

# St Michael's Church of England Primary School Newsletter

**Friday 1st March 2024**

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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, carers and students,*

*Today was a big day for our Year 6 children finding out what Secondary Schools they will be attending in September. I hope that everything worked out as you hoped. If you do have any queries or concerns, please contact Birmingham Admissions on 0121 303 1888.*

*You can now book the Pupil Progress Meetings for your children on Arbor. We are really looking forward to meeting with you.*

*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.*

*We had our half termly fire drill this week. The children were amazing and responded incredibly well.*

*I hope that you all have a lovely weekend.*

*Thank you for your continued support and cooperation.*

*Kind regards,*

*Mrs Roberts*

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## Dogs on the playground

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*A quick reminder please that we cannot have any dogs on the playground. This is to ensure the safety of all of our children.*

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## Social Media

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*A quick plea, that if you have a query or concern regarding processes at the school that you contact us directly rather posting on social media. This way accurate information will be shared.*

*We are trying to teach the children how to use social media safely and responsibly so your support with this is appreciated.*

*Thank you for those parents and carers who continue to bring this to our attention.*

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## Scotland Lane

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*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.*

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## Key Dates

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*Tuesday 5th March - Year 6 at the Library.*

*Tuesday 5th March - Nursery 'Special Person in your Life' afternoon (2.15pm)*

*Wednesday 6th March - Wednesday 13th March - Book Fayre in School.*

*Thursday 7th March - World Book Day.*

*Friday 8th March - Year 1 Mother's Day Assembly at 9.15am (parents and carers invited).*

*Tuesday 12th March - Year 1 at the Library.*

*Tuesday 12th March - Pupil Progress Meetings (details to follow).*

*Wednesday 13th March - Pupil Progress Meetings (details to follow).*

*Friday 15th March - Red Nose Day (details to follow).*

*Tuesday 19th March - Easter Brass Concert at 9.15am.*

*Tuesday 19th March - Reception at the Library.*

*Wednesday 20th March - Reception and Key Stage 1 Headteacher Awards.*

*Thursday 21st March - Key Stage 2 Headteacher Awards.*

*Thursday 21st March - Sponsored Bunny Hop for Birmingham Hospice (details to follow).*

*Friday 22nd March - Year 3 Easter Service at Church (9.15am - adults are invited to attend if they are able to).*

*Friday 22nd March - Easter Bonnet Parade and Eggstravaganza (2pm - details to follow).*

*Friday 22nd March - last day of term.*

*Monday 8th April - Teacher Training Day*

*Tuesday 9th April - children return to school.*

*Thursday 11th April - whole school at St Michael's Church.*

*Tuesday 16th April - Year 5 Eid Assembly.*

*Monday 6th May - Bank Holiday (school closed).*

*Tuesday 7th May - Reception at Bartley Green Library.*

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

*Monday 13th May - Year 5 River Trip at Severn Valley Country Park.*

*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.*

*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 - last day of the half term.*

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## **Nursery Places**

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*We are currently taking applications for September 2024. Please contact the office either in person or via telephone on 0121 464 4345 if you would like further information.*

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If you would like to find out more and how to apply, please contact the School Office on 0121 464 4345 or visit us in person.

## Attendance



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*The whole school's attendance target is 96%. The whole school attendance for the year so far is **94%**. Unfortunately, our persistent absence is **17%**. 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.*

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

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*RG - 93.2%*

*RS - 91.3%*

*1F - 92.8%*

*1M - 92.4%*

*2K - 91.8%*

*2R - 94.2%*

*3D - 94.5%*

*3T - 95.4%*

*4J - 93.8%*

*4R - 96.2%*

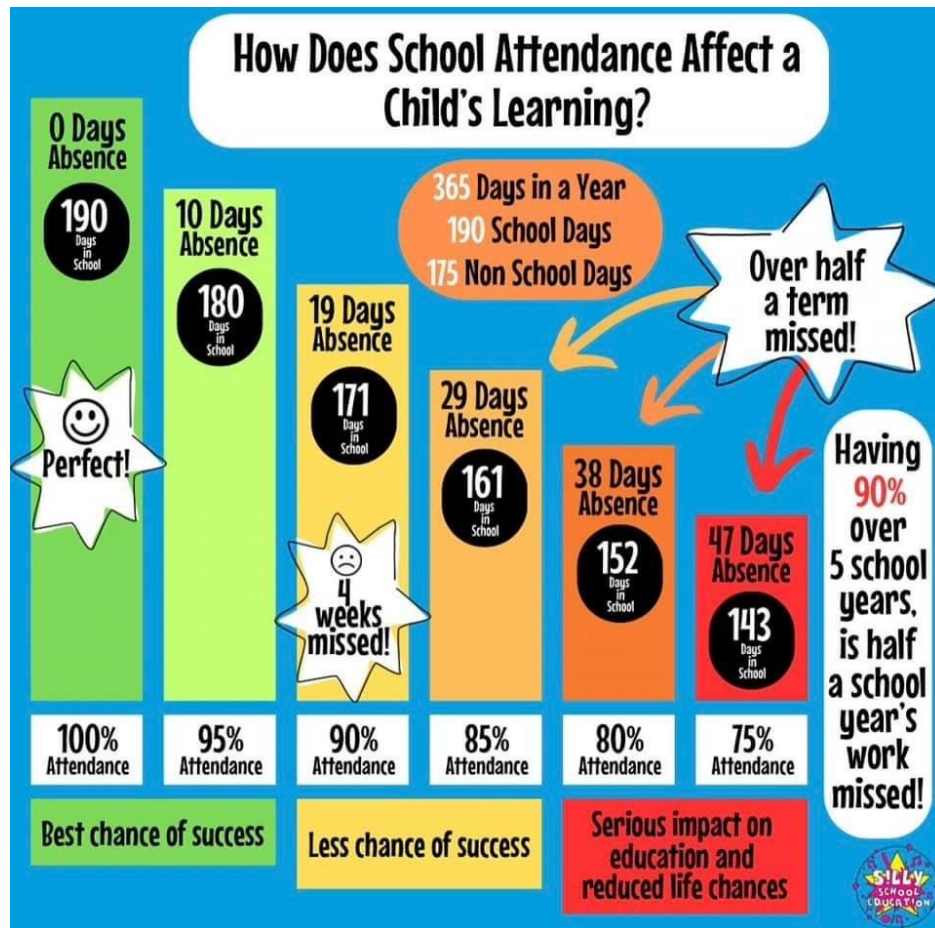
*5F - 93.9%*

*5H - 94.8%*

*6H - 94.7%*

*6L - 93.7%*

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/>

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## Times Tables Rockstars



## Key Stage 2 TTRS Tournaments

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*16th February - 23rd February*

*Year Four Tournament*

*4J 504 - 4R 358*

*16th February - 23rd February*

*Key Stage 2 Tournament*

*4J - 272 WINNERS!*

*4R - 108 SECOND PLACE*

*6H - 37 THIRD PLACE*

*6L - 29*

*5H - 2*

*3D - 1*

*3T - 0*

*5F - 0*

*If you need your child's TTRS login please speak to your class teacher.*

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## Top 5 Players Key Stage 2

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*1. Tayon 4J*

*2. Areng 4J*

*3. Yoadan 6H*

*4. Brook 3D*

*5. Alex 5H*

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## Top Players within the Year 4 Tournament

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*Kiya 4J*

*Areng 4J*

*Tayon 4J*

*Shema 4R*

*Lucas D 4R*

## Stars of the Week

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

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### Nursery

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*Leila - for working really hard during carpet time and having fun with learning.*

*Georgio - for his resilience and commitment to learning. He always brings a smile to those around him.*

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### Reception

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*RG*

*Edom - for going above and beyond with Phonics at home.*

*Ronnie - for always contributing ideas in every lesson.*

*RS*

*Abdulrahman has been really focused in phonics. He has been trying hard to say all the sounds and engage in blending.*

*Simran has been a fantastic role model this week. She is always showing her WOW walking and setting a great example on the carpet.*

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## Year 1

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1F

*Shahnaz- for trying hard with her handwriting at all times.*

*AJ- for amazing wow walking around school.*

1M

*Arlo - for always being so helpful and kind.*

*Imogen - for being independent with her writing.*

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## Year 2

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2K

*Freddie Brown - for working hard in Maths even when it is a little bit tricky.*

*Savannah - for always being a star! She is amazing.*

2R

*Tias - for always being a role model in class, showing the teacher she's a star and ready to learn.*

*Nancy- for trying hard in every lesson. Not being afraid to ask for help when needed.*

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## Year 3

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3D

*Olivia - for working hard in every lesson.*

*Harley - for showing her marvellous manners and wow walking.*

3T

*Jensen - for creating tints using different paints in Art.*

*Noah D- for taking pride in his work and putting 100% effort in.*

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## Year 4

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4J

*Wyatt M - for his internet safety poster.*

*Lucas D - for using the 'A' Choice.*

4R

*Josiah- for settling in well and adjusting to the St Michael's way.*

*Jusuf- for always showing that he is ready to do his learning.*

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## Year 5

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5F

*Connor Mem - for working extremely hard in English and contributing massively to class discussions.*

*Rosie - for making excellent progress with fractions and decimals.*

5H

*Dylan Carter - for working hard to develop your maths skills*

*Shamsiye - for using synonyms in your writing*

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## Year 6

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6H

*Brooke W - for a fantastic attitude towards Maths which has resulted in Brooke making excellent progress*

*Sukhman - for always being ready and respectful during all lessons, but particularly Maths in which he always has his hand up and completes his work to a high standard*

6L

*Jessie - for super reasoning skills in Maths and being kind and always offering to help other children.*

*Sophie - for writing a wonderful documentary narrative and trying hard to improve it independently!  
Well done!*

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## Pupil of the Month

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*These children have been chosen by their classmates for consistently demonstrating the school's values and learning behaviours.*

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## Nursery

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*Leo - For always showing he is ready to learn and being a kind and considerate member of our class.*

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## Reception

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*RG*

*Lawson - for always being a kind friend to everyone.*

*RS*

*Ariana- for showing fantastic WOW walking through the corridor and in the dinner hall.*

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## Year 1

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*1M*

*Hugo - for showing forgiveness and love.*

*1F*

*Jewel- for consistently trying hard with English both inside and outside of school.*

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## Year 2

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2K

*Tara - for always being a role model and for remembering lots of key facts.*

2R

*Bella- for always trying hard and for ALWAYS being a role model.*

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## Year 3

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3D

*Emily - for always working hard and showing you are ready.*

3T

*Louie - for being a great friend, always being an amazing role model and getting on gold most days.*

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## Year 4

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4J

*Freya:*

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- *For being a kind friend.*
- *Being resilient in everything that she does.*



- *For being a good friend.*
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*4R*

*Beau - for being a nice friend who always gets on with his work.*

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Year 5

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*5F*

*Josiah - for helping those in need, being a good friend and always making the right choices.*

*5H*

*Persia - for being a good friend and helping people when they are sad*

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Year 6

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*6H*

*Kaitlyn -for being a funny and kind friend who is a super role model to our class.*

*6L*

*Haddy B - For being a kind and funny friend who shows STAR behaviour in the classroom!*

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## What is happening in the classroom?

### Nursery

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*This week in Nursery, the children have learnt about Jungle animals. We found out the names of some well known jungle creatures and matched them to their babies. We used the magnifying glasses to look more closely at jungle minibeasts, played with jungle swamp slime, and explored real exotic fruits by looking at the shapes and colours, touching and smelling them. We have also touched on the important message about looking after our rainforests and rainforest animals. The children have enjoyed listening to our jungle stories with "Little Monkey" being this week's favourite. We are also becoming accomplished at orally blending words as the children practise daily in our phonics lessons.*

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### Reception

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RG

*This week in Literacy Reception have been learning about the structure of instructions based on how to catch the wolf in Little Red riding hood. In Understanding the World the children have been learning about different types of weather and we have made a weather chart over the week.*

RS

*In Maths Reception have been learning about representations of numbers to 10 and how these can be composed and decomposed. You could explore this at home by using household items to show different amounts. Show us on tapestry if you do!*

1F

*This week in maths, the children have been counting in 2's, 5's and 10's. The children then used resources to make groups of each number and the total amount. In DT the children have not only designed a moving vehicle, they have made it too. Thank you to all parents that sent in boxes for this lesson.*

1M

*In Year 1 this week, we have been writing a set of instructions on how to catch a witch. They have been super with their sentences and have come up with lots of imaginative ideas. We have also designed our own moving vehicle this week in DT and the children are really excited to make them.*

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## **Year 2**

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2K

*This week we have continued learning about Multiplication and Division in Maths. We are focusing on Multiplying and dividing by 2. In English we have started to write our own story based on Grandad's Island. In Geography we have been learning about different climates across the world and in Science we have started a plant experiment to see what helps plants to grow.*

2R

*This week the children have worked SUPER hard in our topic of Multiplication and Division. Although its been tricky the children have really persevered and done their best. In English this week the children have started writing their own version of Grandad's Island and its been great hearing so many wonderful ideas shared across classes. The children have also loved PSHE this week where we focused on the importance of mindfulness and enjoyed a colouring session while discussing what we can do more of to be relaxed.*

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## **Year 3**

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3D

*This week in Maths, the children have been working hard on our new topic which is fractions. In English, the children been planning a return narrative based on our book 'Jemmy Button' ready to write their own narrative description next week.*

3T

*In Geography, we learnt about the five major types of biomes, we looked at the physical features, vegetation and animals in each one. In Science, we looked at different food labels to see how to identify whether something has the right nutrients in to help us have a balanced diet. In Art we used different paints to create tones on our chosen picture.*

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## **Year 4**

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4J

*4J have had a busy week! At the start of the week, children were tested on how much progress they had made with their Multiplication Check. Children have been working hard to boost up their scores and those children who have been accessing Times Table Rockstars at home have made considerable progress! They have also been learning about the Ancient Greeks and how they fit in the timeline. During reading lesson, children have been looking at their vocabulary and how they could make it more ambitious.*

4R

*At the start of the week, each of the children were tested on how much progress they have made in preparation for the Multiplication Tables Check using TT Rockstars to practice and check their scores. They have also been continuing their work on the Ancient Greeks by comparing them to the Ancient Egyptians, focussing on their architecture. We have continued to develop our knowledge of twisted tales in our writing lessons.*

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## **Year 5**

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5H

*During English this week we have been using synonyms to develop our writing. We have been practicing our timetables to help us in all areas of maths and we have worked hard to develop the speed of our recall. In Science, we have learnt about different animal groups and sorted animals into the correct groups. We have also made common craft videos to teach other children about Earth in Space.*

*This week we have been working extremely hard with fractions, decimals and converting between the both. In English, we have written our atmosphere description piece, focussing on the use of synonyms, verb prefixes and relative clauses. As well as this, we have learnt about different animal groups, their life cycles and how they differ. In History, we have moved on to the Vikings and the similarities and differences they share with the Anglo-Saxons.*

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## Year 6

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### Year 6

*It has been another great week in Year 6 and we are once again so impressed with their learning. In RE, we have been exploring the question: What kind of a king was Jesus? We have used two parables to think carefully about this and have made links in discussion to our own lives and communities. In English, we have been continuing our documentary narrative in which the children have been writing in the style of David Attenborough. The children have been continuing their geography learning about North America and have found out about the imports, exports and human features of California. Well done Year 6!*

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## Measles

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*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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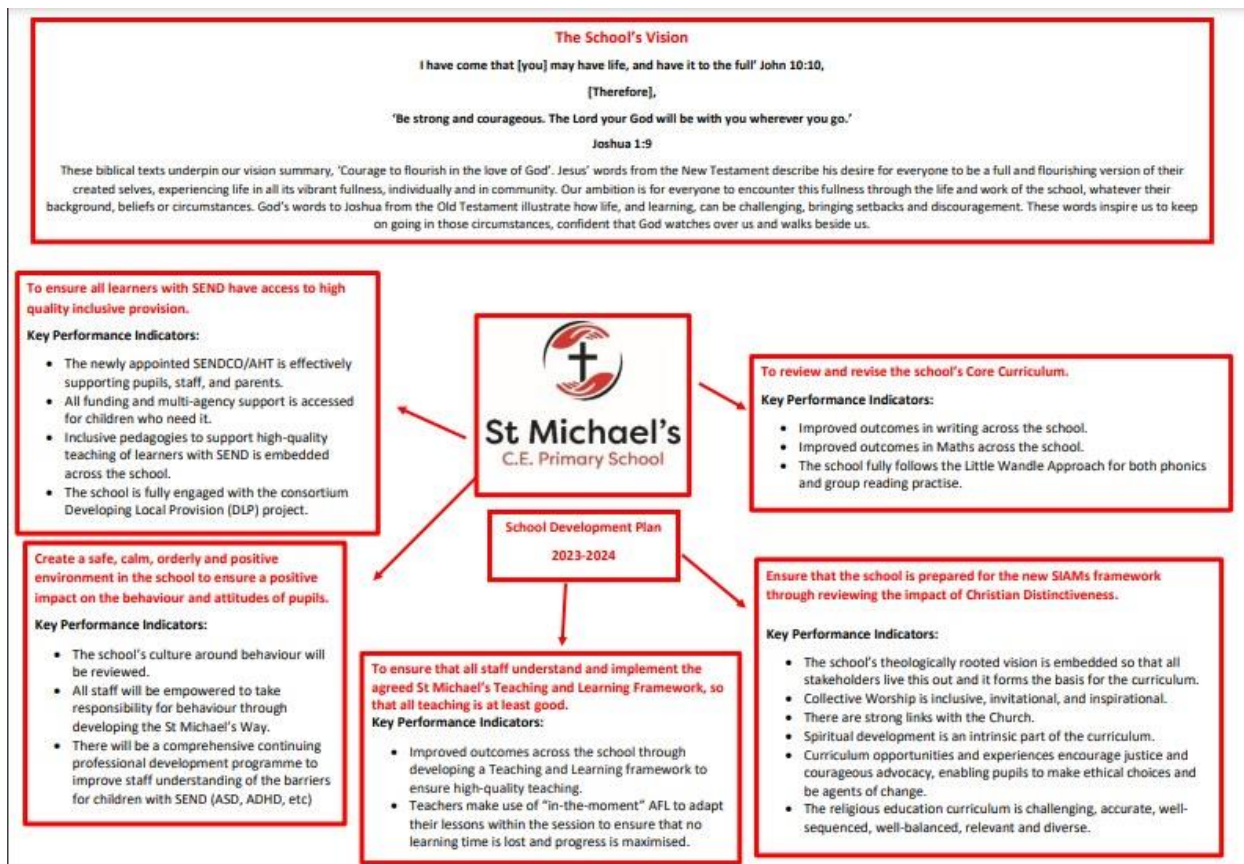
## School Development Plan

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

[School Develop Plan](#)

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## 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.*

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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. 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 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.*

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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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### ***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.*

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## Twitter/X

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*Please follow us on:*

*@stmichaelsb32*

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