

St Michael's Church of England Primary School Newsletter



Friday 17th 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,

This week, as part of anti-bullying week, we have been looking at what bullying is. We have agreed that bullying is:

The **repetitive, intentional hurting** of one person or group by another person or group, where the relationship involves an **imbalance of power**. Bullying can be physical, verbal or psychological.

It can happen face to face or online.

The title of this year's anti-bullying week is, 'Make Some Noise'. We have spent some time talking about how we can make some noise. Ideas the children had are:

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- Let your friend know when you think they went a little too far with 'banter' – you could simply say, 'hey, you may not have meant to, but I think you may have hurt our friends' feelings when you said that'*
 - If you know someone is being bullied, you could check in with them, ask them if they're ok, encourage them to speak to an adult about it, you could even offer to go with them.*
 - Speak to a trusted adult if you see or experience bullying.*
 - Show kindness to those being bullied. Ask them to join in games, sit beside them at lunch, or be your partner in a class activity.*
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The children have been so sensible discussing this and it lovely to see how kind they are to one another and how they want to support each other.

We are so proud of the Year 6 children. They had a fantastic time on their residential and the staff there all commented on both their fantastic behaviour and marvellous manners. Well done Year 6, you are excellent representatives for the school. Thank you also to the four members of staff who gave their own time to make sure that the children had an amazing experience.

Mrs Roberts

Headteacher

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 **15.8%**. Please ensure your child comes to school every day.*

Class Attendance - for this year so far!

RG - 93.3%

RS - 92%

1F - 93.5%

1M - 92%

2K - 92.7%

2R - 94.5%

3D - 93.5%

3T - 97.7%

4J - 93.9%

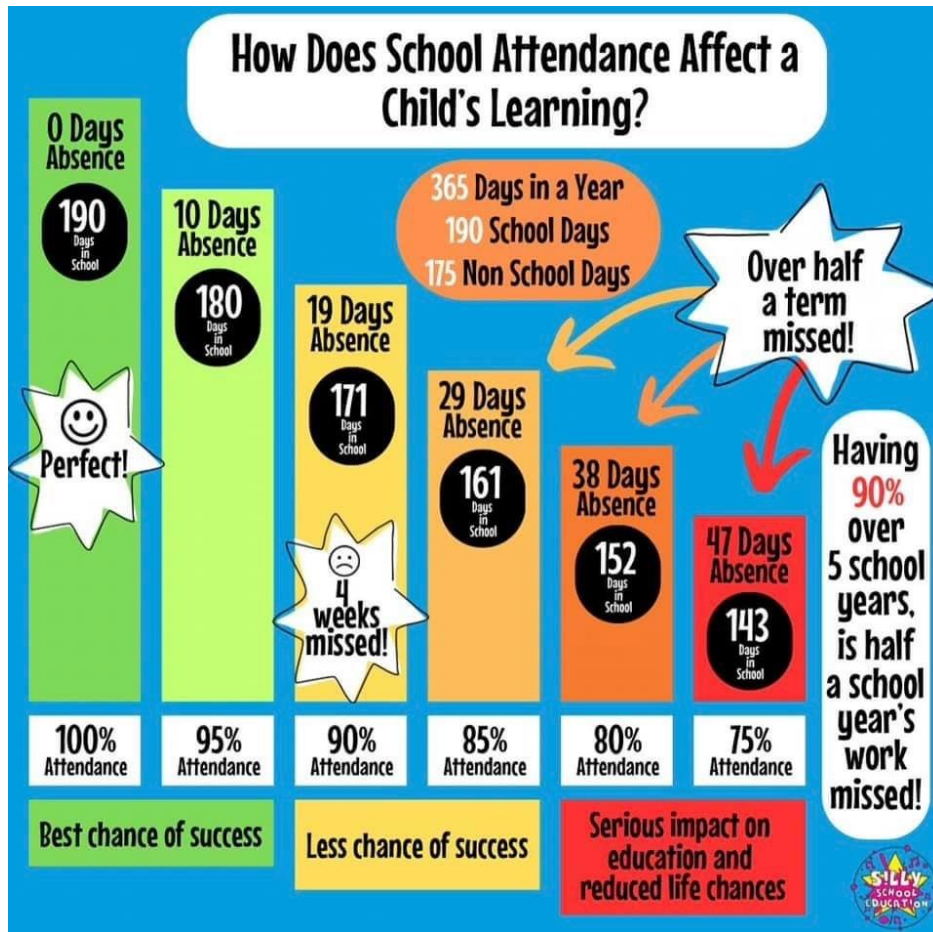
4R - 95.8%

5F - 95.3%

5H - 95.5%

6H - 95.9%

6L - 93.6%



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

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).

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

Monday 11th December at 2.30pm: Nursery Carol Concert for parents and carers.

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

Thursday 14th December at 2pm and 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

Adey - For working hard to follow instructions and do the right thing this week.

Goodness - For having a go at new activities and learning to use classroom equipment in its intended manner.

Reception

RG-

Romey- For always trying and participating in lessons.

Ariyah- For always working hard and contributing her ideas in RE lessons.

RS

Lily- Lily has shown excellent WOW walking this week, she has been a great role model and impressed many members of staff.

Araeyah- Araeyah has done some fantastic phonics this week. She has been trying really hard and knows nearly all her sounds

Year 1

1F

Alice Jeyes-Deakin - For wow walking around school.

Jack Camplin - For being kind and caring.

1M

Elio for being super at maths and helping his friends.

Lovell for being really kind and caring towards his friends.

Year 2

2K

Freddie B - For working hard with his writing this week.

Savannah - For always being a role model and using marvellous manners.

2R

Elim- For trying her hardest in every lesson even when it challenges her.

Harley- Always a responsible and respectful member of class and always trying hard in every lesson.

Year 3

3D

Coby for trying really hard in Maths this week.

Evelyn - for always showing you are ready.

3T

Ashira - for showing STAR behaviour.

James - for always trying his hardest in EVERYTHING!

Year 4

4J

Wyatt Heaton - For his scientific enquiry skills.

Gabriel Idiong - For his contribution in class (STAR).

4R

Tantoluwa Ajiboyede- For always showing her STAR behaviour throughout the day.

Kylan Brown- For producing a fantastic setting description in his writing lesson.

Year 5

5F

Archie C - for excellent effort in English and for trying really hard with his handwriting.

Archie P - for outstanding use of parenthesis and similes in our character description.

5H

Ellora - for always being ready and being a good role model

Elijah - for working increasingly independently in maths

What is happening in the classroom?

Nursery

Wow, what a fun filled week we have had at nursery! We started off with our Diwali celebration on Monday. The children heard the story of Rama and Sita and used stick puppets to recreate their own version. At snack time, the children had the opportunity to try popedom's and mango chutney and it was a hit! All the children had a try and the majority finished their helping, asking for more!!! In the afternoon, we made Diva lamps using clay and sequins and the children were very proud of their creations!

This week, we also received a message from Santa. He told the nursery children that he is in need of some extra wrapping paper and asked the children to help him! Of course the nursery children jumped at the challenge and they have all made their own Christmas wrapping paper this week to send off to Santa to help with the wrapping paper shortage. Well done Nursery! You have been so helpful!

Talking of Christmas... we are well underway with our preparations for the nursery Christmas songs concert! Don't be surprised if you hear the children humming the songs at home, they are very catchy!

Reception

RG- This week Reception have been starting to learn the songs for our Nativity play as well as learning about the Nativity story in RE. We have also been exploring what animals live in cold climates, and how they have adapted to live in those environments.

RS- This week in Reception we have been exploring different compositions of number 4 and using spatial reasoning to describe the different compositions. We have also been learning about anti bullying week and why it is important to be kind.

Year 1

1F

In science we have been learning about the senses. This week we have been exploring hearing. During the lesson, the children listened to different sounds and identified what they were. The children were fantastic at recognising each one, which included a fire engine, the rain, the sea, a rooster and a baby. After the lesson, we played a fun game where we explored many more sounds from the natural environment.

In our handwriting lessons we have been focusing on capital letters and when we should use these. The children have been working very hard in forming sentences with the addition of full stops.

1M

This week in Year 1 we have been looking at toys from the past in History. The children explored different toys and what they are made from. We looked at how toys have changed over time. We have also been learning about the creation story in RE. The children came up with their own actions to re-tell the story.

Year 2

2K

In 2K this week we have loved performing our Diwali assembly and inviting you to come and watch it. We practised this lots of times over the last 2 weeks and it has been lovely to see it come together. We also enjoyed inviting you in for the parent lunch and workshop. Thank you for coming to support your child. In class this week we have been writing question and exclamation sentences. We have been creating our own whilst pretending to look at amazing trees in a park. In Maths we have continued to focus on addition and subtraction.

2R

Its been a very busy week in year 2 this week, performing our Diwali assembly which went very well and all the children showed courage in their part. We then have had our lesson parent lunches which also went well and I hope the parents felt they got something out of the session and enjoyed having the opportunity to work with your child. As well as all of that the children have been working exceptionally hard in all lessons writing some amazing sentences and challenging themselves in Maths.

Year 3

3D - This week in English, we have been learning about newspaper reports. The children entered the classroom to find out that there were books all over the floor from the book corner. They then had to work in partners to see if they could work out who committed the crime, taking it in turns to be the witness and reporter.

3T - In RE, we have been learning about different festivals that are important in different religions/cultures. This week, we focused on Diwali and created colourful and informative posters.

In Computing, we used J2E and created PowerPoints in groups on Diwali or Rocks.

In PSHE, we are celebrating difference and have discussed and drew pictures of our families at home.

In Maths, we have been recapping our knowledge of the 2, 5 and 10 times table. We have been both multiplying and dividing. Next week, we will be focusing on the 3 and 4 times tables. If you could practise these at home with the children, that would be wonderful!

Year 4

4J - This week, 4J have been trying extremely hard on their handwriting! Their focus has been ascenders and descenders, remembering where they are places on the line. The challenge then was to join from these in a cohesive matter. During this week's Science lesson, children have been using their scientific enquiry skills to predict and test complete and incomplete simple circuits. 4J used the correct scientific vocabulary when describing the follow of electric current through the components.

4R - This week, 4R have been concentrating on their times tables, their 9x tables in particular. In writing, we have been focussing on a character description of the polar bear in our book, 'leaf'. In our RE session, we looked at how Hindus show their faith within their community and compared it to how Christians show their faith. Handwriting has also been a focus this week, paying particular attention to our ascenders and descenderst.

Year 5

5H - This week we have been learning about squared and cubed numbers during our maths lessons. We have been practicing our atlas skills to help us find the name of different towns and cities in France. We have begun to practice the songs for our Christmas production and audition for the parts we are interested in performing. We hope you will help us practice at home.

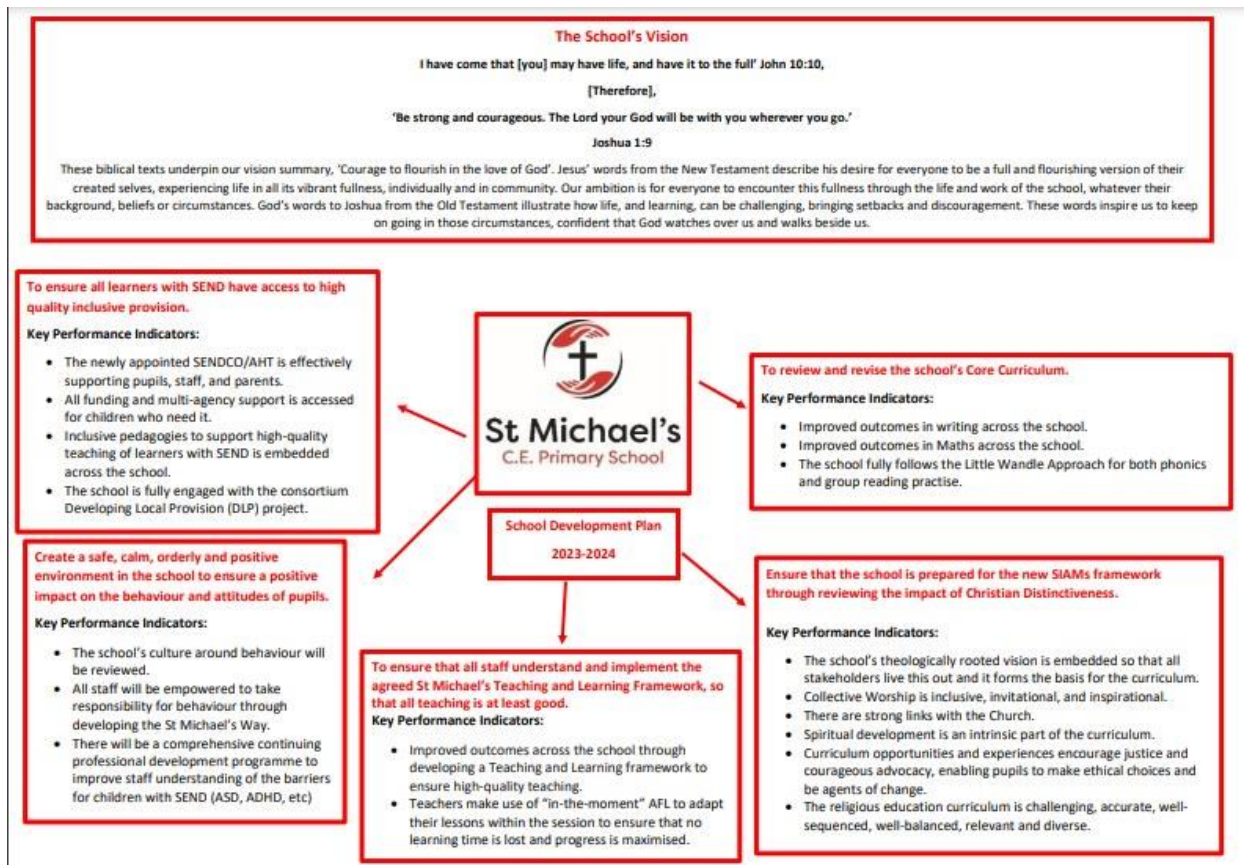
5F

This week in maths we have been continuing with our multiples, progressing to squared and cubed numbers. In Geography, we have been understanding French trades and the countries it trades with. Also, we began practising our songs for the Christmas production and auditioning for the parts we desire. In PHSE, we have focussed on Anti-bullying week, thinking specifically about how we should treat everybody around us and how we can help those feeling vulnerable.

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 breacktime (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
