



St Michael's CE Primary School

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Cultivating Respect, Persevering, and Learning with Courage

Monday 20th May 2024

Dear Families,

I cannot believe we are in the final week of Term 5 already and finally it feels like the weather may be starting to brighten up. Just a reminder that Monday 3rd June is an INSET day and therefore school is closed to the children. The staff will be spending the day working on our curriculum for 2024/2025 and looking at how we can further raise the bar!

We are also in the process of ensuring all of the children have the correct information in school. If you or any of your emergency contacts have moved, changed phone numbers or email addresses please could you ensure you have informed the office so that our records are up to date should we need to contact you.

This also extends to personal circumstances including the languages you speak at home. 22% of Primary children nationally were identified as having English as an additional language.

SATs

A HUGE well done to the Y6 children for all of their tenacity, courage, determination and perseverance during a very full on week. They navigated some tricky questions with confidence and maturity.

A Huge thank you too to the staff for their slick and thoughtful organisation and to the parents for the crowning glory of that week – the breakfast!

Parent Survey

The link to the parent survey will be coming out on Dojo later this week. Historically we have just sent out the OFSTED Parent View questionnaire and whilst this has served a purpose, it does not give us the information needed to make real, impactful change. We will still include some of these questions but the remodelled version will be split into 6 different sections:

- Communication
- Curriculum
- Extra Curriculum Activities
- Well Being
- SEND and Inclusion
- EYFS

Obviously not all sections will be relevant to all families but we felt this was the most efficient way to gather the information we really need.

The questionnaire will be open until Friday 14th June.

Attendance

We talk about attendance a lot and continually stress the importance of every day in school. We recognise that some children struggle for various reasons, that children get ill and that sometimes absence cannot be helped. However, in order for children to reach their potential they must be in school as much as feasibly possible. Lateness also impacts on attendance. School starts at 8:45am and the registration period closes at 9am. If your child arrives at school after 9am then this lateness classes as absence.

We have recently had a number of parents informing us of holidays during term time. Whilst we appreciate these are much more affordable, they will not be authorised. It is a myth that families are "allowed 10 days in an academic year". If a child misses 10 days in an academic year then their attendance will be 94.7% - this is below the desired attendance of 97%. Once you add in illness this figure rapidly falls to below a level which is acceptable.

From September, the Government are planning on bringing in much tighter legislation around attendance. Once we have this we will share the implications for us as a school.

Term 6...

Term 6 is notoriously busy therefore I will list the diary dates below but like we do at Christmas, I will send out a separate sheet for you to have to hand without trawling through a series of newsletters!



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Staffing

We were lucky

enough to interview some fabulous teachers earlier this term and as a result Miss Heaps will be joining us in September. She will be relocating and is really looking forward to joining St Michael's.

Miss Atkinson also has an exciting Summer ahead – she will be getting married! She will return to school in September as Mrs Richardson. We wish her and her husband to be a wonderful future together.

Ms Jaeger will be reducing her days to three days a week. These will be to deliver Forest School across the school and to continue to provide the incredible nurture groups and after school clubs that she currently delivers.

Provisional Staffing Plan 24/25

I know for many children (and parents!) knowing who their child's next teacher will be in good time allows for those important relationships to start being built.

Acorn – Mrs Green and Mrs Gregory

Willow – Miss Gardiner

Maple – Miss Cooper

Sycamore – Mrs Richardson

Rowan – Miss Heaps

Elm – Mrs Drabble

Ash – Miss Fytche

Oak – Mrs Satchwell and Mr Paynter

Diary Dates

24th May – Finish for half term 3:15

3rd June – INSET Day, school closed to pupils

4th June – Term 6 starts

13th June – Year 6 Tennis

13th June – KS2 Quad Kids

14th June – Parent questionnaire closes

19th June – Choir at Festival of Voices, Dorchester Abbey

3rd July – Sports Day

17th July – Transition Day in school

19th July – Reports home to parents

23rd July – End of Term 6 - 1pm finish

Safeguarding

If you are worried about your own child or another child in the community, please do not hesitate to contact the appropriate people:

Immediate danger

If you think a child is in immediate danger, call the police on **999**.

Immediate concern

If you have a concern about a child, please call MASH on **0345 050 7666**.

If you are a parent or carer

If you feel you are harming your child or are close to doing so please contact us on one of the following numbers:

- Office hours (8.30am – 5pm, Monday to Thursday, 8.30am – 4pm, Friday): Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub: **0345 050 7666**
- Outside office hours: Emergency Duty Team: **0800 833 408**

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