

# St Michael's Church of England Primary School Newsletter



**Friday 10th November 2023**

---

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,*

*Welcome back. I hope that you had a lovely half term break.*

*It has been a fantastic first week back and it has been lovely to see how smart the children love in their uniforms and P.E kits.*

*We will be focusing on the Christian Value of Hope this half term. The scripture we are using to support this is:*

**'I can do all things through him who strengthens me' (Philippians 4:13)**

*This is a verse from the New Testament in the Bible. It's often interpreted as a source of hope due to the assurance it provides. It emphasises the presence of a sustaining power that enables individuals to face challenges, endure hardships, and find the strength needed to navigate through life's trials. It's a reminder that with the strength derived from a higher power, one can face and conquer adversity, which instills hope in difficult times.*

*Well done to Year 6. They were excellent representatives for the school this week at the Remembrance Service at St Michael's School. You were respectful throughout and we are really proud of you. Thank you to Reverend Ruth for organising this and bringing all of the local schools together.*

*Mrs Roberts*

*Headteacher*

---

## **Award**

---

*I am delighted to let you know that the school has achieved accredited Communication Friendly Status. A huge thank you to all of the staff who worked hard to achieve this.*

---



## Attendance





---

*The whole school's attendance target is 96%. The whole school attendance for the year so far is **94.6%**. Unfortunately, our persistent absence is already at **18.2%**. Please ensure your child comes to school every day.*

---

## **Class Attendance - for this year so far!**

---

*RG - 93.3%*

*RS - 92.2%*

*1F - 93.5%*

*1M - 92.4%*

*2K - 92.7%*

*2R - 94.4%*

*3D - 93.5%*

*3T - 97.5%*

*4J - 93.8%*

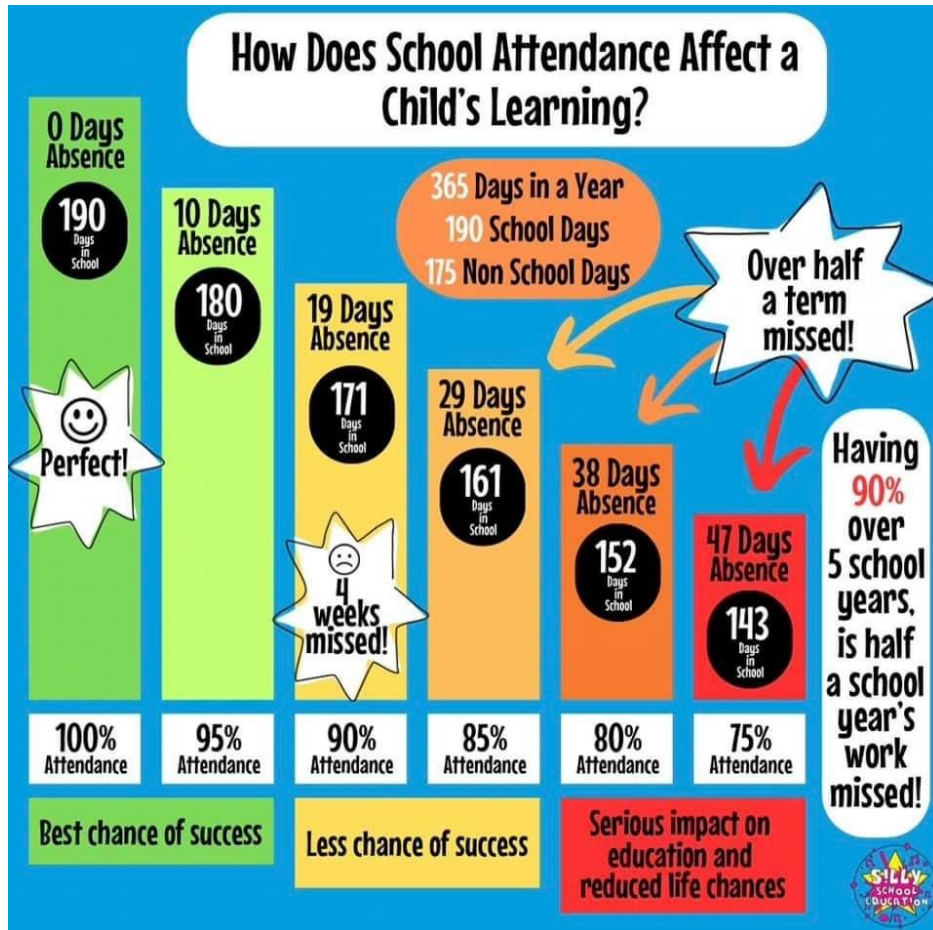
*4R - 96.5%*

5F - 95.3%

5H - 95.3%

6H - 95.8%

6L - 93.3%



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/>

---

## **Advice For Parents On Children Vaping**

---

*Please click on the link below for guidance on children vaping.*

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

---

## **Key Dates**

---

*W/b Monday 13th November: Anti-bullying week.*

*Tuesday 14th : Year 2 Diwali Assembly (9.00am).*

*Thursday 9th November: Year 6 at St Michael's for the Remembrance Service (children only).*

*Wednesday 15th November - Friday 17th November - Year 6 Residential.*

*Wednesday 15th November: Year 2 parent and carer lunch and lesson (details to follow).*

*Thursday 16th November: Coffee morning for parents and carers of children with SEND (Ms Joyce will be sending out further details regarding this).*

*Friday 17th November: Children in Need (details to follow).*

*Tuesday 21st November: Reception phonics workshop for parents and carers.*

*Tuesday 21st November: Year 5 at the library.*

*Wednesday 22nd November: Year 1 phonics workshop for parents and carers.*

*Friday 24th November : photographer in school (solo and sibling photos).*

*Tuesday 28th November: Open Evening for parents and carers to look at their children's books.*

*Tuesday 28th November: Year 4 at the library.*

*Wednesday 29th November: Year 4 parent and carer lunch and lesson (details to follow).*

*Tuesday 5th December at 2pm: Nursery Carol Concert for parents and carers.*

*Thursday 7th December: Year 3 Hannukah Assembly (9.00am).*

*Wednesday 13th December: Year 2 trip to Aston Hall.*

*Thursday 14th December at 4pm: Year 5 Christmas Production at school (further details to follow).*

*Friday 15th December: Christmas Grotto and Christmas Jumper Day.*

*Tuesday 19th December: Whole School Pantomime.*

*Wednesday 20th December at 2pm and 4pm: Reception Nativity (details to follow).*

*Thursday 21st December: Whole school at St Michael's Church (children only).*

*Thursday 21st December: Christmas Parties in the afternoon (details to follow).*

*Friday 22nd December: Last day of term.*

---

## **Stars of the Week**

---

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

---

## Nursery

---

*Laith - For being a class role model by making sensible choices.*

*Blake - For always giving 100% effort during learning time.*

---

## Reception

---

*RG*

*Jayce has been working really hard in his blending practice group this week.*

*Cinarata has been trying really hard in our Phonics lessons this week and is eager to participate.*

*RS*

*Aaron has been trying super hard in his blending practice group, he is able to recall most of the GPCs he has been looking at this week and he is always eager to participate.*

*Michaela showed resilience this week when she was trying to create a slide using the wooden planks and construction materials outside. She used trial and error to make the plank balance.*

---

## Year 1

---

*1F*

*Zach - For being helpful around the classroom.*

*Bethany - For being a kind friend to others in the class.*

*1M*



*Ethan - For trying really hard with his writing.*

*Lailah - For working hard in Maths.*

---

## **Year 2**

---

2K

*Leighton - For working hard during Maths this week.*

*George - For being very helpful in class and also helping his friends this week.*

2R

*Etana - For always being a role model, working hard and always producing fantastic work.*

*Efrata - For always making good choices, showing respect and her Marvellous Manners.*

---

## **Year 3**

---

3D

*Gracie - For always being helpful around the classroom.*

*Harley - For trying really hard with her handwriting.*

3T

*Isaac for always listening and being ready to learn.*

*Rosie for trying her hardest to join her handwriting!*

---

## Year 4

---

4J

*Freya - For constantly being a role model to others.*

*Wyatt M - For performing his poem to his class.*

4R

*Ruby - For being more independent in her work*

*Gabriel - For always wanting to do his best and improve*

---

## Year 5

---

5F

*Cerys - For excellent personification writing in English.*

*Freya - For massive improvements in Maths and English.*

5H

*Joel - For showing a positive attitude towards your work*

*Lexi - For showing a good recall during maths*

---

## Year 6

---

6H

*Esmail - For working so hard in her Maths lessons - always trying her best!*

*Sukhman - For trying really hard in his presentation!*

6L

*Amrit - For taking pride and care in her handwriting and presentation.*

*Ethan - For displaying our new focus: STAR!*

---

## What is happening in the classroom?

### Nursery

---

*How lovely to have the children back in the classroom after the half term break! They were eager to share with their friends what they had been getting up to over the "holiday".*

*This week, we have been learning about Remembrance day by making a poppy wreath, designing our own medals and taking time to meditate and think about the things we are grateful for.*

*The children also talked about Bonfire night and how we can be safe around fire and fireworks. We made our own fireworks by creating colourful swirling marks on tin foil and adding sequin patterns to playdough.*

*Our book of the week is "Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What do you see?" and together we have drawn a story map to help the children recite the story and learned the sign language for basic colours.*

---

## Reception

---

*RG- Reception have been learning to identify parts of an object that make the whole in maths. In Talk for Writing we have started learning to retell the story of the Gruffalo.*

*RS- Reception have been learning about Diwali this week. They have learnt about how Diwali is celebrated and listened to the story and Rama and Sita. They explored ,making rangoli patterns using, paint, lentils, playdough and chalk.*

---

## Year 1

---

*1F - In English this week the children were introduced to the story of Beegu. The children heard a crash outside and we went to investigate. There was evidence of a spaceship crashing in the playground and the children had lots of questions. Back in the classroom, the children wrote sentences using a question mark. Beegu has not been seen since, however the hunt for Beegu continues....*

*1M - In Year 1 this week we have been reading Beegu. The children have been making predictions about what they think Beegu will do next. We also heard a crash outside school and there was signs of Beegu in our school grounds. The children wrote sentences to describe Beegu and have been keeping a look out for her in the school.*

---

## Year 2

---

*2K - In 2K this week we have started looking at a new book called the 'The Night Gardener' the children have really enjoyed exploring this book and predicting what the story might be about. We have focused on writing descriptive sentences to support us to write a setting description. In Maths we have started looking at addition and subtraction. We have started using our number facts to 10 to support us with other addition questions. We have started Gymnastics in PE and the children have been working really hard preparing for their Diwali assembly which you can come and see next Tuesday morning.*

*2R - In 2R this week we have started looking at a new book called the 'The Night Gardener' the children have really enjoyed using this book to create fantastic sentences in their writing. In Maths we have started looking at addition and the children have been working really hard preparing for their Diwali assembly.*

---

## Year 3

---

*3D - This week we have been learning about the festival Diwali in RE. The children created posters about this festival, explaining what it is, when it happens and where it happens. We discussed the different symbols that represent Diwali such as fireworks, candles and presents.*

*3T - In Maths this week, we have been learning how to estimate and how to use the inverse operation to check answers are correct. In English, we have been looking at newspaper reports and finding the features of a newspaper report. In Reading, we have started our new book Breakfast Club Adventures by Marcus Rashford and we have been answering vocabulary, retrieval and inference questions.*

---

## Year 4

---

*4J - Children have been enjoying their new sport, handball. 4J have found it challenging to understand the rules of handball but have used their previous knowledge and skills for support. Also, children have been exploring their new book 'Kensuke's Kingdom' by Michael Morpurgo.*

*4R- Children have started their new topics, handball and dance, in PE and have enjoyed them. They have been applying themselves in both reading and writing and have thrown themselves into their new books,*

---

## Year 5

---

*5H - This week, in maths, we have been looking at multiples. We have carried out an investigation in science to find out the purpose of a pulley. We have also begun our new geography topic which is about France. The children have learnt about famous landmarks and begun to think about different cities.*

*5F - This week, in maths, we have been looking at multiples and factors of numbers. We have been learning about the 10 commandments in RE and how we can show love to the people around us. In Geography, we started our new topic (France). We learned about famous landmarks in France, their locations and used an Atlas to locate key cities within France.*

---

## Year 6

---

*6H - What a lovely week back we've had... nice to welcome back 6H! This week we have been focusing really hard on the Battle of Britain and understanding why it was such a significant part to World War 2. The children thoroughly enjoyed learning about the statistics, the different planes and the way in which Britain turned their 'disadvantage' into an 'advantage'! The children worked really hard to display their understanding through a non-chronological report.*

*6L- It has been a fantastic first week back for 6L and the children have enjoyed starting their new science topic 'Evolution and Inheritance'. They have learnt how fossils are formed and how they can help palaeontologists to learn about living things from the past. The children looked at dinosaur fossils and thought about what those animals may have looked like and used their teeth to infer if they were carnivores, omnivores or herbivores. Well done Year 6 for a super first week back!*

---

## 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 yourname 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.

X 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.*
- 

## **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*

---