



# St Michael's CE Primary School

The Causeway, Steventon, Oxfordshire OX13 6SQ

Telephone and Fax: 01235 831298

Headteacher: Hayley Leyshon-Brady

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

**Cultivating Respect, Persevering, and Learning with Courage**

18<sup>th</sup> November 2022

Dear Families,

I am always so proud to be the Headteacher of our school – never more so than when members of the public contact school to congratulate our children on their conduct at events such as the Act of Remembrance and the Poppy Trail. The children were polite, respectful and have been described as “terrific ambassadors for the school”. This really shows the children living our vision and our values in all that they do.

Thank you to those of you who responded to the parent questionnaire about the Christmas Service. Rev. Phil and I have worked closely to make sure this can happen at the church this year, to find creative ways of seating the children and see how we can enable as many parents to attend as possible. We are also looking at ways we can record the service for those parents who are unable to attend due to work commitments. We look forward to welcoming you to the church on Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December. I have shared on Class Dojo today a one-page overview of the plans for Christmas. I hope you find this useful.

Just as Jesus shared stories, our worship on a Monday is also rooted in story. This week we shared the book “The Only Way is Badger”. This is a great story about acceptance, difference and learning to say sorry. We discussed how it linked to our vision and what Badger could have done to be kinder to the other animals. We also talked about the power of our words exploring the impact of what and how we say things can have on others.



As the weather becomes more seasonal, can we remind you that the roads around school are very prone to standing water. A huge thank you to Mr James and Mr Keymer for their work on the road outside school to help with drainage, and to Mrs. Cox (and Jamie-May and Jack!) for sweeping the leaves on the playground. We also have a company coming to clear the drains next week. Please feel free to wear wellies to school on wet days to save shoes getting soggy!

## Current Attendance

Well done to Year 5 for your improved attendance.

Year Group	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Attendance	93.8% (97.6%)	95.9% (96.4%)	95.4% (96.4%)	96.0% (98.4%)	97.0% (95.7%)	93.8% (100%)

Please can we remind parents that if your child is absent from school to contact the office and not use Class Dojo as Teachers may not pick up the message. I have included the link to the exclusion information regarding various illnesses and when it is appropriate for children to return to school.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/health-protection-in-schools-and-other-childcare-facilities/children-and-young-people-settings-tools-and-resources#exclusion-table>

## A note from Rev. Phil

Dear Parents

It is a real privilege to be able to assist some of our school families as the harsh financial crisis hits hard. Together with SARINC our local charity, Didcot Foodbank & Roots & Shoots Community Kitchen we now have a network of different resources to help ease some of the hardships that this Christmas and winter will bring. It is understandable to feel anxious or embarrassed in asking for help, but this time of hardship is unprecedented, affecting so many families.

Please do call me on 07507378737, leave a message for me with the school office if you think I can be of any assistance. All requests will be treated in the strictest confidence and if needed your request can be passed anonymously to me via the school. Please drop in to our Warm Space Cafe in the Church Hall on Tuesday 29



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Nov, 13 December and every Tuesday in January; free food and takeaway items are always available. Why not call in after the school drop off or before the pick up?

Our plans for school Christmas services in the church, school and outside are well underway, starting with the annual Christingle 'Amazing Light' service in church at 5pm on Sunday 4 December followed by a lit procession to the North Star for the singing of carols and lighting of the village Christmas tree. More details to come next week as we prepare the church to safely accommodate a school community that has never been so large.

Thank you,

*Rev Phil*

**And finally...**

Mrs Denton was invited to Oxford Town Hall this week to receive a very special award. She has been recognised for your incredible 25years service to Oxfordshire through her work at St Michael's and with her Dog training work too. Congratulations, Mrs Denton!

Kind Regards

Hayley Leyshon-Brady  
Headteacher



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# Warm Space Café

Roots & Shoots  
Steventon



We hope that you enjoy these offerings from the Warm Space Café.

If you wish to pop down to the café in St Michael's hall yourself we operate on the following TUESDAYS from 9am to 2pm:

- 15<sup>th</sup> November 2022
- 29<sup>th</sup> November 2022
- 13<sup>th</sup> December 2022

And then every TUESDAY from January 2023.

We offer soup & bread, tea/coffee and a selection of cakes as well as a warm, friendly atmosphere.

If you need a lift down to the café please send an email to [info.steventonrootsshoots@gmail.com](mailto:info.steventonrootsshoots@gmail.com)

You can also follow us on FaceBook

