

St Michael's Church of England Primary School Newsletter

Friday 17th 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,

I hope this newsletter finds you all doing well.

First and foremost, I want to pass on a huge thank you from Bishop Michael for the gift we sent to him. The children put their hearts into creating beautiful prayers for him, and he was deeply touched. The tree now has a new home at the Croft, where it will be lovingly cared for.

Speaking of our wonderful students, let's give a resounding round of applause to our Year 6 pupils for their incredible effort and perseverance during the SATs exams. We are incredibly proud of each and everyone of them for tackling this challenge head-on. Their hard work and dedication are truly inspiring.

Now, I'd like to address a matter that has been brought to my attention. It's crucial that we maintain a respectful and positive environment for our children, both within the school premises and on the playground. I kindly request that all adults be mindful of their language and conduct, refraining from engaging in arguments or using inappropriate language in front of the children. Our children look up to us, and witnessing such behaviour can be distressing for them. We want to create a nurturing atmosphere where they feel safe and supported.

Thank you all for your continued dedication and support. Wishing you a wonderful weekend.

Warm regards,

The tree and prayers in their new home.



Parking on Field Lane

I have received some concerns regarding parking issues during drop-off and pick-up times. Residents in the area have reported instances where their driveways have been blocked, causing them to be late for work or unable to access their own homes. This is an inconvenience that we must address promptly.

I understand the challenges that come with navigating school traffic, but I kindly request that all parents and carers exercise caution and consideration when parking. Let's be mindful of our neighbours and ensure that their daily routines are not disrupted by our actions.

Thank you for your understanding and support.

Morning Snack (KS2)

Please can you ensure that children in KS2 are bringing in a healthy morning snack into school. If they are not ordering toast then they are able to bring in a piece of fruit from home. This should be the only type of snack they bring into school. Thank you.

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.

Key Dates

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.

17th June - Choir performing at the Repertory Theatre.

18th June - Sport's Day (details to e confirmed)

19th June - 3T visiting the residents of Bartley Green Lodge Care Home.

20th June - Year 6 parent/carer RSE Consultation (9.15 and 5.15pm)

2nd July - Year 6 Leaver's Service at St Martins in Birmingham.

3rd July - 3D visiting the residents of Bartley Green Lodge Care Home.

5th July - Animal Man visiting Years 2 and 3.

8th July - Nursery Sport's Day.

8th July - Year 3 Trip to Warwick Castle.

9th July - Year 6 at the Library.

9th July - Music Concert (Brass and Woodwind) at school.

9th July - Nursery Trip to Mount Pleasant Farm.

10th July - Nursery Graduation.

11th July - Year 6 Leaver's Production (2pm and 4pm - details to follow).

12th July - reports will be sent home via Arbor.

12th July - Enterprise Fayre.

15th July - Curling and Boccia Day.

16th July - Choir Performance

17th July - Year 5 and 6 Goal Setting Day.

18th July - Year 6 Leaver's Service at St. Michaels.

19th July - last day for the children to attend.

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%

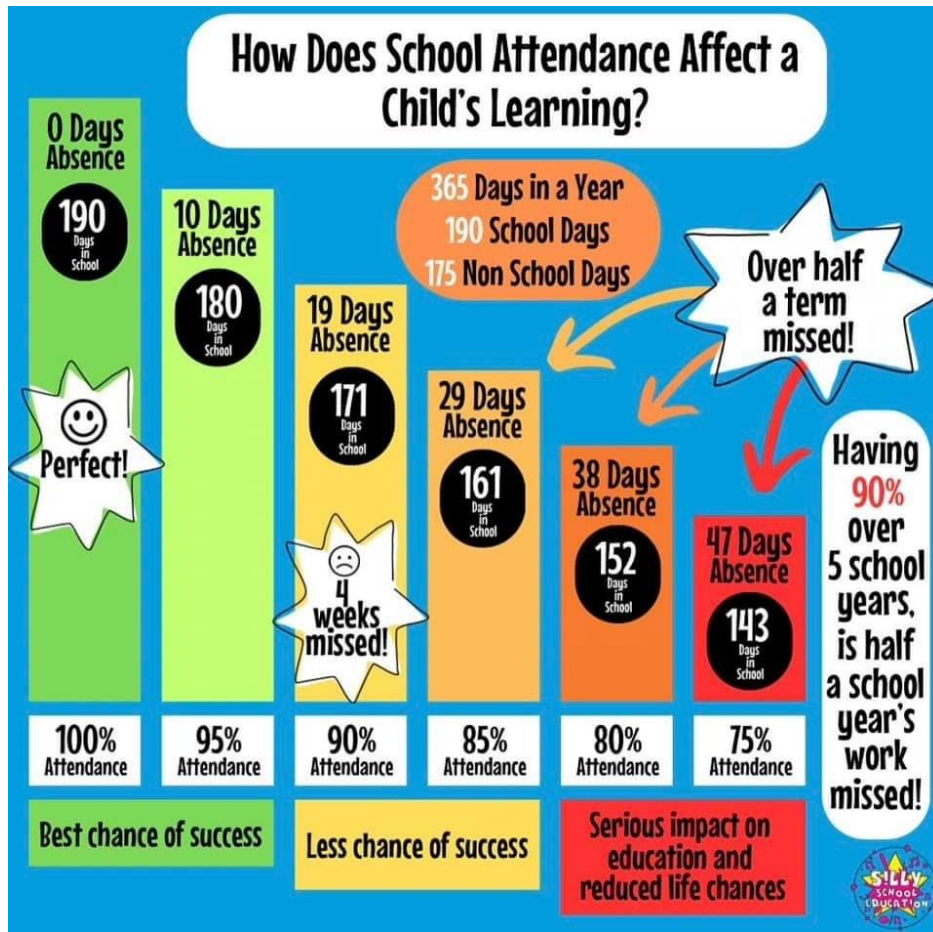
5F - 94.4%

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 - 1723

4R - 700

School Tournament

1st - 4J

2nd - 4R

3rd - 5H

4th - 6H

5th - 3T

6th - 6L

7th - 2K

8th - 5F

9th - 3D

10th - 2R

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

Key Stage 2

1. Kiya 4J

2. Maria 3T

3. Tayon 4J

Stars of the Week

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

Nursery

Zain - for improved concentration on our focus activities.

Blake - for improving his knowledge of caterpillars by asking questions.

Reception

RG-

Jayce- for always Wow Walking in school.

Stormi-Boo - for working really hard in Phonics.

RS

Lily has been trying hard in writing to work independently when writing the problem part of the story.

Lacey is always really eager to do adult led activities and improve her learning.

Year 1

1F

Norah B - for being a kind and helpful friend.

Alice - for trying her best in phonics.

1M

Arlo - for asking super questions in class.

Conor - for always trying his best in lessons.

Year 2

2K

Ava - for working hard with her writing this week and coming up with some lovely ideas.

Chenqi - for working hard with Maths this week. Well done Chenqi.

2R

Elim- for working super hard in Art and creating a beautiful piece of work.

Logan- for working hard in English lessons and really working on his handwriting.

Year 3

3D

Amelia - for trying really hard to tell the time in Maths.

Emily - for having a positive attitude to learning.

3T

Darcey - for taking pride in her writing and presentation.

Jensen- for trying really hard to start writing cursive.

Year 4

4J

Izma - for her Marvellous Manners.

Hayden - for settling in well at a new school.

4R

Kylan - for his improvement in his handwriting.

Dara - for being a role model student and always trying her best.

Year 5

5F

Thomas - for being a great role model and helping those around you

Archie Crofts - for trying really hard to improve your writing vocabulary

5H

Lexi - for always trying your best in every lesson

Ruby-Leigh - for always trying your best in all of our lessons

Year 6

We have chosen all of Year 6 for good work this week. We are so incredibly proud of them all for completing their SATs and each and every one of them have tried their best. Well done Year 6!

Lunchtime Stars

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

Nursery

Toluwalase for persevering and having a go at trying new things.

Reception

Lawson for being a really kind friend.

Year 1

Neve for being a role model.

Year 2

Ava- for always being a role model.

Ellie - for being a lovely friend and role model.

Year 3

Mason - for showing wonderful manners and lovely wow walking.

Year 5

Ruby-Leigh - for always making good choices

Oscar - for having positive lunchtimes all week and engaging well with peers

Year 6

Maddie NP - for being a kind, lovely friend!

What is happening in the classroom?

Nursery

In the space of a week, our caterpillars have doubled in size and many of them are now forming chrysalis' in preparation for their transformation into beautiful butterflies.

The children have been so interested in the caterpillar's progress and ask everyday how they are getting on. We have enjoyed looking at the caterpillars through magnifying glasses and have even witnessed one spinning a cocoon right in front of our eyes! Amazing!

We have learnt the names of farm animal babies and looked at different types of farms, including what produce we get from each, wool from sheep, milk from cows, flour from wheat crops for example. The children have also worked together to create a collaborative farm picture, used wellies to create paint prints and enjoyed washing the tractors in the water tray car wash.

Reception

RG

This week in Maths Reception have been learning about time. We have used time as a measurement. We have been predicting how many times we can do a star jump in one minute and how long we can balance on one foot for. Outside we have been weeding the garden and watering the plants, helping them to grow.

RS

We have been exploring fruit and vegetables this week. We have used magnifying glasses to explore the inside of fruit and vegetables and the seeds inside them. We then used pencils and watercolours to do observational drawings of the fruits and vegetables and used our phonics to label them.

1F

In science this week, the children have been comparing trees and plants. They also observed their growing seeds. The children were shocked at the height of the sunflowers with the tallest one now standing at 25cm. The children secretly think there may be a beanstalk growing amongst them.

With the upcoming phonics screening, the children have been working super hard with all of their sounds, alternative sounds, digraphs, trigraphs segmenting and blending. I am so proud of all of the children as their hard work is now showing.

1M

The children have been super busy this week with their phonics as we have the screening coming up next term. We have been practicing all our sounds daily and making sure we spot the digraph or trigraph first before sounding the word out. In History we answered our Big Question which was to describe what Weoley Castle was like? The children had some great answers and even drew a picture of what it looked like in the past and what it looks like now.

Year 2

2K

This week we have been working very hard to write our own banning story. The Kings and Queens have banned the light, the dark, the rain and even school. The children have thought of lovely ideas to include in their stories. In Maths this week we have been working hard to learn about mass and capacity. In art we practised painting and we created a rollercoaster picture.

2R

In English this week the children have been working super hard writing their story's, I am super proud of what they have produced, it is clear they have spent a lot of time and effort thinking about their sentences. We have also been focusing on our shading skills in Art and recapping some of the influential people in History.

Year 3

3D

This week in History, the children have been exploring daily life for scribes and craftsmen and they learnt how to write their name in hieroglyphs. In Maths, we have continued our topic of telling the time on an analogue clock and a digital clock.

3T

In PSHE, the children have been learning about their rights and have been discussing which rights they think are most important to them. In History, the children have been exploring daily life for scribes and craftsmen and they learnt how to write their name in hieroglyphics. In Maths, we looked at time on a digital clock and looked at both am and pm.

Year 4

4J

4J have been getting ready for their Multiplication Test which they will be taking within the first two weeks after half term. Children have been trying hard to maintain their score or beat it! During writing lessons, children have completed their diary where they used their imagination to use emotive language.

4J have been covering a difficult concept in maths, round decimals to the nearest whole number. Amazingly, children have been resilient and used their knowledge to answer problem solving and reason questions.

4R

4R have been working really hard this week, preparing for their MTC which will be taking place within the first two weeks after half-term. All pupil shave been making excellent progress with their practise scores! The children have completed their diary entries this week and used some fantastic emotive language. In Maths, 4R have been rounding decimals to the nearest whole number and have used perseverance to help them with their reasoning and problem solving skills.

Year 5

5H

This week during maths we have been looking at working out angles on a straight line and used this knowledge to calculate missing angles. During English, we have been writing a survival guide giving instructions about how to create a survival tin or build an effective fire. We have also been practising our Pentecost assembly ready to perform in Church next week.

5F

This week in English, 5F have been planning and writing a successful survival guide that will instruct survivors on how to create an effective fire or build a shelter. This week during maths we have been looking at working out angles on a straight line and used this knowledge to calculate missing angles. We have also been practising our Pentecost assembly ready to perform in Church next week.

Year 6

Oh wow! We could not be more proud of the wonderful year six children - they have blown us away with their determination and perseverance this week as they have completed their SATs. It was wonderful to see them enjoying breakfast with their classmates, ready to show off their KS2 learning! The children have shown fantastic progress in our cricket sessions and they have had the opportunity to wind down by completing mindfulness activities, such as colouring outside with their friends. We have continued our RE topic about temptation and have thought about how forgiveness can help us move on. Ending our week with a pizza party and a surprise visit from Mrs Hession truly topped off a fantastic week. Well done super Year Six!

Measles

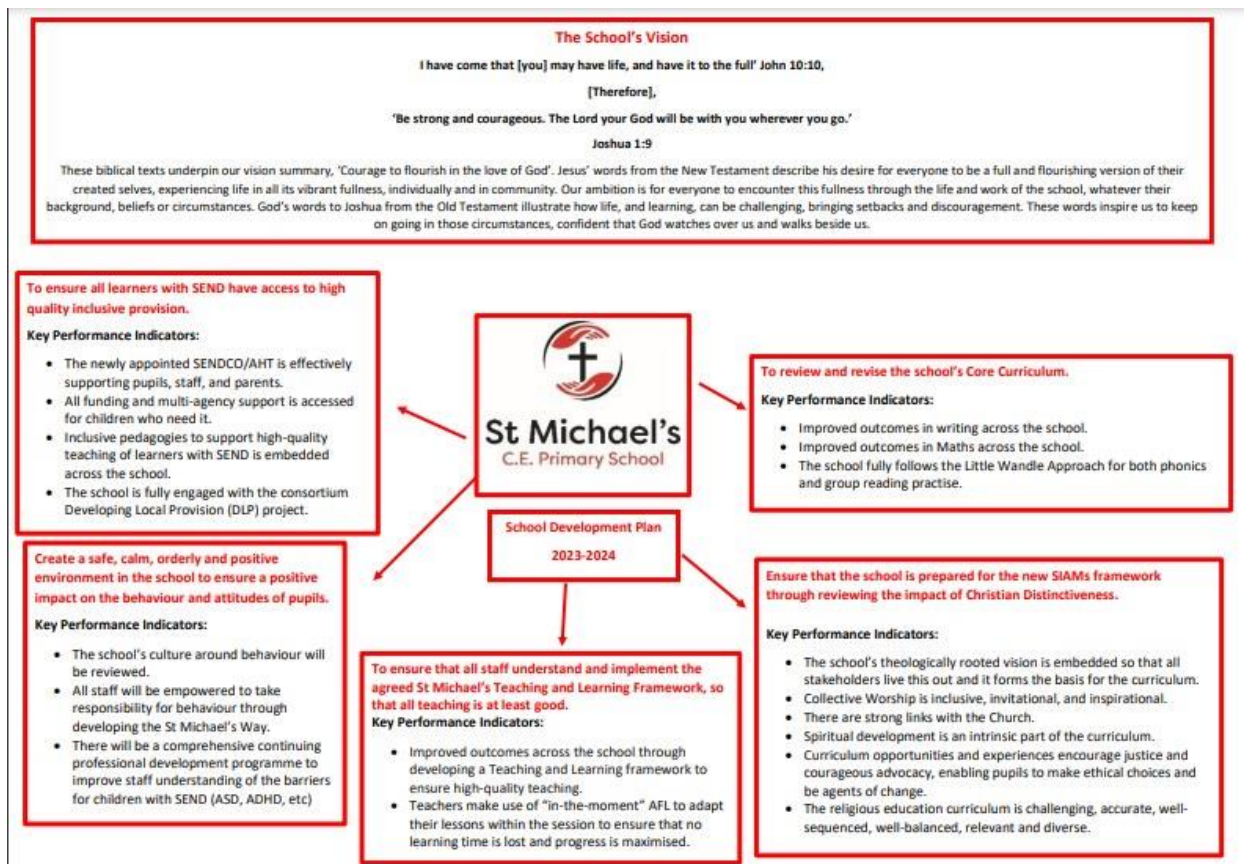
As you may be aware, across Birmingham there has been an outbreak of measles. Please read the following information which has been issued:

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- *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.*

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.*
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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.*
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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.*
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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.



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
