



St Michael's CE Primary School

The Causeway, Steventon, Oxfordshire OX13 6SQ

Telephone and Fax: 01235 831298

Headteacher: Hayley Leyshon

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<http://www.stmichaelssteventon.co.uk>

Cultivating Respect, Persevering, and Learning with Courage

Friday 24th November 2023

Dear Families,

I would say I can't believe how quickly this term is whizzing past, but it is term 2 and it always flies! As we head into December, please find below a list of events with dates and times for the coming weeks. There will be regular reminders sent on Class Dojo so please do make sure you are checking regularly.

We have now had the report back from the SIP and are delighted to share with you some of her comments:

"The Headteacher has a clear strategy for driving improvements and works well with the senior leadership team to have clear processes in place including monitoring and evaluation."

"All classes visited were calm and purposeful with teachers using behaviour management strategies to focus children on their learning and maintain a positive approach to any child requiring additional, special needs support. As a result, children appeared happy and ready to learn"

"Leaders are ambitious for their subject and reflect a desire for study to be inclusive. The curriculum has been sequenced to ensure coverage of the National Curriculum and tailored to their local context. Subject leads recognise their role to ensure staff have the necessary subject expertise to teach the subject well"

Our next steps around the wider curriculum have begun in earnest and we look forward to sharing more of this throughout the year.

Children in Need

We had a wonderful day on Friday in our pajamas! I was amazed that the productivity remained as high as ever despite everyone being ready for bed. We raised a fabulous £251.50.

Poppy Appeal

Thank you to all the families who donated to the Poppy Appeal. As a school we raised £179.27 towards the Steventon and Milton total of £5,321!

Communication

Communication will always be the hardest thing in a school to get right. We strive to communicate in a clear and timely fashion and in a streamlined way to make it easier for everyone. There will be decisions and plans where it is inappropriate to share with parents but please rest assured that the interests of the children are front and center in every decision we make.

Just a few reminders:

Class Teachers are your first port of call. They can be contacted on Class Dojo or at either end of the school day. After school is generally better as the mornings can be rushed.

If your child's class teacher is unable to help, then a member of the senior leadership team may be appropriate. Mrs. Sheehan and Mrs. Satchwell work Monday – Wednesday and Mr. Paynter works Wednesday to Friday.

If there is still an issue, then I am the next person to speak to. This tiered approach is to enable there to be a hierarchy in dealing with issues but also to ensure that the class teachers are aware of issues within their own classrooms. This way things can be put into place and hopefully sorted without the need for escalation.

Illness

We have seen an extraordinarily high number of children coming into school having had Calpol or similar first thing. There is a notable trend that children start to feel unwell around 11:30am as it begins to wear off.



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Please can we ask that if your child is unwell enough to need Calpol or similar, especially for a temperature, that they are kept at home. We appreciate that this is difficult if you need to work, however the wider impact is that other children and staff become unwell too. There is national shortage of supply teachers and so when a member of staff is off due to sickness it is impossible to cover them the way we would like to.

Christmas Jumpers

The last 2.5 days of term we will be inviting children to wear a Christmas jumper every day. We know that keeping up with the growth rate of children is an impossible task and as such would like to add Christmas Jumpers to our second-hand uniform stock.

If you have any to donate, we will gladly accept them in the office!

Uniform

You should have seen my Class Dojo post about uniform. The standards, particularly in upper Key Stage 2 (Year 5 and Year 6), have been slipping recently. It may seem like a very minor thing, but we are very proud of our school uniform. It helps to create a sense of unity and mirrors the same high expectations we have for the children's learning.

Joggers, trainers, leggings, and t-shirts are **not** to be worn unless it is for P.E. or breaktime. We recognise that uniform is an additional expense, as such we do not expect polo shirts or sweatshirts etc. to be logoeed and we do carry a stock of secondhand uniform in the school office.

A reminder of the uniform policy can be found here:

<https://www.stmichaelssteventon.co.uk/page/?title=Uniform&pid=33>

Parent's Evening

Thank you to everyone who booked a parents evening appointment. We hope that you found these meetings helpful. With the reintroduction of the interim reports, we would really value your feedback. There is a short Google Form here: <https://forms.gle/8kQuqPPQAGKuzBKj7>

Please could we ask that one per family is completed. If you have any issues using the form, please contact me.

Parent Coffee Morning

Mrs. Sheehan and Mrs. Hickman set up a great coffee morning on Wednesday but sadly there were no parents! We would like to run these on the last Wednesday of every term but would like these to be useful to you. If there is something that you would like support with, information about then please speak to Mrs. Sheehan or Mrs. Hickman. This could be SEN, Parenting, completing specific forms, School nurse...the list is endless!

Future Dates:

Wednesday 7th February 2024

Wednesday 27th March 2024

Wednesday 22nd May 2024

Wednesday 17th July 2024

Diary Dates

Date	Time	Event	Year Groups
6 th December 2023	9am	Open Classrooms	All
8 th December 2023	All day	Non uniform day – donations for chocolate tombola	All
13 th December 2023	2pm	Nativity	Maple and Sycamore



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14 th December 2023	6pm	Nativity	Maple and Sycamore
15 th December 2023	3:15pm	Christmas Fayre*	All
18 th December 2023	Christmas Jumper Week		
	9:30	Wriggly Nativity	Acorn and Willow
	1pm	Pantomime at Village Hall	Willow to Oak
19 th December 2023	Christmas Dinner day		
	2:15pm	Wriggly Nativity	Acorn and Willow
20 th December 2023	9:30am	Christmas Service at the Church	All
	1pm	School finish	All
8 th January 2024	INSET		
9 th January 2024	8:45am	School re-opens for Term 3	All

***Please note change of date**

Safeguarding

Safeguarding is never a subject that is easy to tackle and as we know, Safeguarding does not stop over the holidays or at weekends.

If an immediate response from Children's Social Care is necessary, **call 0345 050 7666**. If you have an urgent concern for a child call 999 or 101

More information can be found here: <https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/residents/children-education-and-families/keeping-children-and-young-people-safe/report-child-abuse>

If you have any concerns or require any support, please do speak to us. We have access to lots of different types of support ranging from the Community Larder and parenting support right through to Social Care.

Please do not hesitate to get in touch if we can support with anything.

Kind Regards

Hayley Leyshon
Headteacher