



# St Michael's CE Junior School

Newsletter – Issue 10 07.02.2025

## MESSAGE FROM MRS JONES

We are now nearly half way through the academic year and one week until half term. The second half of this term will be a great opportunity to build on what the children have achieved so far and enable them to be the very best they can be.

We had our Internet Safety talks with both the children and parents on Thursday. This is always a really good event where staff, children and parents can learn about how to keep children safe online. There is so much to learn and so many problems associated with young children accessing apps and material that they should not be seeing. If you were unable to access the talk to parents we have recorded it and put it on our school website. Please do look at it and see what you can do as parents to keep your children safe and happy online.

This week, we have been doing observations across the school. The children have shown excellent learning attitudes, great manners and an enthusiasm and love of the school when talking to adults. It is lovely to see the children being so proud of their hard work and being so engaged with their learning.

We break up for half term on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> February at 3.20pm. We hope that you have a restful half term holiday and look forward to seeing the children back at school on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> February for another fun and busy half term!

## COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

### Psalms - Songs from the Heart

This week in Worship we looked at Psalm 121: *'I lift my eyes to the mountains. Where does my help come from? It comes from God, who made heaven and earth...He will watch over you now and forever.'*

We thought about life being like a rollercoaster ride: there are happy and exciting times, there are difficult and sad times and there are boring times. We thought about this psalm and how when things become difficult, we can help ourselves by looking up and looking out. We called it 'funnel vision'. Rather than just looking down, we can look around us and think about all of the great things that surround us.

We explored how Christians get comfort from this psalm, thinking about how God is bigger than any problem and if they lift up their eyes to God, it will lift their hearts.



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## YEAR 3

### **YEAR 3 PARENT EVENT: Sewing**

Thank you to all the parents and carers who attended the Year 3 Parent Event: Sewing, It was great to see so many of you there and we hope you had fun sewing and making a purse with your children!

### **YEAR 3 TRIP: Butser Farm - Monday 3rd March**

Year 3 will be visiting Butser Ancient Farm as part of this term's work on The Roman Empire. The children will be taking part in various activities including archaeological excavation, Roman maths, Flint wall building and Villa tour.

The trip will take place on Monday 3rd March, leaving school at 9.00am, travelling by coach and returning to school by 3.20pm. The children will need to be in school for registration by 8.40am to enable a prompt departure. The children are required to wear their school uniform and a waterproof coat, and will need a packed lunch and water bottle (in a small named bag that the child can carry). The school can provide a packed lunch at a cost of £3.20.

In order for this trip to go ahead a voluntary contribution of £20.00 is requested to contribute towards the cost of travel and the activities provided by Butser Farm. Payment is required no later than Friday 14th February 2025.

## YEAR 4

### **YEAR 4 WORKSHOP: Viking Theatre - Friday 4th April**

As part of the Year 4 Spring Term History & Geography learning, each class will take part in a Viking Theatre virtual reality workshop. The workshop will inspire the children and support their learning and the curriculum in school. Please note, it is recommended that pupils with epilepsy or pupils who are prone to seizures consult with their doctor before using a VR headset.

**A voluntary contribution of £3.50 per child is requested to contribute towards the cost of the company coming in and activities provided.** Payment is now required no later than Friday 14th March and can be made via your Scopay account or cash (handed into the school office). If insufficient contributions are received, the workshop may have to be cancelled.

### **YEAR 4 PARENT EVENT: Dance - Thursday 20th March 1.30-3.00pm**

Year 4 parents and carers are invited to join their child and take part in a Dance Parent Event on Thursday 20th March. Please wear comfortable clothes and shoes that you are able to move around in.

The parent event will be held in the school hall and will take place from 1.30-3.00pm, which will allow those to collect younger siblings from the infant school. Other parents can wait on the playground until 3.20pm so that the children can be dismissed from classes in the usual way.

Please note, this is not a drop in Parent Event so please arrive promptly. The pedestrian gate will open at 1.25pm and close at 1.40pm. Due to the nature of this activity, latecomers will not be admitted. We look forward to seeing you there.



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## YEAR 5

### **YEAR 5 GREEK DRESS UP DAY: Friday 14th March**

Year 5 children will be having a Greek themed dress up day on Friday 14th March. The children will be asked to come dressed in traditional Ancient Greek attire, such as tunics, robes or togas (this could be as simple as a white bed sheet) and **sensible footwear - sandals or open toed shoes are not permitted.** Hair should still be tied back. Please see the attached sheet for ideas on how to dress up.

### **YEAR 5 WORKSHOP: Greek Virtual Reality - Friday 14th March**

As part of the Year 5 Spring Term History & Geography learning, each class will take part in a Greek virtual reality workshop. The workshop will inspire the children and support their learning and the curriculum in school. Please note, it is recommended that pupils with epilepsy or pupils who are prone to seizures consult with their doctor before using a VR headset.

A voluntary contribution of £7.10 per child is requested to contribute towards the cost of the company coming in and activities provided.

Payment is required no later than Friday 28th February and can be made via your Scopay account or cash (handed into the school office). If insufficient contributions are received, the workshop may have to be cancelled.

### **YEAR 5 PARENT EVENT: Greek Museum - Friday 21st March 2.00-3.00pm**

Year 5 Parents/Carers are invited to join their child at a Greek Museum event on Friday 21st March. The parent event will be held in the school hall and will take place from 2.00-3.00pm, which will allow those to collect younger siblings from the infant school. Other parents can wait on the playground until 3.20pm so that the children can be dismissed from classes in the usual way.

Please note, this is not a drop in Parent Event so please arrive promptly. The pedestrian gate will open at 1.55pm and close at 2.10pm. Due to the nature of this activity, latecomers will not be admitted. We look forward to seeing you there.



### YEAR 5

#### YEAR 5 GREEK DRESS UP DAY: Friday 14th March

### Dressing up day ideas

## Greeks

So you're having a Greek dressing up day? Don't panic! Even if you'd forgotten about it until 8pm the night before, you can still manage to whip up a costume with some simple items in your house. There's no need for any buying and there's not even any sewing!

#### Greek Girl

- A long chiton (see instructions below)
- A large rectangle of fabric for a cloak (a bed sheet is ideal)
- A wide sash/belt of contrasting fabric
- Two brooches for the chiton
- A necklace and earrings as desired



#### Greek Boy

- A knee length tunic (see instructions below)
- A wide sash/belt of contrasting fabric

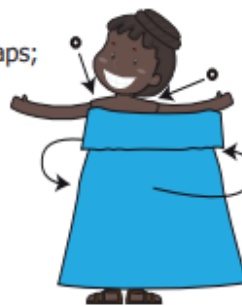


#### To make the boy's tunic

1. Take a large piece of rectangular fabric (an old bedsheet is ideal)
2. Fold it in half along its width
3. On the folded edge cut a hole for the head
4. Bind the waist with the wide belt, overlapping any additional fabric at the sides so that the tunic doesn't come open!
5. Trim the length so that it comes to your knees
6. A t-shirt and shorts can be worn underneath for modesty

#### To make the girl's chiton

1. Take an old single bedsheet or similar and fold the top third down on itself to make a flap. Now fold the whole thing in half the other way;
2. Wrap the sheet around yourself, making sure there's no gaps;
3. Fasten the front and back with a brooch at each shoulder;
4. Use the sash as a belt to hold the hole thing together!
5. A T-shirt and shorts can be worn underneath for modesty





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## YEAR 6

### **YEAR 6 VIRTUAL REALITY WORKSHOP: Friday 4th April**

As part of the Year 6 Spring Term History & Geography learning, each class will take part in a virtual reality workshop. The workshop will inspire the children and support their learning and the curriculum in school. Please note, it is recommended that pupils with epilepsy or pupils who are prone to seizures consult with their doctor before using a VR headset.

**A voluntary contribution of £3.50 per child is requested to contribute towards the cost of the company coming in and activities provided.** Payment is now required no later than Friday 14th March and can be made via your Scopay account or cash (handed into the school office). If insufficient contributions are received, the workshop may have to be cancelled.

### **YEAR 6 BIKEABILITY TRAINING 31st March - 3rd April**

Hampshire Outdoors are offering Year 6 children the opportunity to take part in Bikeability training. This is the national cycle training programme supported and funded by the Department for Transport. The training has three levels;

Level 1 which is based on the playground and builds confidence in children who can already ride a bike

Level 2 which teaches children to cycle on local roads

Level 3 which uses more challenging roads.

Each child will need a fully operational bike with two working brakes and a cycle helmet. If your child does not have access to a helmet or bike but would like to take part, Hampshire Outdoors will endeavour to make the necessary provisions.

If you would like your child to participate in the training then **please could parents complete the permission slip that was sent home with their child this week, and return to the School Office by Friday 28th February 2025** in order that we can ensure every child is provided for.



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## SCHOOL INFORMATION

### PARENTS CONSULTATION EVENINGS

Parent Consultation Evenings will be taking place in the school hall on Tuesday 25th and Thursday 27th February 2025. Appointments are 10 minutes long, and we will be ringing a bell to ensure that all appointments run on time.

Tuesday 25th February 2025: 3.40pm - 7.00pm  
Thursday 27th February 2025: 3.40pm - 6.00pm

We are using the Scopay booking system and will close on Sunday 23rd February 2025 at 11.45pm. A document to help guide you through the booking process has been sent out separately. If you have any difficulties booking online, please call the school office team who will be able to book an appointment for you.

### SCHOOL PATROL CROSSING

There will be no school patrol crossing on the afternoon of Friday 14th February. Please remind your children to cross safely as it can get extremely busy in the afternoon.

## Go Draw in School

**From 3rd March to 14th March our school is taking part in a drawing festival called Go Draw in School. With thousands of children taking part from all over the borough it looks like it will be an amazing event. The festival is kindly supported by Rushmoor Borough Council.**



**Over the two weeks we will be dedicating part of each day to drawing.**

Each day there will be a short video the children will watch introducing a different theme. We will then give the children an opportunity to draw in a special Go Draw in School booklet.

They will be given lots of support and encouragement, but the time given is very much 'free drawing', and no formal drawing teaching will be given.

Drawing is an important part of every child's development and we feel it is important to give the children this time to explore.

If you are feeling left out... don't worry! At the weekend of the festival every child will be bringing home a few ideas of how to Go Draw at Home!



### CONTACT US

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## PTFA FUNDRAISING

### PTFA Mother's Day Gift Sale: Tuesday 25th March

Following on from the success of last year, the PTFA are holding another Mother's Day Gift Sale on Tuesday 25th March. The cost of a wrapped gift is £4.00. Payment for the gifts can be made via your Scopay account (under Trips/Events), or cash to the school office.

If you wish to purchase more than one gift, please make the appropriate payment online, for example:  
1 x gift = £4.00 / 2 x gifts = £8.00

The deadline for ordering your gifts is Friday 21st March.

The sale will be run during the school day on Tuesday 25th March. All children who have placed orders will be taken to the sale by their class teacher. The gifts are all wrapped and will be displayed so that children can see what items are available, and they can make their selection, which they will bring home with them at the end of the day. All gifts are brand new, and gift wrapped.

Please see below the PTFA poster and a photo showing the types of gifts that will be available. We are hoping that this will be an enjoyable event for children and their families.



**HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY**  
St Michael's CE Junior School PTFA  
**Gift for a special lady in your life**

**Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> March 2025**  
£4 per ticket – payable via Scopay or cash to school office  
Order deadline: Friday 21<sup>st</sup> March 2025  
Gift shopping will take place during the school day  
Each child that has purchased a ticket will get to choose a gift from a large selection

**Parentkind**  
Member Association

The poster is designed to look like a large pink gift box with a white ribbon. It features a central image of the gift items from the collage. The text is arranged in a clear, readable layout, with the event details and a 'Parentkind Member Association' logo at the bottom. The background is decorated with small hearts and a row of colorful tulips at the very bottom.

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## OTHER INFORMATION

### FRIMLEY HEALTHIER TOGETHER WINTER NEWSLETTER

January 2025

### Winter Healthier Together Highlights



To support you best through this Winter, **Frimley Healthier Together** can provide you and your child with information and advice. Below are some key highlights.

#### Asthma



Useful videos if you suspect your child is asthmatic or you need help to better manage asthma symptoms. [Asthma resources for parents/carers :: Frimley HealthierTogether](#)



#### Mental Health



If you would like information on how to support your or your child's mental health and emotional wellbeing: [Mental Health :: Frimley HealthierTogether](#)



#### Should my Child go to School today?



Our guidance below will help you to make that choice based on NHS advice. [Should my child go to school/nursery today? :: Frimley HealthierTogether](#)



#### Child unwell?



Please visit here to find out more information on what you can do if your child is unwell – including with coughs, colds, sore throats and fevers: [Concerned your child is unwell \(3 months and older\)? :: Frimley HealthierTogether](#)



#### Neurodiversity



Please find information around neurodiversity, including autism, ADHD, local support for parents, carers, young people and families along with Special Educational Needs & Disabilities (SEND) resources: [Neurodiversity :: Frimley HealthierTogether](#)



#### Did you know...?



You can access **free** online courses to support both your child's emotional wellbeing and development. Please visit: [Local support for parents, carers, young people and families :: Frimley HealthierTogether](#)







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## DIARY DATES 2024

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.

Monday 17th – Friday 21st February	<b>HALF TERM</b> <b>School closed to all pupils</b>		
Monday 24th - Friday 28th February	<b>NO SCHOOL RUN AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS</b> <b>Lunch time clubs only</b>		
Tuesday 25th February	PARENTS CONSULTATION EVENING	Hall	3.40-7.00pm
	Usbourne Book Fair	Library	3.40-7.00pm
Thursday 27th February	PARENTS CONSULTATION EVENING	Hall	3.40-6.00pm
	Usbourne Book Fair	Library	3.40-6.00pm
Monday 3rd March	YEAR 3 - Butser Farm Trip	Off site	All day
Thursday 6th March	WORLD BOOK DAY		
Friday 14th March	YEAR 5 - Greek Dress up Day		All day
	YEAR 5 - Greek Virtual Reality Adventure	School	All day
Thursday 20th March	YEAR 4 PARENT EVENT - Dance	Hall	1.30-3.00pm
Friday 21st March	YEAR 5 PARENT EVENT - Greek Museum	Hall	2.00-3.00pm
Thursday 27th March	YEAR 6 PARENT EVENT	Hall	1.30-3.00pm
Monday 31st March	YEAR 4 - Viking Theatre Virtual Reality Workshop	School	All day
	YEAR 6 - Virtual Reality Workshop	School	All day
Monday 31st March - Thursday 3rd April	YEAR 6 - BIKEABILITY	School	
Tuesday 1st April	ROCKSTEADY Concert	Hall	9.45-10.15am
Friday 4th April	LAST DAY OF TERM		