



St Michael's CE Junior School

Newsletter - Issue 12 27.02.2026

MESSAGE FROM MRS KINGHAM

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been absolutely lovely to welcome all of the children back after half term. The school has quickly returned to its learning. Our new teachers are settling in very well, and the children are clearly enjoying their time in class. It has been a pleasure to see new relationships forming and to witness the energy and commitment our staff bring each day.

This week, Mr French (Interim Deputy Head), Mrs Emery and Mrs Barrett (our Interim SENCOs) have been spending time getting to know the children and meeting with parents. They have thoroughly enjoyed their first week with us and are very much looking forward to this transition period over the coming term. Thank you for making them feel so welcome and for your continued support.

Many members of our staff team have also been out on training this week, focusing on culture and behaviour across school. We have returned with valuable learning and ideas, and we are already reviewing and enhancing our whole-school practice to ensure the very best experience for every child. We are excited about the positive impact this work will have in the weeks and months ahead.

Next week, we are very much looking forward to celebrating World Book Day. We will be hosting a special Book Breakfast for the children, with croissants and suitable alternatives available for those with allergies. The children will enjoy sharing breakfast and books together in their classrooms with their class teachers, alongside taking part in a range of World Book Day activities throughout the day.

We are particularly excited that our Year 6 pupils will be visiting Year 2 to read with them. This is always a wonderful opportunity for our older children to model a love of reading and for our younger pupils to be inspired by them. Both year groups are very much looking forward to this special time together.

I hope you all have a lovely, restful weekend and I look forward to seeing you on Monday morning.

Mrs Kingham
Headteacher



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OTHER INFORMATION

Rushmoor Rotary Club

We have 3 floats each with music and collectors to hand

PROUDLY SPONSORED BY
Bridge Bridges
SOLD RENTED
SUPPORTING THE LOCAL COMMUNITY

The famous "milk float" conversion is used in Aldershot and Farnborough

The Towed float is used in Ash and Ash Vale

The Popup float is used for our static collections. It was made for us by the Men's Shed

We are pleased to say that we have raised £339.00 when a team of staff from school joined the Rotary Christmas Float for house to house collections in December.

It was lovely to see so many children, and we look forward to seeing many of you again this year!

Thank you all who donated to this fantastic cause!





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SCHOOL INFORMATION

ATTENDANCE

At St Michael's Junior School, we are committed to:

- Promoting good attendance and reducing absence, including persistent absence
- Ensuring every pupil arrives at school on time and ready to learn
- Ensuring every pupil has access to full-time education to which they are entitled

Attendance is everyone's business - Every Learning Minute Counts									
This Week		Year to Date Attendance							
Whole School		Whole School		National		Persistent Absence		National	
93.4%		94.9%		94.6%		13.7%		16.1%	
Year Group Breakdown (last 5 days)									
Year 3		Year 4			Year 5		Year 6		
94%		95.3%			93.7%		95%		
Daley	94.8%	Abbott	96.5%		Keller	94.3%	Attenborough	93.4%	
Lewis	95.4%	Hawking	94.7%		Malala	92.1%	Earhart	94.4%	
Simmonds	91.7%	Johnson	94.8%		Mandela	94.7%	Henson	97.1%	

- Reminder: We ask for all children to be in class by **8.45am**. If your child arrives after this time, they will need to enter via the main entrance and sign in at the office. Thank you for supporting us in ensuring every child starts their day ready to learn.

WORLD BOOK DAY - Thursday 5th March

The theme this year for World Book Day is "Making Reading Fun"; there will be lots of activities around books and developing a love of reading.

We have planned to start the day with 'breakfast and a book'. The children will be offered a pastry and/or some fruit and in each class a surprise book will be unwrapped with the children and used during the day. This is to reinforce the message that reading is fun and that books provide us with an exciting, imaginary world to explore.

We have also planned a joint activity where the Year 6 children from St Michael's Junior School will visit the Year 2 children at St Michael's Infant School to read to them. This will be an opportunity for the children to share a book together and to chat to one another about going to Junior school.

We ask the children to dress up in costume every other year and this year we **will not** be dressing up. The reason for this is that some of our children (and parents) find this very difficult for all sorts of different reasons. To ensure that we are supporting everyone, we have opted to dress up every other year.

We look forward to celebrating World Book day and know the children will love the breakfast and a book and all of the other activities that each year group will plan.



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COMIC RELIEF - Friday 20th March

A much-anticipated date in our calendars is coming... Red Nose Day 2026! As one of the UK's biggest fundraising events, Red Nose day brings the entire nation together to raise money and change lives. This year Red Nose Day is on Friday 20th March.

To do our bit and raise money for people around the world who have incredibly tough lives, we are asking children to come to school on Friday 20th March dressed in red clothes and to bring a suggested donation of £1.

INSET DAYS

This is a reminder that we have two more inset days in the Academic Year, where the school is closed for Teacher training. These are:

26th June 2026

22nd July 2026

FUNDRAISING - THE LITTLE RECYCLERS

Just a reminder that we have signed up to a clothing recycling scheme, called The Little Recyclers.

We are pleased to say that we can now accept clothing donations at any time - please bring any bags of unwanted clothes to the school office.

The next collection is on Thursday 16th April.

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 water in your child's bottle.

We ask children to take them home everyday in order that they can be cleaned.

We are finding that a lot of children are coming to school without a bottle, which means that they are missing valuable lesson time, when they are coming to the office to get a drink.

COATS AND UNIFORM

As we are still in the depths of winter and the weather is still rather cold, please can you ensure that your child is bringing a coat to school, as they will be out on the playground at break and lunch times.

We are seeing an increased amount of children wearing logo leggings and joggers, also boots instead of trainers, please can we remind you that the uniform policy is plain black leggings and joggers and footwear must be trainers.



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MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS

Standard medical or dental appointments should be made outside school hours. If a child is absent for a medical appointment, it is still regarded as an absence from school.

Please make sure the school are notified of any medical appointments in advance.

Parents/carers will need to fill in a **medical appointment form and also provide proof of the appointment.**

If we do not see proof of the appointment, then it will be unauthorised. Any optician appointments taken during the school day will be unauthorised.

Where there is no alternative for an appointment outside of the school day, children should only miss a short period of time and return to school as promptly as possible.

FOOTBALLS, TENNIS BALLS ETC

Please can we ask that footballs, tennis balls and any other kind of ball is not brought into school, or used to play with before or after school on the playground or field.

We have a strict policy that the children are allowed to play with the school provided footballs and handballs at break and lunch time, on a year group rota. This ensures that everyone gets a fair turn, and there are no arguments over the balls.

Please be assured that there are many other pieces of play equipment that the children can use at break and lunch time, if it is not their turn to use the footballs and handballs.

BIKES AND SCOOTERS

Please can we remind you that bikes and scooters should not be ridden on the school grounds or across the playground. This is a matter of safety, as a child at the Infant School was recently knocked over by someone on a bike and we want to ensure that we take appropriate measures to avoid this happening again.

PARKING AROUND SCHOOL GROUNDS

It has been brought to our attention that people are not being courteous when parking at school drop off and pick up times, and some of the local residents have complained that their driveways are being blocked or people are parking on double yellow lines.

We appreciate that parking is limited, but please can we ask that everyone is mindful where you park and ensure that you are parked safely.



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ATTENDANCE

As a school we want all children to have a positive experience of school life and be able to reach their full potential. One way in which parents can help their child to do this is by ensuring they attend school everyday.

The classroom doors are open from 8.35am-8.45am, if you arrive after this time, you will have to come in through the office to be signed in and it will be marked as arriving late.

Irregular attendance can result in a penalty notice, if your child is absent for 10 or more sessions. Each day is made up of 2 sessions (morning and afternoon).

ABSENCES

School absence falls into two categories; **Authorised**, those which schools can give you permission for and **Unauthorised**, for those which they will not.

What are typical reasons given that won't be authorised?

Examples of unauthorised absences

A family member's birthday	Family holidays
Shopping for uniforms	Sickness of parent or sibling
Inadequate clothing for school	Sibling's school closed
Child being used as a carer	Refusing to attend, but able to
Problems with transport	Poor family organisation
	No absence request completed

Where attendance is irregular, or historically poor, sickness absences may be unauthorised unless medical confirmation by a GP surgery is given.



Whilst as a parent you may think you can give your child permission to be at home, you cannot. The only person who can give permission for a child to be absent from school is the Headteacher.

If your child is absent from school, you must notify us on the first day of absence. The Headteacher will then decide if this is an authorised absence or not depending on the reason given.

EVERY DAY COUNTS – ATTEND TODAY, ACHIEVE TOMORROW



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YEAR 3

YEAR 3 TRIP: Butser Farm - Tuesday 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 Tuesday 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 £2.75.

The cost of the trip is £24.50, and all voluntary contributions will go towards the cost of travel and the activities provided by Butser Ancient Farm. Payment can be made via your Scopay account or cash (handed into the school office). If insufficient contributions are received, the trip may have to be cancelled.

YEAR 3 PARENT EVENT: Sewing - Tuesday 17th March 1.30-3.00pm

Year 3 Parents/Carers are invited to join their child at a sewing event on Tuesday 17th March.

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.

YEAR 3 WORKSHOP: Egyptian Theatre Virtual Reality - Thursday 16th April

As part of the Year 3 Spring Term History & Geography learning, each class will take part in a Egyptian 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 £3.70 per child is requested to contribute towards the cost of the company coming in and activities provided. Payment is required no later than Thursday 26th 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.



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YEAR 4

YEAR 4 PARENT EVENT: Times Tables - Friday 13th March 1.30-3.00pm

Year 4 parents and carers are invited to join their child and take part in a Times Tables Parent Event on Friday 13th March.

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.

YEAR 4 WORKSHOP: Mayan Theatre Virtual Reality - Thursday 16th April

As part of the Year 4 Spring Term History & Geography learning, each class will take part in a Mayan 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 £3.70 per child is requested to contribute towards the cost of the company coming in and activities provided. Payment is required no later than Thursday 26th 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.



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YEAR 5

YEAR 5 PARENT EVENT: DT Flatbreads - Thursday 12th March 1.30-3.00pm

Year 5 Parents/Carers are invited to join their child at a DT Flatbread event on Thursday 12th March. 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.

YEAR 5 WORKSHOP: Greek Virtual Reality - Monday 16th 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 £3.70 per child is requested to contribute towards the cost of the company coming in.

Payment is required no later than Friday 6th 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.



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YEAR 6

YEAR 6 PARENT EVENT: SATS Workshop - Thursday 5th March (Time TBC)

Year 6 Parents/Carers are invited to attend a SATS Information Evening on Thursday 5th March timing TBC.

This will be held in the school hall - please could parents/carers wait outside reception until the hall is open.

YEAR 6 WORKSHOP: Volcanoes and Tectonics Virtual Reality - Monday 16th March

As part of the Year 6 Spring Term History & Geography learning, each class will take part in a Volcanoes and Tectonics 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 £3.70 per child is requested to contribute towards the cost of the company coming in.

Payment is required no later than Friday 6th 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 PARENT EVENT: Volcano Art - Thursday 19th March 1.30-3.00pm

Year 6 Parents/Carers are invited to join their child at a Volcano Art event on Thursday 19th March. 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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DIARY DATES 2026

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.

Tuesday 3rd March 2026	Year 3 Trip Butser Ancient Farm		
Thursday 5th March 2026	World Book Day	Normal School Uniform	
Thursday 5th March 2026	Year 6 Parent Event - SATs Workshop	School Hall	Time TBC
Thursday 12th March 2026	Year 5 Parental Engagement Event - DT themed	School Hall	1:30 - 3:00pm
Friday 13th March 2026	Year 4 Parental Engagement Event - Timestables	School Hall	1:30 - 3:00pm
Monday 16th March 2026	Year 5 VR Workshop - Ancient Greece	In School	
Monday 16th March 2026	Year 6 VR Workshop - Volcanoes and Tectonics	In School	
Tuesday 17th March 2026	Rocksteady Concert	School Hall	9:30 - 10:30am
Tuesday 17th March 2026	Year 3 Parental Engagement Event - Sewing	School Hall	1:30 - 3:00pm
Thursday 19th March 2026	Year 6 Parental Engagement Event - Volcano Art	School Hall	1:30 - 3:00pm
Friday 20th March 2026	Comic Relief		
Friday 20th March 2026	* REVISED DATE * Class Photos		
Monday 23rd March 2026	Year 3 Easter Performance	School Hall	2:45 - 3.00pm
Tuesday 24th March 2026	Year 4 Easter Performance	School Hall	2:45 - 3.00pm
Wednesday 25th March 2026	Year 6 Easter Performance	School Hall	2:45 - 3.00pm
Thursday 26th March 2026	Year 5 Easter Performance	School Hall	2:45 - 3.00pm
Friday 27th March 2026	Last day of term (normal 3:20pm finish)		
Monday 30th March - Friday 10th April 2026	Easter holidays		
Monday 13th April 2026	BACK TO SCHOOL		

CONTACT US

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