



St Michael's CE Primary School

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Cultivating Respect, Persevering, and Learning with Courage

7th October 2022

Dear Families,

"There is something so special in the early leaves drifting from the trees—as if we are all to be allowed a chance to peel, to refresh, to start again."

— Ruth Ahmed

The beautiful tree in our courtyard is certainly showing us the power of change and the beauty that it can bring. The same can be said about our school curriculum. We have reviewed it recently and the impact of this can be seen in the amazing work around school.



Year 6 have been learning about the circulatory system in Science this term and have created anatomically accurate clay models of the heart as well as learning about osmosis and diffusion using sweets, gelatin and ink! Year 5 have written some amazing diary entries using their class text *Who Let The Gods Out* by Maz Evans. They have used brilliant language, set their expectations really high

Year 4 have been learning about the history of flight; looking at pioneers, different types of aircraft and experimenting with different designs of paper planes to see which flew the furthest. Year 3 have taken a trip back to the Stone Age to create fantastic cave art in their very own caves where they have used charcoal to create their images.

Year 2 have been exploring Mauri Koru art – looking closely at the detail, colours and symbolism. Year 1 have been practicing their mouse skills and learning to drag and drop in computing using Chromebooks.

Reception have been learning about Autumn and using leaves from around school to create some beautiful leaf animals as well as doing some wonderful writing all about the Harvest vegetables.

Harvest Festival



Our Harvest festival was a great success! Having all 199 children in the hall was a real privilege. Children shared what they were grateful for, a harvest poem and some prayers. The Year 6 children read the story of Ruth and Boaz which reflected our school vision of doing to others beautifully. Rev. Phil joined us and finished our worship off with his own reflections of Harvest and how our vision and values relate so well to the job of the farmers and indeed ourselves as gardeners!

Thank you to everyone for the incredibly generous donations. These will be distributed by the Steventon Community Larder to people in the village.



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Reading Curriculum Evening

Don't forget that we will be holding a Curriculum Evening in school on Tuesday 11th October at 6pm. We will be sharing with you the changes we have made to the teaching of reading, how we are creating a reading culture and share with you some books to inspire your children to fall in love with reading.

We will have a selection of titles from Mostly Books in Abingdon which you will be able to order on the night. We will have a card machine so card payments only. 10% of each purchase will then be donated to the school to help us add to our class libraries with some up to date titles.

The SSA will also be providing teas and coffees!

Communication

Thank you to all of you who have signed up for Class Dojo. Most classes are now at 100% but there are still a few who are not. You can access Class Dojo from either the website or on a free app. There is an option to pay but please do not feel you need to do this.



Please follow the link to sign up here:

<https://www.classdojo.com/invite/?s=59b2b05ff14966661e0d4e99>

Please can we remind you that any absence must still be communicated with the school office. Mrs Scaysbrook, Mrs Ashford and Mrs Bosley do a daily phone call to children who are absent so it is really important that you leave a voicemail, call first thing or drop them an email.

Diary Dates

w/c 10th October – Travelling Book Fair

11th October – Reading Curriculum Evening, 6pm

13th October – Open Afternoon for prospective Reception Parents, 1:30pm

w/c 17th October – Aspirations Week

21st October – Finish for Half Term 3:15pm

31st October – INSET day

1st November – Start of Term 2

1st November – Individual School Photos

4th November – Parent Forum (more info to follow)

Kind Regards

Hayley Leyshon-Brady
Headteacher