

St Michael's Church of England Primary School Newsletter

Friday 24th 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,

As we approach the end of another term, it's time to reflect on the exciting experiences our students have had and share some important updates. The last week of term has been a whirlwind of activities, and our pupils have truly shone as ambassadors of our school.

Year 4 embarked on an educational journey to the Botanical Gardens, immersing themselves in the wonders of nature and expanding their knowledge. Year 3 stepped back in time with an Egyptian Day held right here at our school, exploring the fascinating world of ancient civilizations. Year 1 ventured to the Black Country Museum, where history came alive before their very eyes. Year 2 had the privilege of visiting the Bartley Green Library, fostering a love for reading and literature.

Last but not least, our Year 2 students ventured to Bartley Green Library, where they were able to explore the world of literature and ignite their passion for reading.

Furthermore, we have several achievements to celebrate. Year 5 participated in a special Pentecost celebration at St Michael's Church, and we extend our gratitude to all those who were able to join them for this meaningful occasion. Additionally, we would like to congratulate the children who were nominated for the Headteacher Awards – your consistent demonstration of our school values and learning behaviours is truly commendable.

Please note the following important reminder: we have a teacher training day scheduled for the 3rd of June, so our students will return to school on the 4th.

As we bid farewell to this half term, we wish you all a wonderful and peaceful break. Enjoy this well-deserved respite, and we look forward to welcoming our students back, refreshed and ready for new adventures.

Warm regards,

Mrs Roberts

Year 3's Egyptian Day







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.

Vapes found on School Site

Recently, there have been instances where vapes have been found on our school site. I kindly urge all parents and guardians to please ensure that your children do not have access to vapes at home.

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 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 be 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 young girl with colorful handprints on her face. The text is as follows:

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 **17.6%**. 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 - 92.3%

RS - 89.8%

1F - 92.2%

1M - 91.7%

2K - 92.6%

2R - 94.3%

3D - 94.3%

3T - 95.4%

4J - 93.5%

4R - 96%

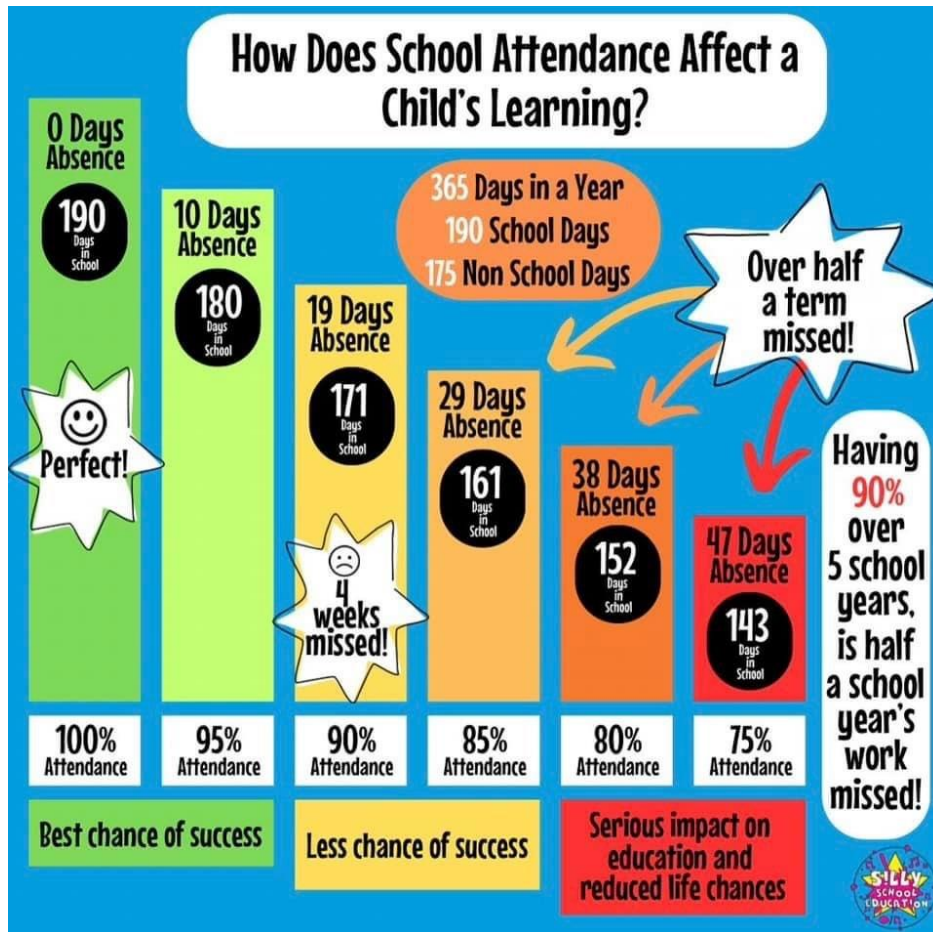
5F - 94.2%

5H - 95.1%

6H - 94.9%

6L - 93.8%

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

4R - 1,373

4J - 1,249

School Tournament

4R - 1,508

4J - 1,320

3T - 324

3D - 107

2K - 98

5H - 51

5F - 26

2R - 23

6L - 14

6H - 0

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

1. Tontaluwa 4R

2. Shema 4R

3. Ashira 3T

Headteacher Awards

The following children were nominated by the adults in their classroom for consistently demonstrating the school's values and learning behaviours.

Nursery

Olivia T - for listening attentively in lesson time and contributing to our discussions.

Seyoum - for excellent behaviour and being a role model to others.

Reception

RG

Ronnie - for always contributing his ideas in lessons.

Kimberly - for always being a kind friend.

RS

Juana is always really engaged during carpet time and tries her best to always join in. I can always hear her reading all of the sounds and words during phonics.

Theodore's enthusiasm for the wider curriculum is fantastic. He is always so excited to share his knowledge and ideas and put his own experiences into his learning.

Year 1

1F

Matilda - for her amazing attitude and progression in phonics and phonic application to all written work.

Jewel - for her understanding, progression and application in maths.

1M

Elio - for always having a great attitude to learning and great contributions in lesson.

Alannah - for always trying her best and asking questions to develop her learning.

Year 2

2K

Elliot - for fantastic Phonics this half term. Well done Elliot I have seen a massive improvement this half term.

Nahira - for being a role model in class at all times. Nahira is always ready to listen and learn.

2R

Thomas- for working super hard over the last month and having a good attitude to learning.

Oliver- for always being a role model, brightening every day and sharing his stories with everyone.

Year 3

3D

Violet – for always having a positive attitude to learning and making good choices.

Evelyn – for always trying her best and asking questions to develop her learning further.

3T

James – for always being a STAR and being a consistent role model to others.

Bailey – for his positive and infectious attitude within the classroom.

Year 4

4J

Elijah – for his improvement in his writing, including all the features and taking on feedback from others.

Tayon – for his amazing commitment to multiplication and TTRS. A role model to all.

4R

Abbie – for her amazing attitude to learning and being a fantastic role model to the class.

Gabriel M- for always contributing to lessons and trying his best with his work.

Year 5

5F

Kacey-Mae - for excellent batting in our PE lessons

Maya - for always making the right choices, being a model pupil and being a pleasure to teach.

5H

Anya – you always make the right choices in class and around school. It is a pleasure to have you in the class.

Ahmad – for trying hard in all your lessons and making good choices.

Year 6

6H

Remie – for a great improvement in taking responsibility for his actions and having a positive, resilient attitude towards learning.

Sukhman – for always showing a mature, responsible attitude towards learning 100% of the time. You are a pleasure to have in class.

6L

Jessie – for being such a polite, well-mannered and kind member of our class. You are so lovely and helpful. We are lucky to have you!

Jack – for being so helpful at all times. You go above and beyond to help adults and children around the school. Well done!

Lunchtime Stars

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

Nursery

Goodness - For improved behaviour and engagement with other children in the playground.

Reception

Chanel- For being a kind friend and role model.

Adulrahman-

Year 1

Lailah - for always wow walking.

Joey - for showing marvellous manners in the dining hall.

Year 2

Savannah- for always playing nicely in the playground

Jayson- for always being a role model.

What is happening in the classroom?

Nursery

For the last week of our topic "Down on the Farm", the children have been preparing for a trip to the Farm by looking at maps and using prepositions to describe where landmarks are. We also read several farm book favourites including Rosie's Walk and The Scarecrow's Wedding. The children then enjoyed making wedding invitations and decorating their own scarecrows!

Reception

RG

This week Reception have been learning to measure height and length using cubes. We have also had some special visitors from Kenya who came to visit us on Monday. The children had the opportunity to learn about school in Kenya and ask lots of questions. We learnt what subjects they teach, what food they eat and grow, what animals live there, what the weather is like and how to count to 10 in Swahili which is the national language of Kenya.

RS

This week we have been writing the ending of our story, everyone has been trying hard to use their phonics to segment the words. In music we have been doing of final performance of big bear funk and recorded it. We have also been lucky enough to have some caterpillars to look after.

1F

This week in English the children have recited a poem called Smiling is Infectious by Spike Milligan. The children then had to perform the poem to KS1. The children were amazing in remembering the lines and enjoyed the performance. The children have once again been working super hard with their phonics lessons. The progression they have made is amazing in preparation for the upcoming phonics screening after half term.

1M

The children have really enjoyed English this week as we have been reciting our poem called Smiling is Infectious by Spike Milligan. We looked at the features and highlighted them in the poem. We also discussed what the poem is about and what we liked about it. The children performed this to the rest of the school with some actions that they added which was fantastic.

Year 2

2K

In 2K this week we have been focusing on poetry in English. We have been learning the poem Jack Frost - The children performed this to EYFS and KS1 and they were amazing. In Maths we have finished off measure. In DT we have been making a chair for baby bear out of paper. I hope 2K have a lovely half term break and I look forward to seeing the children back for Summer 2. The last half term in year 2.

2R have had a lovely week this week. We have had poetry week so the children have been busy making their own poem and learning a poem to say off by heart. This was then performed to KS1 and EYFS and they did amazingly. The children have also been to the library and had a story read to them as well as having an opportunity to look at books. We have completed our Maths unit on mass capacity and temperature and also made chairs out of paper in DT. I hope all the children have a lovely week off.

Year 3

3D

Year 3 have stepped back in time with an Egyptian Day this week! The children made their own headdresses, neck chain and bracelets to wear during the day as they completed different activities including painting and a mummy wrapping competition! In DT, the children finished assembling and completing their cushions, using the skills we learnt last week of cross-stitching. Year 3 have also been working hard to learn their poem 'Hurt no living thing' and adding actions to the words.

3T

What a wonderful week we have had! On Wednesday, it was our Egyptian Day! The children had so much fun as they made scarab beetles out of salt dough, a headdress and a beautifully decorated neck chain. Then, to top it all off they had a mummy wrapping competition, where the two winning teams got to wrap myself and Miss Partridge!!

On Thursday, 3T had a DT day with Mr Bhatti, where they assembled their own cushion using the cross-stitch that they had learnt prior. They look fantastic!

Year 4

4J

What an exciting last week! 4J have been learning the poem 'Sick' by Shel Silverstein. Children have found the poem humorous and are extremely committed to put on their best performance when showing it to the school. During RE, children have been exploring the concept of a code of living and how this looks like within a variety of religions. We have started a new topic in PE, athletics. Mrs Joyce has definitely seen a competitive side of Year Four this week as we get ready for Sports Day.

4R

This week, the children have been practising our poem 'Sick' by Shel Silverstein. They have been working hard to learn the poem by heart and put actions to it. 4R loved learning this poem! In Maths, 4R have been working towards and practising for our MTC in the conditions that they will be taking the test. They have really took this in their stride and their scores are improving each week! This week, the children have had a DT day in which they have built their own book covers.

Year 5

Well done Year 5 for performing your Pentecost assembly in Church on Monday. You learnt your lines and were loud and clear. You should be very proud of yourselves. We have also been learning poetry by heart this week. Year 5 have learnt a poem called 'Words are ours' by Michael Rosen. We performed the poem to the rest of KS2 on Friday and really enjoyed it. During maths, we have begun learning about shape and have focussed in particular on regular and irregular shapes as well as learning the term polygon.

Year 6

We have been busy in Year 6 this week finishing our biography of Ernest Shackleton - the children have really enjoyed reading our vehicle text 'Shackleton's Journey' and have worked incredibly hard on their writing this half term. Alongside our writing, we have also been learning our poem 'In Flanders Fields' by John McCrae. The children spent the whole week rehearsing and preparing for their performance on Friday morning and they blew us away.

Measles

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

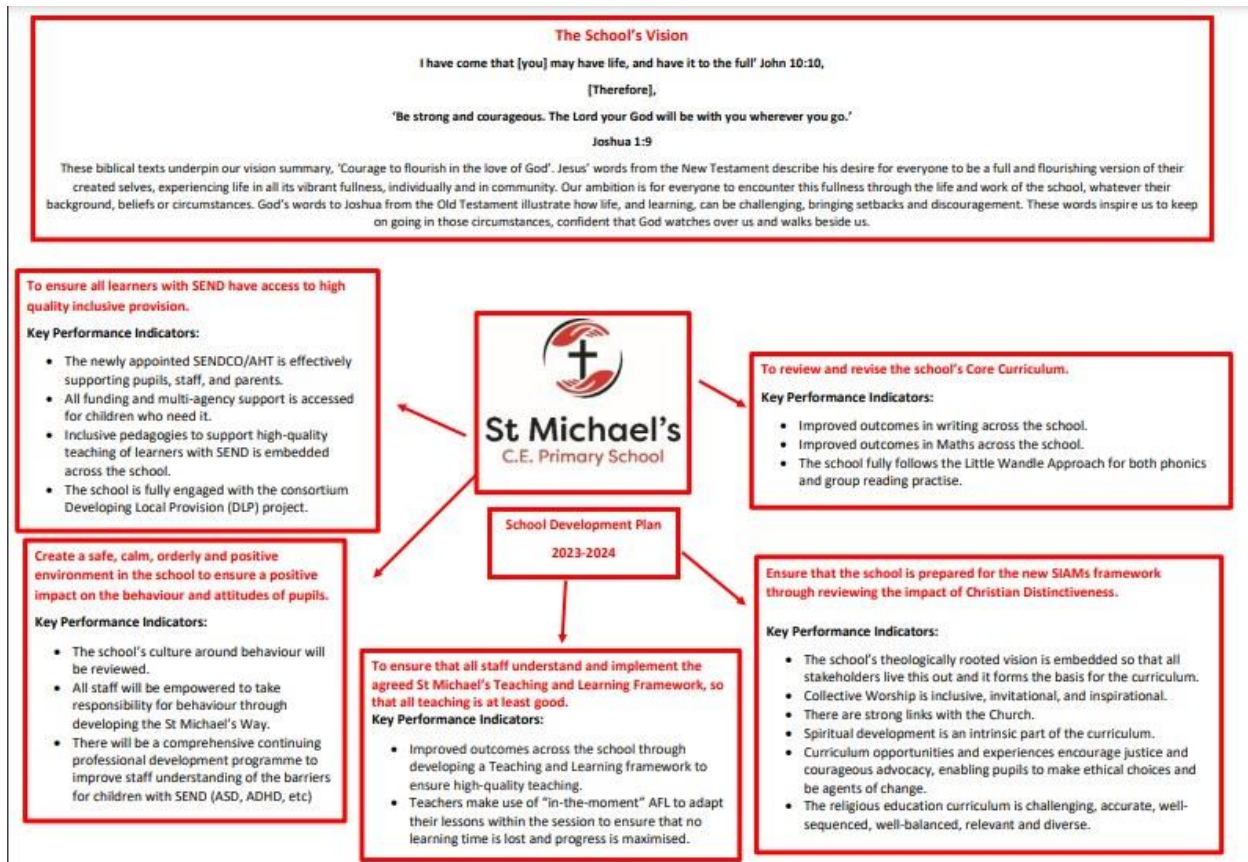
- There's no specific medical treatment for measles, so it's important to get vaccinated as it's the best protection against becoming seriously unwell.*
- Measles usually starts with cold-like symptoms, followed by a rash a few days later.*
- You should ask for an urgent GP appointment or get help from 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.

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 your 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.*
-



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
