



St Michael's CE Junior School

Newsletter - Issue 13 13.03.2026

MESSAGE FROM MRS KINGHAM

It has been another busy and positive week here at school. The school has truly been a hub of learning, with classrooms full of enthusiasm and engagement. The children have been responding very well to the new classroom routines that have been introduced, and it has been wonderful to see how quickly they have settled into these expectations. Their focus and willingness to adapt has helped create calm, purposeful learning environments across the school.

We have also been fortunate to enjoy some welcome sunny moments this week. It has been fantastic to see the children making the most of the field during these brighter spells. The fresh air, laughter, and active play have brought with them plenty of joy and smiles, and it has been lovely to witness the children enjoying time outdoors with their friends.

Parking

We have recently received a number of concerns about parking in the roads surrounding the school. While we understand that these times can be busy, we kindly ask all parents and carers to ensure that they are parking safely and considerately. In particular, please make sure that you are not blocking driveways and that residents are able to move freely in and out of their homes.

Our school is part of a wider community, and it is important that we show respect and consideration to those who live nearby. Safe and responsible parking helps keep everyone safe, including our children, families, and local residents.

If possible, you may wish to park a little further away from the school and walk the final part of the journey. This can help reduce congestion and make the area around the school safer at busy times.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation in helping us maintain positive relationships with our neighbours and ensuring that drop-off and pick-up times run as safely and smoothly as possible.

Snack Times

As a school, we are committed to promoting healthy lifestyles and helping our children make positive choices about their wellbeing. Recently, we have noticed that an increasing number of children are bringing crisps and sweets to eat during snack and lunchtime.

As a healthy school, we encourage children to bring healthier options for these times. Fresh fruit is a great choice for a snack and helps children stay energised and ready for learning throughout the day. Please also provide a water bottle for your child, especially as we are nearing hotter weather. Hydration really helps our learning brains!



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We would be very grateful for your support in helping us promote these healthy habits by providing fruit or other healthy alternatives instead of crisps and sweets.

Fidget Toys

Recently, we have noticed an increasing number of fidget toys being brought into school. While we understand that these items can be popular with children, they are often proving to be distracting during lessons. In some cases, they can divert the attention of the child using them, other pupils in the class, and teachers during learning time.

From next term, we kindly request that fidget toys are not brought into school. If they are brought in, they will be placed in a class box and returned to the child at the end of the school day.

We recognise that, for some children, a focus or sensory toy can be helpful as part of a personalised education plan. In these circumstances, the school will provide an appropriate focus toy once this has been agreed by the SENCo in collaboration with the child and their parents or carers.

We will share further information about this approach at the start of the new term.

Parent Governor Recruitment

You should recently have received information about the opportunity to become a Parent Governor at our school. This is a valuable role that allows parents and carers to contribute to the strategic direction of the school and support the continued development of our community.

This is an exciting time to join our governing board as we continue on our journey of growth and improvement. Parent Governors play an important part in ensuring that the views of families are represented and that the school continues to provide the best possible education for all of our children.

We warmly welcome applications from parents and carers who would like to be involved and make a positive contribution to the life of the school. Further information about the role and how to apply can be found in the communication that was sent home.

I hope that you have a wonderful weekend and look forward to seeing you on Monday.



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CHILDREN'S ACHIEVEMENTS

Congratulations to Darcee-Jayne H in Abbott for winning 2nd, 3rd and 4th place in 3 separate rounds of her first hobby horse competition!

Well done for practicing so hard and we are very proud of you!



Archie M in Lewis (and his Mum) are taking part in a charity walk for the Autism Initiatives Group and is walking 10,000 steps a day for 8 days between the 26th March and the 2nd April.

If anyone wishes to donate, they can do so via the link below:

<https://www.walkforautism.co.uk/s/15440/16489/e>

The walk for Autism charity number is 1170634 which is led by the charity Autism Initiatives Group.

"The world would be a much better place if everyone was more accepting of autism. We could all make the world more autism friendly. This is why I am walking for autism, not just for my amazing, funny and talented son Archie, but for all the other autistic people. Everyone deserves to live in a world where they feel safe and accepted"

Good luck Archie, well done for supporting such a good cause!

If your child takes part in activities outside school which merit a mention in our newsletter, please let the School Office know, and we shall ensure it is included in the next newsletter:

adminoffice@st-michaels-jun.hants.sch.uk





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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	
93.5%		94.9%		94.6%		13.4%		15.7%	
Year Group Breakdown (last 5 days)									
Year 3		Year 4		Year 5		Year 6			
94.8%		94.6%		94.8%		95%			
Daley	97.2%	Abbott	97.7%	Keller	93.8%	Attenborough	95.3%		
Lewis	92.9%	Hawking	95.9%	Malala	95%	Earhart	94.4%		
Simmonds	94.5%	Johnson	90.3%	Mandela	95.7%	Henson	95.5%		

- 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.

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).

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.



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SUMMER 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

2026/2027 INSET DAYS

We can confirm that the inset dates have been set for next year, these are:

- 1st September 2026
- 2nd September 2026
- 23rd October 2026
- 4th January 2027
- 18th June 2027

DROPPING OFF AROUND SCHOOL GROUNDS

It has been brought to our attention that people are dropping their children off right outside the school gates, which has caused several near miss incidents, and are blocking driveways or double yellow lines.

To ensure that everyone is being as safe as possible, please can we ask that everyone is mindful where you park and ensure that you are parked safely.

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.

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.



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UNIFORM

This is a reminder that cycling shorts are NOT part of the school uniform. Now that the warmer weather is upon us, we are starting to see a few girls in cycling shorts – very tight black shorts of varying lengths. Children can wear leggings, skorts, shorts (the usual PE short design) or tracksuit trousers. We didn't include cycling shorts for various reasons, one of these being that they are often worn very short and do not show below the t shirt.

We are noticing an increase in children wearing normal shoes or boots, and these are not part of the school uniform policy, please ensure your children are wearing trainers to school.

COATS

As we are hopefully heading towards some slightly warmer weather, please can you still ensure that your child is bringing a coat to school, as they will be out on the playground at break and lunch times in all weathers.

MAKE UP & NAIL VARNISH

Please can we remind you that it is inappropriate for junior school aged children to be wearing make-up or nail varnish at school. Pupils will be asked to remove make-up immediately and nail varnish must be removed by the beginning of the next school day. Fingernails should be short, neat and clean.

JEWELLERY

Please can parents and carers note that the only jewellery the school permits a child to wear is a plain small wrist watch and/or plain small studs for earrings. Pupils with earrings must remove them for PE. Other items are not permissible in school.

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.



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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.

CLASS PHOTOS

We have booked the class photos to take place on Wednesday 15th April 2026. Please ensure that your child is wearing the correct school uniform, including the school jumpers as photos will be taken with these on.

FUNDRAISING - THE LITTLE RECYCLERS

Just a reminder that we are signed up to a clothing recycling scheme, called The Little Recyclers. The next collection will be on Thursday 16th April.

We can accept clothing donations at any time - please bring any bags of unwanted clothes to the school office.

THE LITTLE RECYCLERS

SCHOOL FUNDRAISING

More clothes - more funds for your organisation.
1 kg = £0.45

YOUR COLLECTION IS ARRANGED ON:

16 APRIL
THURSDAY

FILL ANY BAGS WITH CLOTHING
AND BRING THEM TO SCHOOL/ORGANISATION
WE WILL COLLECT AND WEIGH THEM

hello@thelittlerecyclers.co.uk • 0330 043 0550 • thelittlerecyclers.co.uk



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YEAR 3

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.

YEAR 4

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 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.

YEAR 6

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.



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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.

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		
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		
Wednesday 15th April 2026	* REVISED DATE * Class Photos		
Thursday 16th April 2026	Year 3 VR Workshop - Egyptians	School Hall	
Thursday 16th April 2026	Year 4 VR Workshop - Mayans	School Hall	
Monday 4th May 2026	BANK HOLIDAY (School Closed)		

CONTACT US

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