complete the slip below and return it to the office (via book bags) with your cheque/cash by no later than Friday 25th of September. Although this seems really early, we get a discount on the puddings by ordering early and therefore more money for the school. Puddings will then be available for collection towards the end of October (details of collection arrangements to follow).

Should you have any questions, please ask us at drop off / pick up or by emailing tinawizard@hotmail.co.uk

Thank you

Tina Wizard & Tanya Kopperman

CHILD'S NAME				
CLASS				
		PRICE	QUANTITY	TOTAL
454g (1lb) Plum Pudding Serves 4		£7.00		
908g (2lb) Plum Pudding Serves 8		£11.00		
Sticky Toffee Pudding (290g) Serves 3-4		£6.25		
Luscious Lemon Pudding(290g) Serves 3-4		£6.25		
Cheques made payable to: ST MICHAEL'S PSA			TOTAL PAID	

Important Dates				
SEPTEMBER				
Friday 25th September	MacMillan Mufti Day £1, additional donations to be placed in the small brown envelopes (to be provided nearer the date)			
Friday 25th September	Deadline for completed Christmas Pudding Order forms (Fundraiser)			
Wednesday 30th September	Deadline for Scarecrow entries—notify PTA			
OCTOBER				
Tuesday 6th October	September 2021 Prospective parents—please contact the School Office to book a tour. 9.30am—10.30am			
Tuesday 13th October	Individual school photograph			
Tuesday 20th October	September 2021 Prospective parents—please contact the School Office to book a tour. 9.30am—10.30am			
Friday 23rd October	Scarecrow Hair Mufti Day £1 donation (Fundraiser)			
Friday 23rd October	Bags for school—Textile recycling (Fundraiser)			
Friday 23rd October	Term ends			
HALF TERM—Monday 26th October to Friday 30th October 2020				
Monday 26th October to Saturday 1st November— Scarecrow Trail—£10 entry fee (Fundraiser)				
	NOVEMBER			
Monday 2nd November	Children return to School			
	DECEMBER			
Friday 18th December	Term ends			
CHRISTMAS HOLII	DAY—Monday 21st December to Friday 1st January			
	JANUARY			
Monday 4th January	Inset Day			
Tuesday 5th January	Children return to School			
FEBRUARY				
Friday 12th February	Inset Day			
HALF TERM —	Monday 15th February to Friday 19th February			
Monday 22 February	Inset Day			
Tuesday 23rd February	Children return to school			

Important Dates continued		
APRIL		
Thursday 1st April	Term ends	
SPRING HOLIDAY—Friday 2nd April to Friday 16th April		
Monday 19th April	Children return to school	
MAY		
Monday 3rd May	Bank Holiday	
Friday 28th May	Term ends	
MAY HOLIDAY— Monday 31st May to Friday 4th June		
JUNE		
Monday 7th June	Children return to school	
JULY		
Wednesday 21st July	Term ends	
Thursday 22nd July	Inset Day	
Friday 23rd July	Inset Day	