



ST MICHAELS JUNIOR SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER 1
11/09/2026

MESSAGE FROM MRS KINGHAM

Dear Parents and Carers,

What a wonderful start to the new school year it has been! It's been so great to have all the children back after the summer holidays, and it's fantastic to see them settling back into school life with such enthusiasm.

A special mention to our Year 3 children, who have started their Junior School journey and are settling in really well to their new routines and new classmates. Moving up to Junior school is always a big step, and this time of transition can be tricky for children, but we are so proud of how well they have adjusted and how they are getting on.

It has been a joy to walk around school this week and see children fully engaged in their learning. We're also pleased to welcome our new staff, who have settled in wonderfully and are already feeling like part of the St Michael's family. And of course, it's lovely to see our parents back too. We look forward to working with you all over the year ahead.

Summer Works

Behind the scenes, Mr Fox and his team have been working incredibly hard over the summer to get the school ready for the new year. Several areas of the school have had a fresh coat of paint, and classrooms have been transformed into calm, consistent environments, with teachers putting in real effort to create welcoming spaces and routines for the year ahead. You may even notice the lovely smell of new carpets in the hallways and classrooms! All of this supports the work we are doing to create a calm, consistent environment that is truly built for learning.

Learning Behaviour

This year, we have restructured our staffing to introduce Learning Behaviour Coaches, who work across the school supporting all of our children with their learning behaviour. The behaviour of our children is so important in helping us maintain high standards in everything we do, and in ensuring that children respect both their learning and the feelings of others.



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We would really value your support at home in reinforcing these same messages, as respect for learning is key to every child's success. We are also in the process of introducing a new behaviour policy, which we will share with you over the coming weeks.

The relationship between home and school matters a great deal to us. If we ever have concerns about a child's learning behaviour or attitudes, we will always aim to work closely with parents from the outset, so that we can resolve things together early on and ensure every child has a calm, consistent and safe place to learn.

Attendance Matters

At St Michael's, we know that every day in school counts. Regular attendance is one of the biggest factors in a child's success, both academically and socially. Missing just one day a fortnight adds up to almost a month of lost learning over the school year.

Our whole-school attendance target this year is 98%, which means missing no more than 4 days across the whole school year, and we know that together, as a school community, we can achieve this. Being in school every day also helps children build friendships, develop confidence, and feel a true sense of belonging within our school community.

We understand that illness happens, but please note that, in line with Department for Education guidance, we are unable to authorise holidays taken during term time, except in exceptional circumstances. Requests for term-time leave may result in a referral to Hampshire County Council, who can issue a Penalty Notice (fine) to parents/carers. We would always encourage families to book holidays during the school holidays wherever possible, to avoid any disruption to your child's learning and to avoid a fine.

We will be sharing more information about attendance over the coming weeks, including further guidance and updates on how we're working together to reach our target.



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If your child is finding it hard to attend for any reason, please do get in touch with your child's class teacher or the school office. We're always here to help and support you. Together, we can make sure every child gets the very best start to their journey to success.

Uniform

It's been lovely to see the children looking so smart in their uniform, and the new polo shirts are looking great! Please do let us know how you find the quality of these over time, as your feedback is really helpful.

Just a couple of friendly reminders: shoulder-length hair (or longer) should be tied up, and jewellery is not permitted in school. Fidget toys are also not allowed in school; where a child needs one, this will be discussed and provided by the class teacher. If your child has additional needs, please do speak with our SEN team, who will be happy to help. These small things all help us maintain high standards and an excellent environment for learning.

Infant School

It has been a real pleasure to work with our infant colleagues this week and to be able to share my time across both sites. This term, I will be based on the junior site every Monday, Wednesday and Friday.

Finally, a big thank you to our whole staff team for all they do to keep the operational side of school running so smoothly. We are also making some small tweaks to our operational processes, which we hope will continue to improve things over time.

Wishing you all a wonderful start to the year ahead.

With warm wishes,
Mrs Kirsty Kingham
Headteacher
St Michael's Junior School



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Attendance

Attendance is everyone's business - Every Learning Minute Counts							
This Week Whole School 94.3%		Year to Date Attendance					
		Whole School	National	Persistent Absence		National	
		94.8%	95.5%	15.5%		13%	
Year Group Breakdown (last 5 days)							
Year 3 96.1%		Year 4 97.4%		Year 5 96%		Year 6 92.1%	
Daley	93.5%	Abbott	98.4%	Keller	94.2%	Attenborough	92.1%
Lewis	96.7%	Hawking	95.8%	Malala	100%	Earhart	92.3%
Simmonds	98.1%	Johnson	98.2%	Mandela	93.9%	Henson	91.9%

ELSA Support at St Michael's

We are pleased to offer ELSA (Emotional Literacy Support Assistant) sessions in school, led by Mrs Walker. ELSA is a six-week intervention designed to support children with their emotional wellbeing and help them develop strategies and skills to manage feelings, build confidence and navigate challenges. Children are usually referred for ELSA support by their class teacher, in consultation with parents, when it is felt that this focused support could be beneficial. Sessions are carefully planned around the individual needs of each child and provide a safe, supportive space where children can talk, reflect and develop practical strategies that they can use both in and out of school.

The ELSA website has more information and can be found here:

[What is ELSA Intervention? – Elsa Support](#)



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REMINDERS

Water Bottles

Please can we remind you to send your child in to school with a named water bottle.

Water is crucial to being healthy and ready to learn and children have access to their bottles at regular intervals throughout the day. Please do not put anything other than plain, still water in your child's bottle.

Fizzy drinks and squash are not permitted.

Named Coats/Jumpers

As we move into Autumn and the weather is getting colder, please ensure that your child brings a named coat and jumper to school as they will be outside on the playground at break and lunch times.

Nut Free Zone

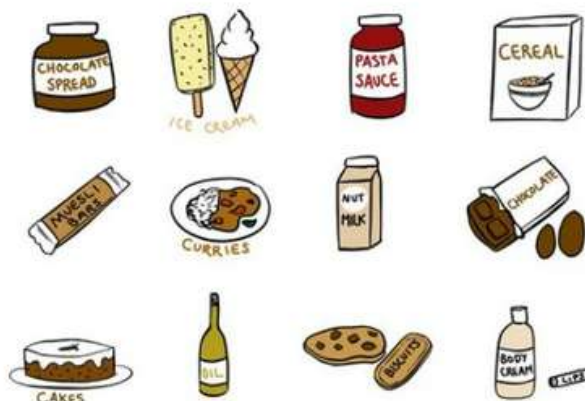
Please can you ensure that your child does not bring anything with nuts in it into school as there are staff and children with severe nut allergies in the school.

Please see the picture opposite for examples of foods that contain nuts.

Peanuts & Tree nuts



Some of the places
nuts like to hide...





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YEAR 3

Please see below a table of the upcoming events for the Academic Year, all trips are available on Scopay.

Year 3		Trip/Event	Date	Cost
Autumn Term 2026	TRIP	Stone Age Theatre Workshop	Monday 9th November 2026	£6.10
Spring Term 2027	TRIP	Butser Ancient Farm	Thursday 4th March 2027	£26.50
Summer Term 2027	TRIP	VR Workshop - Egyptians	Friday 30th April 2027	£5.65

YEAR 4

Please see below a table of the upcoming events for the Academic Year, all trips are available on Scopay.

Year 4		Trip/Event	Date	Cost
Spring Term 2027	TRIP	Upton Court Viking Trip	Friday 26th February 2027	£16.60
Summer Term 2027	TRIP	VR Workshop - Mayans	Friday 30th April 2027	£5.65



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YEAR 5

Please see below a table of the upcoming events for the Academic Year, all trips are available on Scopay.

Year 5		Trip/Event	Date	Cost
Autumn Term 2026	TRIP	Winchester Science Museum	Friday 27th November 2026	£23.00
Spring Term 2027	TRIP	VR Workshop	Monday 1st February 2027	£4.20

Swimming Lessons will be starting in the Spring Term, further details to follow.

YEAR 6

Please see below a table of the upcoming events for the Academic Year, all trips are available on Scopay.

Year 6		Trip/Event	Date	Cost
Autumn Term 2026	TRIP	Gilbert White - Explorers	Tuesday 29th & Friday 30th September 2026	25
Spring Term 2027	PARENT EVENT	SATs Workshop	Thursday 14th January 2027 3.30pm onwards	
	TRIP	VR Workshop - Earthquakes & Volcanoes	Monday 1st February 2027	£5.00
	TRIP	Guildford Cathedral Leavers Service	Monday 14th June 2027	
Summer Term 2027	TRIP	Residential - Grittleton	Monday 24th-Friday 28th May 2027	£361.00 + coach costs TBC
	TRIP	Think Safe	June 2027 (dates to be confirmed)	
	TRIP	Bikeability	July 2027 (dates to be confirmed)	
	PARENT EVENT	Leavers Party	Wednesday 21st July 2027 at 2.00pm	



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DIARY DATES

DIARY DATES 2026/2027		
All diary dates for future events are now available on our school website – this will be updated regularly as and when events are added/updated.		
Wednesday 23rd September	Parent Event - Meet the Teacher (held in the classrooms)	3.30-4.00pm
Friday 30th September	Year 6 Trip - Gilbert White Explorers Trip (Attenborough & Henson Class)	All Day
Friday 2nd October	Olympian Fundraising Day	
w/c Monday 19th October	NO SCHOOL RUN CLUBS THIS WEEK	
Monday 19th October	Individual School Photos	
Tuesday 20th October	Parents Evenings	3.45-6.00pm
Wednesday 21st October	Parents Evenings	3.45-7.00pm
Friday 23rd October	Inset Day - School Closed to Pupils	
Monday 26th October	HALF TERM WEEK	
Wednesday 11th November	Remembrance Day	
Friday 27th November	Year 5 Trip - Winchester Science Museum	All Day
Friday 18th December	LAST DAY OF TERM	
Monday 4th January	Inset Day - School Closed to Pupils	
Tuesday 5th January	BACK TO SCHOOL	

Contact Us

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