



# 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 27<sup>th</sup> September 2024

Dear Families,

After a very wet and soggy start to the week it I can't believe it is Friday already!

Thank you to all of the staff and children for their positive attitude on Tuesday. This weather is becoming more and more regular and keeping school open will always be a priority. We were certainly one of the more fortunate schools as we had hot water, flushing toilets, heating and (partial) power. I have to say SSE were fantastic - striving to get a generator to us from 7am! Thankfully it wasn't needed in the end.

We have reflected on Tuesday as part of our theme of thankfulness – thankful that we have a warm and safe school to come to, where we can learn and make friends. We have though about other children around the world who do not have this safety. Most importantly the children declared it “the best day every” because they got wear their wellies and splash!

We have had a visit from Dr Fiona Hammans, CEO of Abingdon Learning Trust this week. This is part of the due diligence around the conversion and was a great opportunity for her to get to know the school better. Fiona spent the day with us, attending singing assembly, talking to children about their learning, walking around classrooms and talking to staff.

*“Children are happy to be at school and move sensibly around the building. Relationships between pupils and between staff and pupils are strong and positive – the school's ethos can be seen to run through the way all members of the school interact with one another.*

*The singing assembly exemplified the school's ethos with older children responsible for getting younger ones into the hall and ready, older pupils acting as role models at the front of the hall, including working the IT.”*

*When curriculum reviews take place, changes have included ensuring there is a strong female representation and that male representation is more modern. There is a greater diversity across the curriculum so that all children can see and consider people who look like them. Likewise, reading lists are thoughtfully put together by staff to reflect the children and their interests.*

*Children were observed as engaged in their learning both in class and in the singing assembly.*

*A focus group of children in KS2 were happy to talk about their learning and maths was a popular ‘best’ subject. English too was a favourite.”*

## Communication

Please can I remind you that the Office is the main point of contact for reporting absence, changes to collection or other urgent matters.

Class Dojo can be used for anything else. Please do not send multiple people the same message as this leads to double working as we do not have visibility over the messages sent to other members of staff.

## Attendance

As you know we will be regularly monitoring attendance at St Michael's as always. The attendance data to date is below:

	Maple	Sycamore	Rowan	Elm	Ash	Oak
Attendance – 27 <sup>th</sup> Sept	96.2%	96.6%	96.2%	90.9%	95.1%	90.3%
Unauthorised Absences – 27 <sup>th</sup> Sept	0.37%	0.09%	0.95%	0.11%	1.11%	4.0%

For reference the National attendance rate for state funded primary schools is 96.2% with 1.5% unauthorised absence and 2.3% authorised absence.

Please always speak to school about any reason for absence or difficulties that you are experiencing to see how we can best support you.



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## SSA

The SSA will be holding an AGM on 17<sup>th</sup> October – please see the Dojo post for further details.

## Diary Dates

Diary Dates will always be at the end of the newsletters. Newsletters can be found on the website here:

<https://www.stmichaelssteventon.co.uk/newsletters>

- 30<sup>th</sup> September – Year 6 Residential to Kilvrough
- 2<sup>nd</sup> October – Open Morning for Prospective Parents
- 8<sup>th</sup> October – Individual School Photos
- 11<sup>th</sup> October – Harvest Festival, Church at 2pm
- 17<sup>th</sup> October – SSA AGM meeting
- 23<sup>rd</sup>/24<sup>th</sup> October – Parents Evening details to follow
- 24<sup>th</sup> October – Year 6 Class Assembly – 9am – parents welcome
- 25<sup>th</sup> October – INSET Day, School Closed to pupils
- 4<sup>th</sup> November – Term 2 starts 8:45am

## ADVANCED NOTICE

- 28<sup>th</sup> November – Panto Trip!
- 7<sup>th</sup> December – SSA Christmas Fair
- 11<sup>th</sup> December – Nativity 2pm
- 12<sup>th</sup> December – Nativity 6:30pm
- 16<sup>th</sup> December – iRock Concert to Parents 2:30pm

## Safeguarding

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

### School Safeguarding Team

Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) – Hayley Leyshon (HT)

Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads – Lina Sheehan (SENCO), Chris Paynter (DHT), Emily Green (EYFS Lead)

### 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.

We look forward to seeing everyone back on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> at 8:45am!

Kind Regards

Hayley Leyshon  
Headteacher