

St Michael's Church of England Primary School Newsletter

Friday 8th March 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, carers and students,

Reverend Ruth led Collective Worship on Monday and she focused on exploring the story of the Good Samaritan from the Gospel of Luke. This timeless tale not only teaches us about compassion and kindness but also offers a profound lesson in forgiveness.

The Good Samaritan, traditionally an outsider to the Jewish community, encountered a man in dire need by the roadside. Despite any potential differences or prejudices, he chose to extend forgiveness through his actions. Rather than ignoring him or passing judgment, he stopped and offered immediate assistance.

As we reflected on this story, we encouraged everyone to embody the spirit of forgiveness in their daily lives. To strive to emulate the compassion and kindness of the Good Samaritan, extending forgiveness to others and fostering a community built on understanding and empathy.

Thank you to all of the adults who attended the Mother's Day Service this week. The children loved having the opportunity to share this time with you.

I hope that you all have a lovely weekend.

Thank you for your continued support and cooperation.

Kind regards,

Mrs Roberts

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.

Dogs on the playground

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

Social Media

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.

Scotland Lane

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.

Key Dates

Tuesday 12th March - Year 1 at the Library.

Tuesday 12th March - Pupil Progress Meetings.

Wednesday 13th March - Pupil Progress Meetings.

Friday 15th March - Red Nose Day.

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.

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.

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.

Nursery Places

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.

Attendance



*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.

Class Attendance - for this year so far!

RG - 93.2%

RS - 90.8%

1F - 92.7%

1M - 92%

2K - 91.9%

2R - 94.4%

3D - 94.4%

3T - 95.4%

4J - 94%

4R - 96.3%

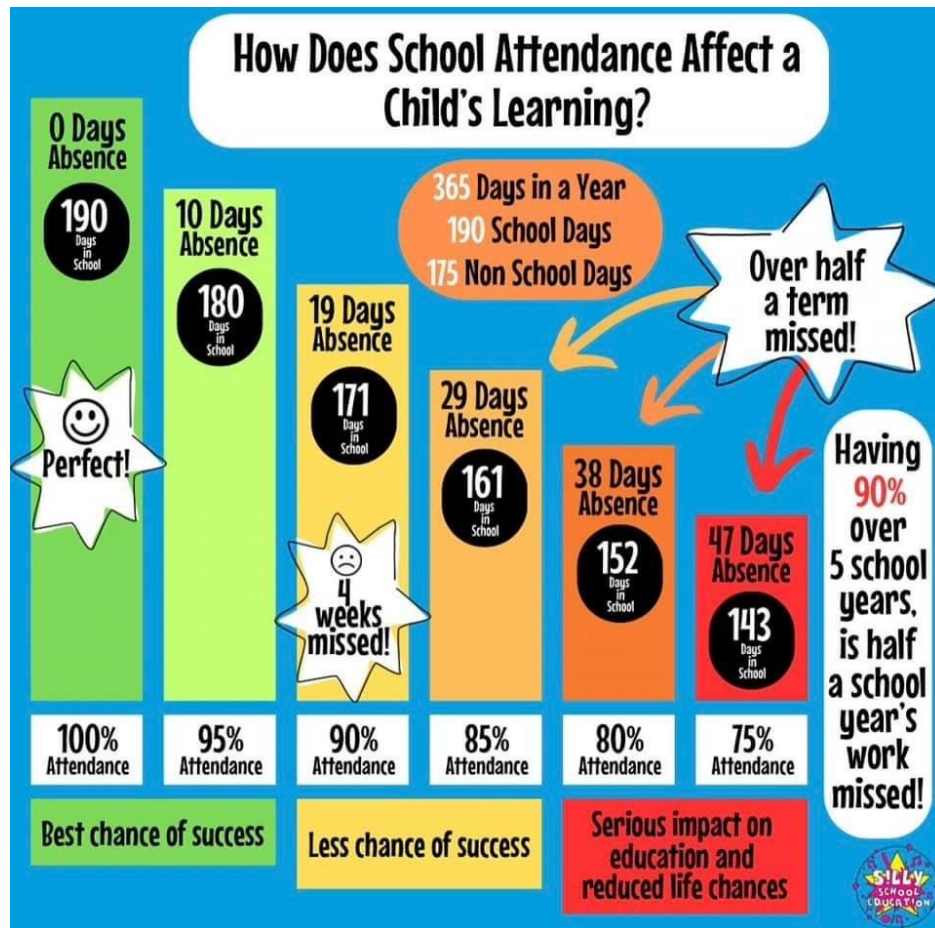
5F - 93.9%

5H - 94.8%

6H - 94.9%

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/>

Times Tables Rockstars



Key Stage 2 TTRS Tournaments

Key Stage Two

1. 4J - 414
 2. 4R - 306
 3. 6L - 52
 4. 6H - 22
 5. 3D - 2
 6. 5F - 0
 7. 3D - 0
-

Year Four

1. 4J - 914

2. 4R - 757

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

Top 5 Players Key Stage 2

1. Tayon 4J

2. Areng 4J

3. Yoadan 6H

4. Brook 3D

5. Alex 5H

Stars of the Week

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

Nursery

Olivia T - for working really hard on her name writing skills.

Tolualase - for showing resilience this week and giving 100% in all her learning.

Reception

RG

Theodore - for always trying hard in lessons, putting your hand up and joining in.

Noah - for always being a kind friend to everyone.

RS

Theodore has been concentrating really well in phonics and knows all of the phase 3 sounds.

Juana has been very thoughtful this week. She has been looking out for her friends when they're sad.

Year 1

1F

Shahnaz - for working so hard and contributing great ideas in English.

Bethany - for being a kind friend to others in the class.

1M

Amiyah - for working hard in Maths and measuring the mass of an objects.

Hunter - for trying hard in English to write a sentence independently.

Year 2

2K

Oscar- for trying really hard with his writing this half term.

Hania - for focusing much better and really improving in phonics and reading this half term.

2R-

Summer- for ALWAYS being a role model and trying hard in every lesson.

Belle- for doing amazing in her assessments showing how hard she has been working this year.

Year 3

3D

Theo - for showing fantastic skills in Tag Rugby.

Alfie - for being a STAR and trying really hard in lessons.

3T

Finley - for trying hard in his work.

Lilly - for being a St Michael's STAR!

Year 4

4J

Eviee - for her defensive skills in Tag Rugby.

Elizabeth - for showing the STAR during lessons.

4R

Ava- for writing a fantastic twisted narrative.

Beau- for showing amazing passing skills in our netball lessons.

Year 5

5F

Viola - for being extremely helpful and a pleasure to have in the classroom.

Mia P - for excellent effort during assessment week.

5H

Elijah - for showing a huge improvement in maths

Mason - for working hard to develop your resilience

Year 6

6H

Charlie - for working really hard during English and using fantastic vocabulary choices in his writing

Kaitlyn - for your Arithmetic results flying up!

6L

Maddie N-P - for demonstrating outstanding skills in netball. Well done!

Oscar C - for working so hard and imaginatively on our World Book Day activities. Well done!

What is happening in the classroom?

Nursery

The Nursery children were so excited to welcome their special person into the nursery classroom this week. We sang two songs to our grown ups; "Spring Chicken" and "You are Special" and they loved it! We then shared a cake and some juice with our grown up and played together in the afternoon sunshine. It was a wonderful afternoon! Miss Coe, Miss C and Mrs Googa would like to thank all Nursery's adults for attending on Tuesday afternoon. We hope you had a great time too!

Reception

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 this week Reception have been learning about odd and even numbers, they have had fun trying to spot them. In RE we have been learning about why the cross is an important symbol to christians. We explored this further by tasting hot cross buns.

1F

This week the children have been introduced to their new book called where the wild things are. they were shown an illustration from the book and made predictions of what the story would be about. The children have been learning about mass in maths. They have used the balancing scales to measure and comparing different objects from around the classroom.

1M

This week the children have loved their English lessons as we have been reading a new book called where the wild things are. They have been learning new vocabulary from the text and writing their own sentences. Also this week in Maths we have been exploring mass and measuring different objects using balancing scales. The children have been comparing the mass of each object.

Year 2

2K

This week we have been working very hard whilst we complete our assessments. In RE this week we have focused on peace and how we can insure we have peace in our lives. We have finished off our story about Grandad's Island. In DT we have taste tested food and made a healthy wrap to take home to try.

2R

This week the children have worked SUPER hard completing their assessments. It has been a difficult week for the children but they have all had a good attitude to learning and got them done. We have

*however ended the week with our World Book Day and it was so lovey to see so many amazing outfits.
We have also done a DT day where we designed and made healthy wraps.*

Year 3

3D

All the children have been working very hard this week to complete their assessments! In English, the children have been writing their own narrative description about our book 'Jemmy Button'. In Art we have looked at recognising and applying geometry when drawing.

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.

Year 4

4J

It has been Assessment Week this week, well done to all the children who have tried so hard! Mrs Joyce is looking forward to Pupil Progress to share progression with parents. Year Four have also started their Twisted Narrative where the ending is changed of a traditional tale. During Tag Rugby lessons, children have been focusing on defensive skills.

4R

This week has been Assessment Week and all the children have been working very hard and very sensibly to complete all of their tests! We have been writing our twisted narratives this week where we have been

changing the endings of our traditional tales so that they don't have a happy ending. In our science lesson, we made a paper cup telephone to see how vibrations can travel over a longer distance.

Year 5

5H

This week we have looked at the life cycles of birds, mammals, insects and amphibians. We compared the different life cycles, identified similarities and differences and created a presentation which we shared with the class. We enjoyed meeting Nina Peanut as part of our World Book Day activities and also edited a book called 'The Birthday Bunny' to create our own book.

5F

This week has been Assessment Week and all the children have been working very hard and very sensibly to complete all of their tests! In RE, we have been looking at Holy week, the sacrifice Jesus made for us and who was responsible for his death. We enjoyed meeting Nina Peanut as part of our World Book Day activities and also edited a book called 'The Birthday Bunny' to edit our own book. The children also had the chance to design and create their very own book!

Year 6

Year 6

Year 6 have had lots of fun on World Book Day, creating their own versions of the book, 'Birthday Bunny'. We saw a range of imaginative ideas: Queen Bunny, Monster Bunny, Gangsta Bunny and Ninja Bunny! In our writing lessons, we have continued using our book, 'The Ways of the Wolf', to explore a new text type - a hunted narrative. We have continued exploring percentages, fractions and decimals in maths and we are so proud of their progress. Well done Year 6 - keep up the super work!

Measles

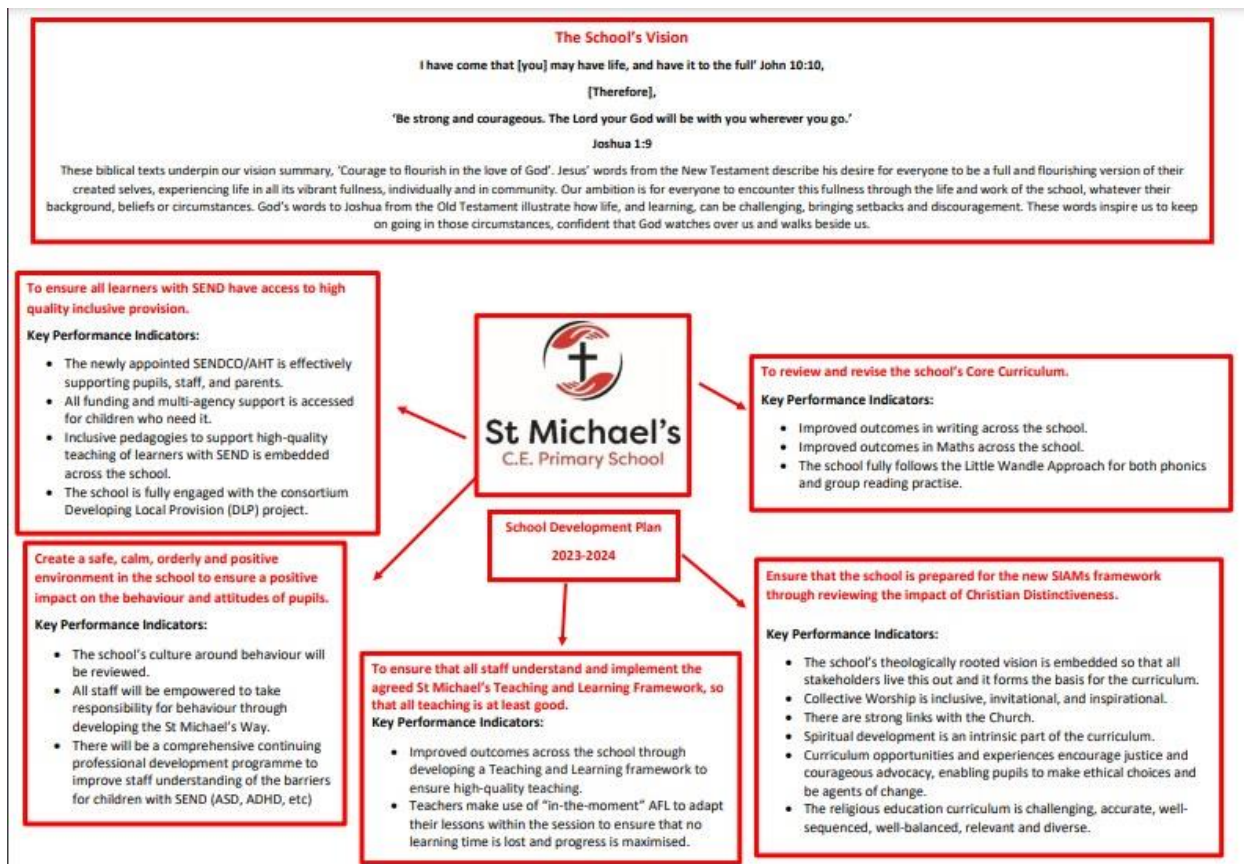
As you may be aware, across Birmingham there has been an outbreak of measles. Please read the following information which has been issued:

- *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.*
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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.*

✓ *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.*
-



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
