

# St Michael's Church of England Primary School Newsletter



**Friday 15th September 2023**

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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.*

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## **Message from Mrs Roberts**

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*Dear Parents and Carers,*

*I hope this newsletter finds you in good health. We have continued to focus on the Christian Value of Courage this week and talking about the story of Daniel in the Lion's Den. We have discussed how courage is the strength to face challenges, persevere in the face of adversity, and stand up for what is right.*

### **Lessons from Daniel's Courage:**

- 1. Standing Up for Beliefs:** *Daniel's story teaches us the importance of standing up for our beliefs, even in the face of adversity. It shows that courage lies in doing what we believe to be right.*
- 2. Overcoming Fear:** *Daniel's unwavering faith helped him overcome the paralysing fear of the lions. It reminds us that courage is not the absence of fear, but the ability to act despite it.*
- 3. Faith and Resilience:** *Daniel's trust in God and resilience in the face of danger is a testament to the power of faith. It encourages us to have faith in ourselves and our abilities, even when the odds seem insurmountable.*

### **Fostering Courage in Our Students:**

*At St. Michaels, we aim to instil these valuable lessons of courage in our students:*

- 1. Open Dialogue:** *We encourage open discussions about values, beliefs, and moral dilemmas in our classrooms to help students develop a strong sense of self and ethical reasoning.*
- 2. Embracing Challenges:** *We provide an environment where students can take on challenges, make mistakes, and learn from them. This fosters the resilience needed to face life's obstacles.*
- 3. Role Models:** *We highlight courageous individuals, like Daniel, who have made a positive impact on the world. These stories serve as inspiration for our students to follow their own convictions.*

*As we move forward in this academic year, let us continue to nurture the seeds of courage within our students. By doing so, we equip them with the strength and determination to overcome any obstacles that lie ahead, just as Daniel did in the lion's den.*

*As the headteacher of St Michael', I want to take a moment to emphasise the importance of respectful communication between our valued parents and our dedicated staff.*

*Our school community thrives when we foster an environment of mutual respect and open communication. Our staff members work tirelessly to provide the best possible education and support for your children. They are committed to their roles and have a genuine concern for the well-being and growth of each student.*

*To ensure a positive and respectful atmosphere, I kindly request that parents and guardians keep the following principles in mind when interacting with our staff:*

- 1. **Politeness and Courtesy:** Please address our staff members with politeness and courtesy. This includes using respectful language, maintaining a calm tone, and demonstrating patience, even in challenging situations.*
- 2. **Active Listening:** When engaging with our staff, take the time to actively listen to their perspective. Constructive conversations often arise when both parties feel heard and understood.*
- 3. **Private Discussions:** If you have concerns or feedback, please schedule a private meeting with the relevant staff member or appropriate member of staff. Public discussions or confrontations should be avoided, as they can be detrimental to our school community.*

*By adhering to these principles, we can create a harmonious and productive school environment where our students can thrive and reach their full potential. Our staff members are an integral part of this educational journey, and we value their contributions immensely.*

*Thank you for your continued support and cooperation in fostering a respectful and inclusive community here at St Michael's.*

*Mrs Roberts*

## Meet the Teacher Meetings

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*Mrs Ranger and Mr Immanuel have been working with the staff to create a Meet the Teacher meeting that you are invited to. The aim of these meetings is to introduce ourselves and also give you as much information as possible about what will be happening in your child's class this year.*

*Year 1: Monday 18th September at 2.30pm*

*Year 2: Tuesday 19th September at 2.30pm*

*Year 3: Thursday 21st September at 2.30pm*

*Year 4: Monday 25th September at 2.30pm*

*Year 5: Wednesday 20th September at 2.30pm*

*Year 6: Friday 22nd September at 2.30pm*

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## Key Dates

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*Thursday 21st September: Year 5 at Cadbury World.*

*Tuesday 26th September: Year 6 at the Library.*

*Monday 2nd October: Years 1-6 at St Michael's Church to celebrate St Michael's Day (just the children).*

*Thursday 5th October: Year 4 Harvest Assembly at St Michael's Church (parents/carers invited) at 9.15am.*

*Thursday 5th October: Reception and Key Stage One Harvest Assembly at St Michael's Church (parents/carers welcome) at 2.00pm.*

*Friday 6th October: World Mental Health Day (wear yellow to school - further details will be sent out nearer the time).*

*Thursday 12th October: Year 6 Parent/Carer Lunch (details will be sent out in a separate letter nearer to the time).*

*Tuesday 17th October: Year 2 at the Library.*

*Wednesday 18th October: Pupil Progress Meetings (formerly known as Parent's Evening) from 3.30-7.00pm*

*Thursday 19th October: Pupil Progress Meetings (formerly known as Parent's Evening) from 3.30-5.30pm*

*Thursday 19th October: Open Afternoon for prospective Nursery and Reception Children (due to start September 2024) at 2.00pm.*

*Friday 20th October: Open Morning for prospective Nursery and Reception Children (due to start September 2024) at 10.00am.*

*Monday 23rd October: Key Stage 1 Headteacher Awards Celebration (invitations will be sent out the week before).*

*Tuesday 24th October: Year 1 at the Library.*

*Wednesday 25th October: Key Stage 2 Headteacher Awards Celebration (invitations will be sent out the week before).*

*Wednesday 25th October: Year 5 Parent/Carer Lunch (details will be sent out in a separate letter nearer to the time).*

*Thursday 26th October: Reception Welcome Service at St Michael's Church (parents and carers welcome) at 9.15am.*

*Thursday 26th October: Last day for the children to attend this half term.*

*Friday 27th October: School Closed for BDMAT Staff Training Day.*

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## **Stars of the Week**

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

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## Year 1

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*Austin - for being an excellent role model.*

*Conor - for always being ready to learn.*

*Thomas - for always doing the right thing and for being a role model.*

*Nora - for always being ready to learn.*

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## Year 2

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*Elim - for always being ready to learn.*

*Nathan - for always showing marvellous manners.*

*Freddie H - for working hard in maths and always starting his work straightaway.*

*Antonella - for always making the right choices.*

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## Year 3

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*Amelia K - for always getting involved in class discussions.*

*Brook M - for always putting 100% effort into everything he does.*

*Louie B - For fantastic art work.*

*Elsie B - for setting into Year 3 wonderfully.*

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## Year 4

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*River - for showing great enthusiasm and getting involved in our Roman Day.*

*Declan - for getting involved and putting maximum effort into everything.*

*Lucas D - for working hard to improve his handwriting.*

*Alaysia - for her super handwriting.*

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## Year 5

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*Ellora - for always demonstrating the 4R's.*

*Dylan C - for working hard to improve his handwriting.*

*Viola - for excellent presentation and always producing work to the highest standard.*

*Ellie - for always being a role model.*

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## Year 6

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*Jacob - for working really hard to improve his handwriting.*

*Amelia - for settling in so well to Year 6.*

*Bobbie-Beau - for taking pride in every piece of work.*

*Sasan - for being a true role model.*

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## What you need to bring to school

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*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 (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.*

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## Medical and Dietary Information

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*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.*

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## Free School Meals, Toast and Price Changes

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*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:*

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- 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. All toast orders must be submitted on a Sunday evening for the coming week. You will not be able to order toast after this time. 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**

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*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.*

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## **Nut Free School**

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*A reminder that the school is a nut-free zone as several children and members of 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.*

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## School Uniform

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- *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.*
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## P.E Uniform

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

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## Labelling

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*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.*

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## Contact Details

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

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