



St Michael's CE Primary School

The Causeway, Steventon, Oxfordshire OX13 6SQ

Telephone and Fax: 01235 831298

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

Cultivating Respect, Persevering, and Learning with Courage

17th March 2023

Dear Families,

I must start this newsletter with an enormous 'THANK YOU' to the wonderful staff and leadership team for holding the fort over the last week. It was reassuring to know that the school was in such capable hands during my time away. Thank you too for the messages of support and well wishes; the operation went well and my husband is now on the long road to recovery.

Gloucester Rugby continue to join us on a Friday to work on our tag rugby skills. This is one of the many things that we are funding with our Sports Premium funding from the government. Other things include subsidizing the after school clubs from Elite and Rugby Tots, Rugby Tots sessions for children in Acorn and introducing a new P.E. Curriculum to support staff. We are delighted that this money has been approved for the next two years to really help us develop sport at St Michael's.



Attendance

You may have seen in the press the news that an increasing number of children are absent from school on a Friday. When analysing our own attendance data this certainly the case in our school. There are 14 Fridays this academic year (out of 24) where attendance is lower than the rest of the week.

Missing more than 10% of school is considered persistent absenteeism and is taken very seriously. We will be continuing to work with families where this level of absence is a concern and finding ways to ensure children do not miss more school that is absolutely necessary. All holidays, other than extenuating personal circumstances, are unauthorised and whilst we recognise that there are times when this is unavoidable, we ask parents not to book day trips, long weekends or holidays during term time. All term dates are published a year in advance on our school website.

Parents Evenings

I hope you have found parent's evenings valuable and that you feel you have a better understanding of your child's attainment. We are keeping these meetings online to enable more parents to attend without having to arrange childcare. We will be holding various open days throughout the year where you can look at books and share in your child's learning.

If you are ever unable to make parent's evening, please let your child's teacher or the office know so that the time can be offered to another parent or rearranged.

Easter Service

Our End of Term Easter Service will take place at church on Friday 31st March at 9.30am. The whole school will attend and parents are very welcome to join us. Children from each year group will share songs, readings and prayers.

If you would like to accompany your child's class on the walk to church, please let your class teacher know. We kindly ask that parents wait until the children have arrived and are seated before finding a seat - please be aware there is limited seating and it may be standing room only!

Diary Dates

29.03.2023 Rowan Class Cake, Book and Toy Sale

31.03.2023 Easter Service, Church 9:30am

31.03.2023 SSA Easter Egg Hunt

31.03.2023 End of Term 4 1pm

As always, please do contact us if you need anything. We have access to all sorts of support and advice so please do not hesitate to message your child's class teacher on Dojo, email myself or contact the office.

Kind Regards

Hayley Leyshon-Brady



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Race Night - Reminder



We would love you to join us for



'A Night at the 'Races'

on Friday 24th March

To be held in the beautifully restored barn at Hill Farm, Steventon

(Courtesy of the Binning Family)

We will be raising funds for local projects supported by **The Rotary Club** and for the work of **The Batemans Trust** in India.

The evening Includes a **delicious, sit down dinner** (vegan options available) and six 'Races' to have a flutter' on at the 'tote'!

You are invited to **bring your own drinks** – glasses will be provided – but there will be a soft drinks bar.

Dress: for the 'races'

Doors open 6.30PM

Suggested donation: £25 per head

Races start 7pm

Tables of 6 or 8 can be reserved if requested – or just join others.

Tickets: email Alex on alexandpoppyt@yahoo.co.uk or text Lawrence on 07990932464. We will provide you with online payment details and ticket numbers. Alternatively, we can arrange for cash/cheque payments.



There will be a race card with details of the races and the horses (which all have very interesting names!) You can select your horse, place a small 'bet' at the 'tote' and then cheer your horse home as the race is viewed on the large screen. Or you can just sit back, sip your wine and enjoy the lovely setting, good company and delicious food!





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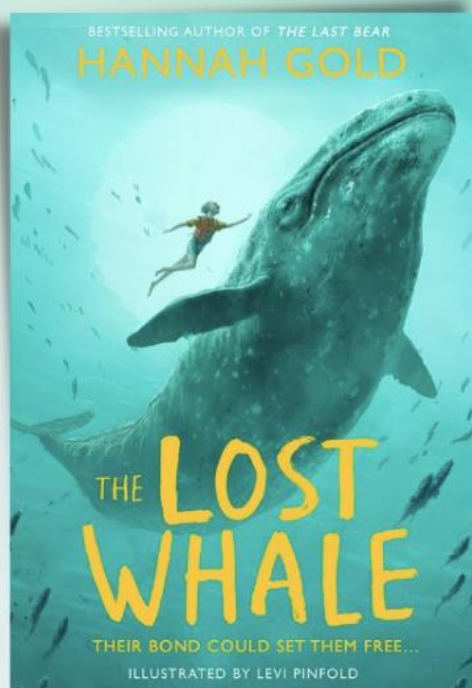
Author Visit – Mostly Books

Hannah Gold will be at Mostly Books in Sert Street, Abingdon on the afternoon of Friday 31st March. The perfect place to spend the afternoon after we finish!

mostlyBOOKS

Meet children's author

Hannah Gold!



at Mostly Books on 31st March