



St Michael's CE Junior School

Newsletter – Issue 12 15.03.2024

MESSAGE FROM MRS JONES

What a busy few weeks we have had here in school and it's only 2 weeks until the Easter holiday - the weeks are flying by! Alongside the learning, maths and reading tests that the children have been doing, we have celebrated World Book Day, Viking Day with the Year 4s and their parents / carers, Comic Relief Day and have had a brilliant concert by the children from Rocksteady!

This week in school, all of the children have been working very hard and have completed a test a day for reading and maths. These tests support teachers in assessing the children and help prepare the children for tests as they get older. We are all so proud of them for their courage and resilience this week.

The Good Behaviour Reward has launched this week in school and is a reward to recognise and thank all of the children who behave well and keep to our school rules all of the time. As part of the reward, children recognised will get to choose an activity of their choice for half an hour at the end of each half term. The children were told about this in worship today and I hope this will encourage the children to continue the high standard of behaviour we expect in school.

Last week, the Year 3 children visited Butser Ancient Farm as part of this term's work on The Roman Empire. The children had a great day out and took part in many different activities throughout the day, including an archaeological excavation and Roman maths. Thank you to the Year 3 teachers for organising this and for the parent helpers that joined us on the trip.

Last Thursday, we celebrated World Book Day and it was so lovely to see both children and adults dressed up in such imaginative costumes. Some brought clues along instead of dressing up and it was fun to try to guess the book from the clues. It was great to see the children excited about the different books and about reading. The teachers also read their favourite story and the children were really excited to hear them.

We hope that the children enjoyed the Mother's Day gift sale last week. It was lovely to see so many children involved and getting excited about choosing a gift for someone. We hope that those of you who received a gift were pleased with your child's choice! Look out for the gift sale for a special man in your life, coming up in June.

Thank you to all the parents / carers who supported their children at the Rocksteady Concert this week. We have a number of students who take part in Rocksteady in school and learn to play various musical instruments, including drums, guitar and keyboards. The concert put on by the children and the Rocksteady band leader was a great success and I was so proud of the children, and their courage when performing in front of their friends, teachers and family members.

Yesterday, the Year 4s had a Viking Day in school, and were encouraged to dress up as a Viking. We saw many imaginative costumes worn by both children and teachers, especially Mr Edwards, Mrs Johnston and Mrs Skelly-Regis! A big thank you to all the parents and family members who came into school for the Viking Parent Event in the afternoon - it was great to see so many of you getting creative and crafty with your children making Viking Shields and Viking Ships. A big thank you to the Year 4 staff who organised this.

Today we have celebrated Comic Relief Day - thank you for all of you who have donated towards this. We have raised an amazing £277.00 for Comic Relief! The children will be rehearsing their Easter Performances next week so don't forget to come into school to watch them on the last week of term.

I hope you have a restful weekend and look forward to seeing you all next week.



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EASTER

EASTER CHURCH SERVICE - THURSDAY 21ST MARCH 2024

Vicar Alwyn will be leading the school in their Easter church service on Thursday 21st March. There will be 2 services - one for Years 3 & 4 and one for Years 5 & 6. The services will be held during the school day and are for staff and pupils only.

EASTER PERFORMANCES

Parents and carers are invited to come into school to watch the Easter Performances, which are being put on by each year group in the school hall. Younger siblings and family members are also welcome to watch. Please arrive at the school, ready for a prompt 2.45pm start.

Please note the dates for each year groups performance.

Monday 25 th March	Year 3 Easter Performance	2.45pm
Tuesday 26 th March	Year 4 Easter Performance	2.45pm
Wednesday 27 th March	Year 6 Easter Performance	2.45pm
Thursday 28 th March	Year 5 Easter Performance	2.45pm

The performances will finish by 3.10pm and 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.

CHILDREN'S ACHIEVEMENTS

Congratulations to Chloe K in Rowling who has recently completed her Stage 1 in swimming. Well done Chloe!

Well done to Sanea L in Morpurgo who took part in the Hampshire & IOW Tennis LTA Youth League Winter Games 2024 and achieved second place. Congratulations Sanea!

If your child takes part in activities outside school which merit a mention in our newsletter, e.g. sporting or musical achievements, please let the School Office know, and we shall ensure it is included in the next newsletter adminoffice@st-michaels-jun.hants.sch.uk

CONTACT US

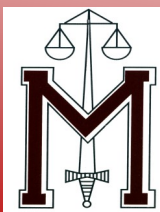
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YEAR 3

Year 3 Parent Event: Outdoor Learning & Problem Solving - Wednesday 1st May 2024

SAVE THE DATE - Parents are invited to come and join their children during a session of Outdoor Learning and Problem Solving. More details to follow.

YEAR 4

Year 4 Parent Event: Viking Day

We hope that the Year 4 children and parents/carers involved in the Viking Day had an enjoyable day. It was lovely to see so many children dressing up and all the crafts being made by all involved.

Year 4: Runways End Activity Day - Monday 18th / Tuesday 19th / Wednesday 20th March 2024 9.00-4.30pm

Please note the date for your child's activity day at Runways End Outdoor Centre.

Monday 18th March Fleming Class
Tuesday 19th March Curie Class
Wednesday 20th March Hawking Class

Please can we remind you that no transport is being provided by the school for children to attend the Runways End Activity Day. It is the parent's responsibility to drop off children at Runways End for 9.00am and pick up from Runways End at 4.30pm. A register will be taken at 9.00am at Runways End in the morning of the activity day. If your child is not present, normal absence procedures apply.

The children are required to wear their school PE kit, trainers and have warm wet weather gear with them. They will need a packed lunch, snacks and water bottle (in a named bag that the child can carry).

Year 4 Swimming

Next term, Year 4 will go swimming as part of their National Curriculum studies. The children will swim at Aldershot Pool for half an hour every Thursday morning commencing **Thursday 18th April**, with the last session being held on **Thursday 23rd May**. These swimming sessions will replace one of your child's PE lessons. (Please note there will be no swimming on Thursday 16th May).

The children will develop their water confidence, safety and ability to swim at three different levels of competence. Swimming instructors will assess the children on their first session and group them accordingly. Parents should be aware that the school staff will not be responsible for groupings during swimming lessons.

We would be grateful for offers of help walking the children to / from Aldershot Pool. Please let the School Office know if you are able to help.

Year 4: Mayan Civilisation Theatre Workshop - Wednesday 24th April 2024

We have rescheduled the Year 4 Mayan Civilisation theatre workshop to Wednesday 24th April 2024.

A voluntary contribution of £4.50 is requested to contribute towards the cost of the company coming in and delivering this unique experience. Any payments made from the cancelled theatre workshop in January have been carried over. Payment is required no later than Friday 19th April 2024.

Year 4: Mayan Civilisation Virtual Reality Adventure - Friday 26th April 2024

As part of the Year 4 Summer Term Topic, the Maya Civilisation, each class will take part in a virtual reality adventure around the ancient city of Chichén Itzá. The visit will inspire the children with ideas on how the Mayan's lived 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. Payment is required no later than Friday 19th April 2024 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.



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YEAR 5

Year 5 Parent Event: Pizza Making - Tuesday 19th March 2024 1.30-3.00pm

As part of their Design & Technology learning, Year 5 parents / carers are invited to join their child in a pizza making afternoon on Tuesday 19th March 2024. Each child will need to bring in a small container with a lid, big enough to put a 7" pizza in. *Please note, the pizza will not be cooked in school - the children will be bringing the constructed pizza home, to be cooked.*

This 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.

As a school, we are aware of dietary requirements, allergies and life style choices of certain children. If your child has any specific dietary requirements that the school are not aware of, please let us know.

Year 5 Swimming

Next term, Year 5 will go swimming as part of their National Curriculum studies. The children will swim at Aldershot Pool for half an hour every Tuesday morning commencing Tuesday 16th April, with the last session being held on Tuesday 21st May. These swimming sessions will replace one of your child's PE lessons (day to be confirmed).

The children will develop their water confidence, safety and ability to swim at three different levels of competence. Swimming instructors will assess the children on their first session and group them accordingly. Parents should be aware that the school staff will not be responsible for groupings during swimming lessons.

We would be grateful for offers of help walking the children to / from Aldershot Pool. Please let the School Office know if you are able to help.

YEAR 6

Year 6 Think Safe: Wednesday 20th March 2024 8.55-11.45am

On Wednesday 20th March 2024, Year 6 will be participating in the 'Think Safe' Rushmoor Junior Citizenship Scheme. This is a very popular, interactive session led by the Emergency Services and local community groups.

The children will be leaving school at 8.55am, travelling by coach to Building 10, Watchmoor Park, Camberley, GU15 3YL and returning to school at 11.45am. Please note the updated location. The party leader will be Mrs Morgan. The children are required to wear their school uniform. There is no cost associated with this visit.

Year 6 Grittleton Residential: Parent Information Session Wednesday 27th March 2024 3.30-4.30pm

There will be a Year 6 Grittleton Residential Parent Information Session held in the school hall on Wednesday 27th March from 3.30-4.30pm for all parents of Year 6 children attending the trip. Please wait outside on the playground by the school reception until 3.30pm when the hall will be open.

Year 6: Geography Virtual Reality Adventure - Friday 26th April 2024

As part of the Year 6 Summer Term Geography learning, each class will take part in a virtual reality adventure around the ancient city of Chichén Itzá. They will explore facts about climate change and sustainability. The visit will inspire the children and support their geography 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. Payment is required no later than Friday 19th April 2024 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.



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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.

18 th March	Year 4 Runways End Activity Day - FLEMING	Off site	9.00-4.30pm
19 th March	Year 4 Runways End Activity Day - CURIE	Off site	9.00-4.30pm
	Year 5 Parent Event: Pizza Making	Hall	1.30-3.00pm
20 th March	Year 6 Rushmoor Think Safe	Off site	8.55-11.45am
	Year 4 Runways End Activity Day - HAWKING	Off site	9.00-4.30pm
21 st March	Easter Church Service (no parents)	St Michael's Church	
	SPORT: Selected Y5/6 GIRL'S FOOTBALL, St Joseph's School	Off site	4.00-5.00pm
	SPORT: Selected Y5/6 BOY'S FOOTBALL, SMJS	On site	4.00-5.00pm
25 th March	Year 3 Easter Performance	Hall	2.45pm
26 th March	Year 4 Easter Performance	Hall	2.45pm
	Choir Club Performance to parents	Hall	4.00pm
27 th March	Year 6 Easter Performance	Hall	2.45pm
	Year 6 Grittleton Residential - Parent Information Session	Hall	3.30-4.30pm
28 th March	Year 5 Easter Performance	Hall	2.45pm
28 th March	LAST DAY OF TERM		
29 th March - 12 th April	EASTER HOLIDAYS		
15 th April	FIRST DAY BACK OF TERM		
16 th April	Year 5 Swimming	Aldershot Pool	Morning
18 th April	Year 4 Swimming	Aldershot Pool	Morning
24 th April	Parent Coffee Morning	Church	8.50-9.15am
	Year 4 Mayan Civilisation Theatre Workshop	In school	
26 th April	Year 4 VR Workshop	In school	Morning
	Year 6 VR Workshop	In school	Afternoon
1 st May	Year 3 Parent Event: Outdoor Learning & Problem Solving		



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UPCOMING EVENTS



Dear Parent/Guardian,

To promote reading for pleasure and to encourage our pupils to read more broadly, we are having a School Book Fair on Wednesday 20th March 2024.

The book fair is being organised in conjunction with our Usborne Schools Partner, Katie Slingerland, and every book purchased will go towards brand new **FREE** books for our school.

Usborne will donate **60%** of the total book fair sales value raised in **FREE BOOKS** to the school. So, for every **£600** of books purchased, we will get **£360** in FREE Usborne books for our school!

Books can be purchased on the day of the book fair and paid for by cash or debit/credit card. If you can't attend the fair in person, you can also browse the full Usborne range online at: www.katiebooklady.co.uk and email your order to katiebooklady@gmail.com or return the wish list which your child will be bringing home.

If you have a £1 World Book Day token, you will receive £1 off any book when you redeem it at the book fair.

We look forward to having lots more books for your child to read, share and enjoy.

For more information and for tailored book recommendations for your child, please contact: Katie Slingerland - katiebooklady@gmail.com or 07963 960 887.



@KATIEBOOKLADY





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PTFA INFORMATION

St. Michael's Juniors PTFA

Decorate an Egg Competition

Decorate a hardboiled egg as your favourite character

Free entry

Prize for every year group

All eggs to be judged on Thursday 28th March.



St. Michael's Juniors PTFA

Easter Bake Sale

Tuesday 26th March 2024
3.20pm in the Playground
(cash only)

Cake contributions gratefully received.

Please bring any contributions to school on the morning of Tuesday 26th March.





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OTHER INFORMATION

Go Draw at the Library

As part of the Go Draw drawing festival why not come along to Farnborough Library and have some drawing fun? Suitable for all ages.

A drawing story
with Amanda from
Merry-go-Round
Storytelling

Draw your
own
Pavement
Art

Create a mini
masterpiece

Book Drawing
treasure hunt

Saturday 23rd March
11.00am - 3.00pm
Farnborough Library