

St Michael's Church of England Primary School Newsletter

Friday 10th May 2024

I have come that [you] may have life, and have it to the full' John 10:10,

[Therefore],

'Be strong and courageous. The Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.' Joshua 1:9

These biblical texts underpin our vision summary, 'Courage to Flourish in the Love of God'.

Jesus' words from the New Testament describe his desire for everyone to be a full and flourishing version of their created selves, experiencing life in all its vibrant fullness, individually and in community.

Our ambition is for everyone to encounter this fullness through the life and work of the school, whatever their background, beliefs or circumstances.

God's words to Joshua from the Old Testament illustrate how life, and learning, can be challenging, bringing setbacks and discouragement. These words inspire us to keep on going in those circumstances, confident that God watches over us and walks beside us.

*The joining of these biblical texts is meaningful for the particular circumstances of our school community. It gives coherence to our aspirational vision that will grow courage and resilience as enablers of **'life in all its fullness'** for everyone.*



Message from Mrs Roberts

Dear Parents and Carers,

Greetings from St. Michael's CE Primary School! I am delighted to share with you some exciting updates and upcoming events.

First and foremost, let us extend a warm welcome to our new Bishop of Birmingham, Rt. Revd Dr. Michael Volland. Our school community has come together to create a special welcome gift for him – a beautiful plant adorned with heartfelt prayers crafted by each class. We hope that this plant will continue to flourish, symbolising the growth and prosperity of our diocese under his guidance.

On a different note, I am filled with immense pride as our Year 6 students prepare for their upcoming SATs. They have been working tirelessly, and their determination and resilience are truly inspiring. To support them during this crucial time, we encourage all Year 6 parents to ensure their children attend the breakfast club, where they can fuel up and start their day with a positive mindset. Mrs. Davies has shared the necessary information regarding the breakfast club timings and arrangements.

As we navigate through these exciting times, let us remember the importance of trust – trust in our teachers, our peers, and our community. Just as Jonah found solace in trusting God's plan, we too can find strength in trusting one another. By fostering an environment of trust and support, we create a nurturing space where our students can thrive and reach their full potential.

I would like to extend my heartfelt gratitude to all of you for your unwavering support and commitment to our school. Together, we can continue to build a vibrant and inclusive community where every child feels valued and empowered to achieve their dreams.

I hope you all have a lovely weekend.

Warm regards,

Mrs Roberts

Our present for the new Bishop of Birmingham, Rt. Revd Dr. Michael Volland



Phonics

At St Michael's, we teach our children to read using a scheme called Little Wandle which is a systematic and synthetic phonics programme. We teach this programme from Nursery to Year 2. We have uploaded lots of useful resources onto the phonics page of our school website which you can use at home. [Phonics Resources](#)

You can also access the Little Wandle website which has lots of videos which explain how we teach reading and how to pronounce the sounds. [Little Wandle Website](#)

Year 1 Phonics Screening Check

All children in Year 1 will complete the Phonics Screening Check during the week of the 10th June. This is a check of your child's phonics knowledge. The Phonics Screening Check contains 40 words divided into two sections of 20 words. Both sections contain a mixture of real words and pseudo-words (alien words). The check is designed to give teachers information on how your child is progressing in phonics. It will help to identify whether your child needs additional support at this stage so that they do not fall behind in this vital early reading skill. There is lots of useful information about the Phonics Screening Check for Year 1 parents on our website. [Phonics Screening Check Information](#)

If you have any questions about phonics or the Phonics Screening Check, please speak to your child's class teacher or to Mr Bhatti our Deputy Headteacher.

Queries or concerns

If you have a query or concern, please remember to speak to the classteacher in the first instance. You can arrange this by either phoning or emailing the office who will pass on the message. The class teacher will then get in touch with you as soon as possible. Please bear in mind that this will be before or after school as they are teaching throughout the day.

Scotland Lane

I have been contacted by Preet Kaur Gill (MP for Edgbaston) this week. She has received complaints from residents of Scotland Lane in Bartley Green about parents/carers parking on the road. They have said that parents and carers of the school are parking over dropped kerbs, grass verges, and in front of houses. There are a number of elderly residents and residents with disabilities that this is impacting on. Can we please ask that you are mindful about where you park during pick up and drop off.

Key Dates

Week beginning 13th May - Key Stage 2 SATs week.

Thursday 16th May - Fun Food for Census Day.

Friday 17th May - Photographer in school.

Friday 17th May - Year 6 Pizza afternoon.

Monday 20th May - Year 5 Celebrating the Pentecost at St Michael's Church (adults invited).

Thursday 23rd May - Year 4 at The Botanical Gardens.

Wednesday 22nd May - Year 3 Egyptian Day.

Thursday 23rd May - Reception and Key Stage 1 Headteacher Awards.

Friday 24th May - Key Stage 2 Headteacher Awards.

Friday 24th May - Year 2 at Bartley Green library.

Friday 24th May - Year 1 at Black Country Museum.

Friday 24th May - Last day of the half term.

Monday 3rd June - Teacher Training Day.

Tuesday 4th June - children return to school.

Week beginning 3rd June - Year 4 Multiplication Tables Check.

Week beginning 10th June - Key Stage 1 Phonics Screening Check.

Nursery Places



The poster features a yellow background with a red border. On the left, there is a logo for St Michael's C.E. Primary School and a photograph of a young girl with colorful handprints on her face. In the center, a red box contains the text 'NURSERY PLACES AVAILABLE'. To the right, a yellow speech bubble contains text about 15 hours of free child care. Below this, the school's address and contact information are provided, including a red 'Enquire Now' button with a phone number. At the bottom, the school's email address is listed.

St Michael's
C.E. Primary School

NURSERY PLACES AVAILABLE

If you have a child who turns 3 before September 1st 2024, they will be entitled to 15 hours free child care. Please contact the school office on the number below to enquire about the available spaces in our Nursery.

St Michael's CE Primary School
Nantmel Grove
Bartley Green
B32 3JS

Enquire Now - 0121 464 4345

office@stmichaelsb32.bdmad.org.uk

Attendance



*The whole school's attendance target is 96%. The whole school attendance for the year so far is **93.8%**. Unfortunately, our persistent absence is **18%**. Please ensure your child comes to school every day.*

So far this academic year, we have had 18 families taking unauthorised leave in term time (holidays). This has resulted in £2932 in fixed penalty notices issued by Birmingham City Council. We ask that families do not take leave in term time as these will not be authorised by school.

Class Attendance - for this year so far!

RG - 92.5%

RS - 90.3%

1F - 92.1%

1M - 91.8%

2K - 92.7%

2R - 94.1%

3D - 94.5%

3T - 95.4%

4J - 93.5%

4R - 96.1%

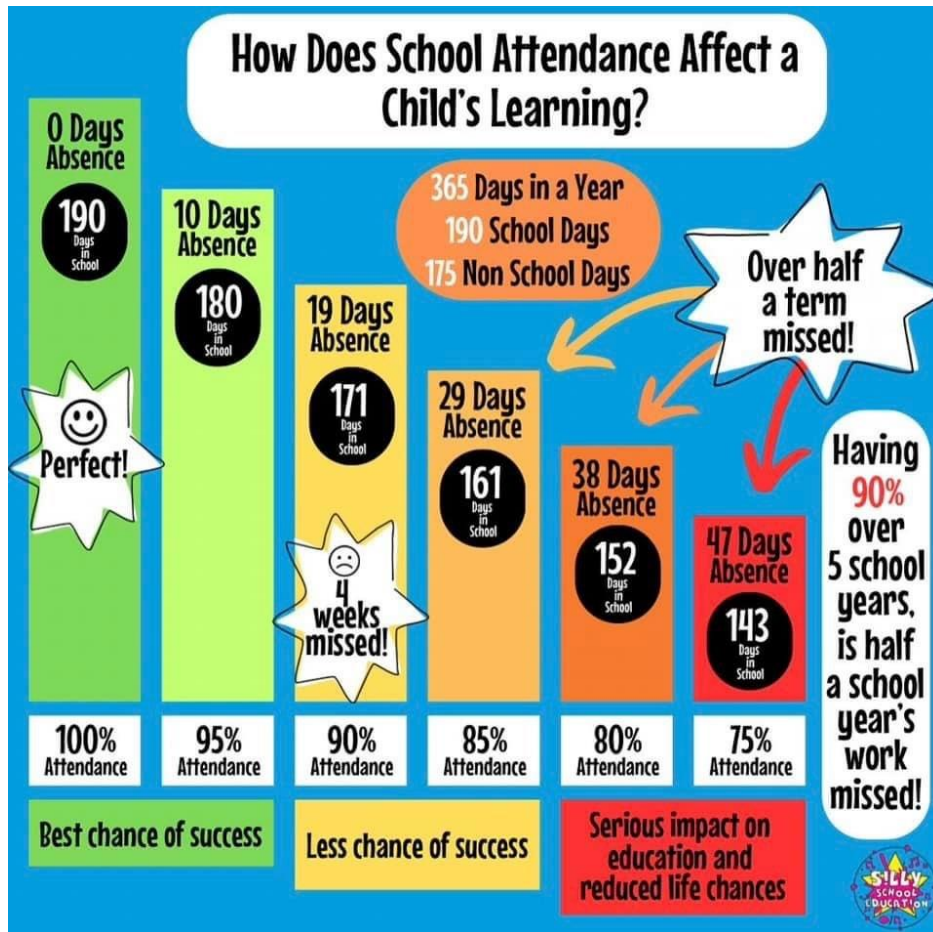
5F - 94.4%

5H - 95%

6H - 94.8%

6L - 93.6%

Since September 2023, we have had an increase in the number of children arriving to school late. When we have added these minutes up, they total 84 days worth of missed learning. Children must be in school and ready to learn promptly each day by 8:45am. Just a reminder that gates open at 8:35am.



NHS guidance for parents about illnesses and when their child should be in school or kept at home

The guidance can be found below:

<https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>

Action For Children - Advice For Parents On Children Vaping

The guidance can be found below:

<https://parents.actionforchildren.org.uk/behaviour/challenging-behaviour/im-worried-about-my-child-vaping/>

Times Tables Rockstars



TTRS Tournaments

Year Four Tournament

4J - 676

4R - 341

School Tournament

6H - 755

4J - 751

4R - 351

5H - 152

6L - 58

3D - 55

3T - 37

2K - 19

2R - 3

5F - 0

Most time spent on TTRS in KS2 in the past seven days (Wednesday-Wednesday)

Key Stage 2

1. *Mason 6H*

2. *Shema 4R*

3. *Anit 5H*

Stars of the Week

The following children were nominated by the adults in their classroom this week.

Nursery

Elliott - for his enthusiasm in Maths and Phonics.

Frankie - for her amazing effort with writing her name.

Reception

RG

Wilfred - for always working hard and making the right choices.

Audrey - for always contributing your ideas in lessons.

RS

Omar has been showing fantastic behaviour when walking around school. He is always showing his WOW walking and being polite to everyone.

Mikail has been trying hard with his writing. he has been independently sounding out words and even brought in some writing that he has practiced at home!

Year 1

1F

Conor -for trying hard with your written work.

Maisen -for great progression in phonics.

1M

Harley - for super phonics.

Neve - for always being a role model.

Year 2

2K

Elliot - for super Phonics work this half term. You have made massive improvements well done.

Alanah P- for working hard this week when we were sewing. You sewed your purse very well.

2R

Lukeo- for being a phonics super star and trying his hardest.

Harry- for being a History genius.

Year 3

3D

Gracie - for being kind and helpful inside the classroom.

Amaya - for always showing STAR behaviour.

3T

Bailey - for trying really hard in Maths to tell the time. At the beginning of the week he was finding it difficult but now he has started to get the hang of it.

Lilly - for learning about time at home (using an analogue clock) so that she would be able to answer questions in school and help others.

Year 4

4J

Ellie - for improving her writing.

Barakah - for her skills in cricket.

4R

Daniel- for always showing Wow Walking throughout the whole day.

Abbie- for always showing STAR behaviour.

Year 5

5F

Archie P - for showing outstanding knowledge on our school river trip

Rosie - for working extremely hard to improve your handwriting

5H

Ahmad - for using a wider range of vocabulary in your writing

Dylan Chim - for being kind and caring towards others

Year 6

6H

Millie - for showing resilience and being in school ready to learn every day. Millie also doubled her arithmetic score this week!

Mason - for making a huge contribution to 6H's TTRockstars score!

6L

Connor - for increased confidence and independence in writing!

Manha - for working so hard in the classroom, and at home, resulting in fantastic progress! Well done!

Lunchtime Stars

These children have been nominated by the adults on the playground for being excellent role models.

Nursery

Adey - for being kind and helping his friends in the playground at lunchtime

Reception

Ronnie - for making good choices at lunch time.

Year 1

George - for wow walking

Year 2

2K : Mikiyas - for being a role model.

2R: Nathan- for having lovely manners.

Year 3

3T : Noah HL for making the right choices and showing lovely WOW walking.

Year 4

4J : Gabriel - for being polite

4R: Joshua - for playing nicely with others.

Year 5

5H : Dylan Chim - for being incredibly kind and caring towards others

What is happening in the classroom?

Nursery

This week, the nursery children have learnt about how we can look after ourselves. We came up with ideas as to what we can do in our every day lives to be healthy and what choices we can make to ensure we look after our teeth, hair and bodies. We took this theme a step further to look at how we can look after pets and how a farmer might look after their animals. We learnt that many living things need similar things, food, water, warmth, connection and shelter. We made dens in the construction area, fed the farm animals with the scoops and bowls, created a teeth brushing routine and explored a variety of items to help us look after pets.

The children were also very excited to see how big our caterpillars have grown over the weekend! They are huge! And still growing! How big will they be next week?

Reception

RG

This week Reception have been learning about the life cycle of a butterfly. We had fun going to Nursery to see the caterpillars and we will go back as they grow and change. In Maths this week have been

exploring shape and how we can manipulate shapes. In RE we have been learning about the Creation story, thinking about why Christians believe it is important for people to look after animals.

RS

Now that we have had this beautiful weather, we have started to plant some vegetables in our garden and we have been making sure to water it everyday, we cant wait for it to start growing!

In literacy we have been writing the build up to our story, lots of children have been trying hard to work as independently as they can and using their segmenting fingers to sound out the words, it is fantastic to see how everyones writing has developed.

1F

This week in maths, the children have been recognising a quarter of a quantity. They have been using a range of resources to share a given number into 4 equal parts. This week in English, the children have begun planning and writing their diary entries. They will be writing as themselves and explaining how Black Rock must be saved.

Following on from our previous science lesson, the seeds that the children planted are now flourishing. The tallest sunflower is now measuring 15cm which is amazing.

1M

In English this week the children have been writing a diary entry pretending to be Erin. They have given some fantastic ideas as to why Black Rock should be saved. They have really enjoyed Science this week as we were identifying different types of trees. We went on a tree hunt and found lots of deciduous trees.

Year 2

2K

This week we have been learning about length and height in Maths. We have been measuring in cm and m. In English we are preparing to write a story next week. We have enjoyed lots of drama this week. We also had a D&T day this week, we made some purses using running stitch.

2R

This week in Maths we have been finishing off our topic of length and height. The children have really enjoyed using metre sticks to measure things in the room. We have also been recapping our History lessons where we looked back on loads of significant people. The children have loved debating over who they felt was most significant. The children also made their own purses in DT.

Year 3

3D

In DT this week, the children designed their own cushion and practiced how to cross-stitch and applique ready for when they make their cushion next week. In Maths, we have been learning how to tell the time using roman numerals so please continue to practice telling the time with children at home, using an analogue clock!

3T

In Maths, we have been learning how to tell the time using an analogue clock, both numeral and in Roman numerals so please continue to practice telling the time with children at home, using an analogue clock! In English, we have been imagining we are an Egyptologist and have written a secret diary entry about finding an unbelievable Egyptian artefact. In DT, we have finished constructing our castles and have started to design our cushions.

Year 4

4J

This week in 4J we have been planning our diary entry in writing ensuring that we include all the features we have been learning about over the past two weeks. During maths lessons, children have been exploring a tricky concept of tenths and hundredths and trying to master the skill relating to decimals. In PSHE we have been discussing friendships and how they can change over time.

4R

This week, in Maths, 4R have been practicing making 1 by adding tenths and hundredths. They have remembered how to use the skills learned in previous years and applied that knowledge into their current learning! In their writing lessons, the children have begun to plan and write their diary entries, still based on the book 'the Journey'. In Science, 4R went on a walk around our local area to identify the dangers to local wildlife's habitats and what we can do to help them.

Year 5

5H

We had a fantastic start to our week when we visited Severn Valley Country Park as part of our topic on rivers. We followed a stream from its source until it entered the River Severn, looking at all the different parts and ensuring we knew the correct vocabulary. We also did a pond dip. During this we caught and examined stickleback fish, tadpoles, shrimp, snails, waterboatman and water mites. During our walk, we also saw frog.

5F

We had a fantastic start to our week when we visited Severn Valley Country Park as part of our topic on rivers. We followed a stream from its source until it entered the River Severn, looking at all the different parts and ensuring we knew the correct vocabulary. We also did a pond dip. During this we caught and examined stickleback fish, tadpoles, shrimp, snails, waterboatman and water mites. 5F showed an immense amount of knowledge on our trip and our guide actually said we were one of the most knowledgeable classes he has ever had, well done 5F!

Year 6

It has been such a busy (and warm!) week in Year 6 and we are so proud of each and every one of them. In our reading lessons, we've explored a range of texts, including a poem using figurative language to describe a plane. In our maths lessons, we have been recapping previous learning such as interpreting line graphs and converting measures. We hope the children have a lovely and sunny weekend and are

well rested for next week! We know that they will all do their best and the SATs do not measure all of their wonderful attributes and talents! Well done Year 6 - we know you'll smash it!

Measles

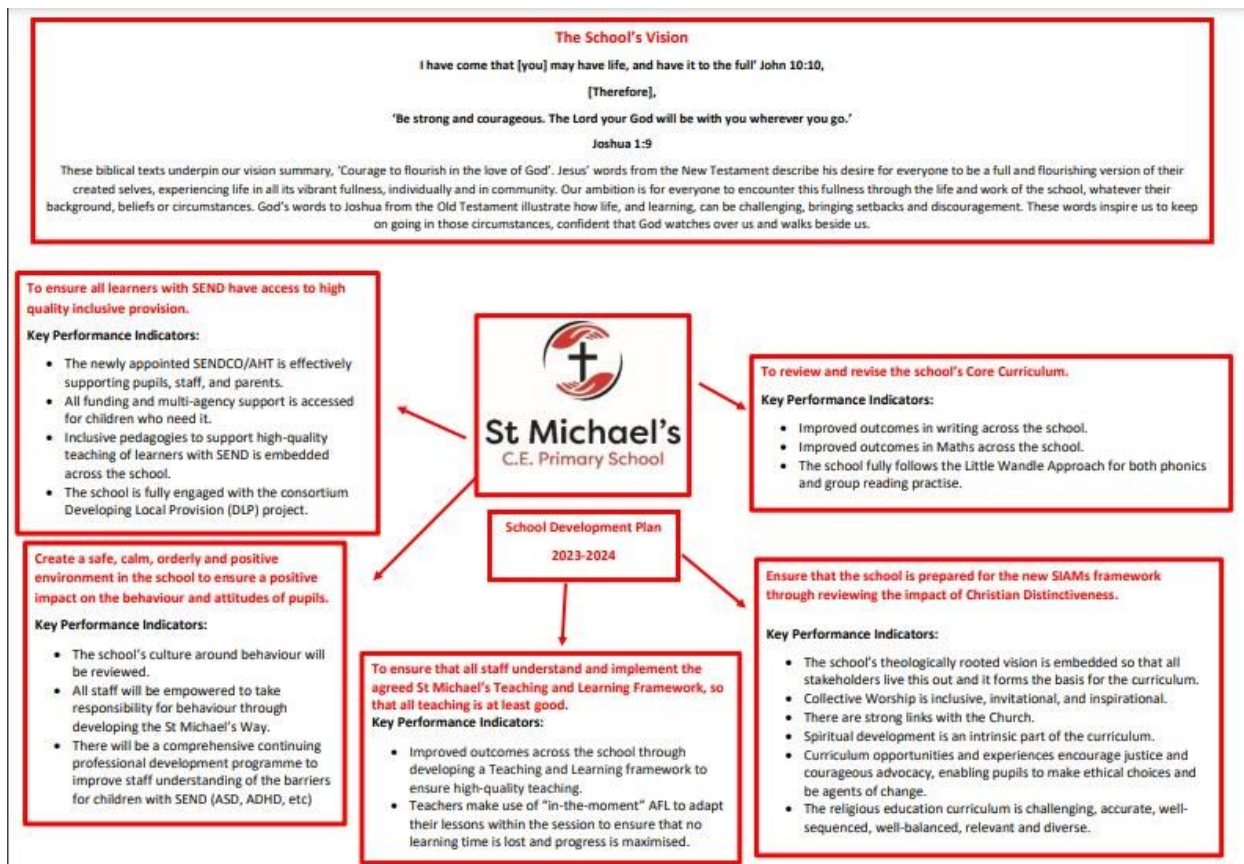
As you may be aware, across Birmingham there has been an outbreak of measles. Please read the following information which has been issued:

- *There's no specific medical treatment for measles, so it's important to get vaccinated as it's the best protection against becoming seriously unwell.*
 - *Measles usually starts with cold-like symptoms, followed by a rash a few days later.*
 - *You should ask for an urgent GP appointment or get help from NHS 111 if you think you or your child may have measles.*
 - *Don't go to the GP or any other healthcare setting without calling them first.*
 - *If your child has been diagnosed with measles by a doctor, they should stay off nursery or school for at least 4 days from when the rash first appears. They should also avoid close contact with babies and anyone who is pregnant or has a weakened immune system.*
 - *Parents can book a free vaccine through the GP but if a child has already been vaccinated it is very unlikely that they have measles. 'It's fine to send your child to school with a minor cough or common cold, provided they don't have a temperature'. The incubation period is the length of time it can take to develop the illness after being in contact with someone with measles. For measles, the incubation period can be up to 21 days.*
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School Development Plan

Please click on the link below to see this year's School Development Plan.

[School Develop Plan](#)



What you need to bring to school

A reminder of what to bring to school:

✓ *A water bottle (please make sure it has your name on it). This should only have water in it and have a pop up top (not a screw top as if these fall over on the desks, they will ruin the children's work).*

✓ *A school bag or bookbag.*

✓ *A healthy fruit snack for breaktime (Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 are provided with this).*

✓ *You can bring your scooter or bike to school if you wish. Please remember to wear a helmet and not to ride them whilst on school grounds.*

✓ *As always, please remember not to bring in any toys or stationery from home, unless it has been specifically requested by your teacher.*

X No non-prescribed medication. Any medication that has been prescribed must be handed by the parent/carer to the school office staff who will ask you to complete a medication form detailing permission and dosage.

Medical and Dietary Information

It is very important that we have up-to-date medical information including new Care Plans so we will be sending these out for you to review, complete and return. Any other updated health information should be sent in via the school office.

Please remember to inform the school of any changes to your child's medical or dietary needs.

Please also ensure that any prescribed medication, including an inhaler or EpiPen, is in-date and in school - it is parents responsibility to ensure this.

Free School Meals, Toast and Price Changes

All children in Year's Reception - Year 2 are entitled to a 'Universal Free School Meal'.

When a child enters Year 3 this entitlement ends. If you would like your child to receive a school dinner you will need to:

- Check you eligibility for a FSM here: [Online FSM Application \(cloudforedu.org.uk\)](https://cloudforedu.org.uk) School will be notified of the outcome of your application and proceed accordingly.*
- Top up your 'School Food United' account to ensure there are funds to pay for your child's meals. The price for a school meal for the academic year 23/24 is £2.80 per day. Remember that these need to be ordered by **8.30 am** each day.*
- We will no longer be accepting cash for toast, this will also need to be ordered each down through 'School Food United' The cost per day is 25p. Children will receive their toast at their break time between around 10.30am. Remember that these need to be ordered by **8.30 am** each day.*

- *We sent out guidance of how to create/use your 'School Food United' app via Arbor last week - if you require any further assistance please speak to a member of the school office.*
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Birthdays

Natasha's Law came into effect on 1st October 2021. We appreciate that there may be some special times throughout the year when children may wish to bring sweets or chocolate in to share with their friends (e.g birthdays), please may we ask that children only bring in prepacked sweets such as Haribos which can then be handed out at the end of the day before children go and see their parents or guardians. Please understand that we cannot accept any homemade or individual sweets as this will not comply with Natasha's Law or current allergen requirements.

Nut Free School

A reminder that the school is a nut-free zone as several children and members of staff have severe nut allergies. Please make sure that no nuts are brought to school and please check the ingredients on packets carefully. Thank you for helping us to keep all our community safe.

School Uniform

- *White polo shirt (with/without logo).*
 - *Red sweatshirt or cardigan (with or without logo).*
 - *Grey or black trousers, skirt or pinafore.*
 - *Red and white check dress (summer).*
 - *Grey or black shorts (summer).*
 - *Black shoes.*
-



P.E Uniform

- *Red or black shorts.*
 - *White t-shirt (with or without the school logo).*
 - *Black bumps/trainers.*
 - *Black tracksuit bottoms for outdoor games in winter.*
-

Pumps are needed for indoor PE and must come in a separate bag for children to change into for the lesson. Trainers are not to be worn inside. Please make sure that your child has a pair of pumps onsite in case the weather means we need to do P.E inside.

You can also purchase a hoodie with the school logo on for P.E. from the office. This is not compulsory.



Labelling

We understand how much a new uniform and school items cost and we try our best to ensure the children look after their clothing and bags. Please label your child's clothing, bags, lunch boxes, shoes and water bottles to help us return lost items to their owner.

Contact Details

Telephone Numbers

Schools should hold two contact numbers for emergencies for each child. Please ensure these are up to date on your Arbor account.

Email Address

We communicate with parents and carers through email. Please do check your email address is up to date on Arbor.

Twitter/X

Please follow us on:

@stmichaelsb32
