



St Michael's CE Junior School

Newsletter – Issue 16 24.05.2024

MESSAGE FROM MRS JONES

As we approach this May half term, I would have hoped the sun might have shown itself a little bit more this week. However we have managed to enjoy some time on the field before the rain kicked in!

A big well done to Year 6 who took their SATS last week. Thank you to all the staff for their help and support during the week. The children showed great determination and resilience during the week, which we are very proud of.

63 students from Year 6 have been away this week on their residential trip to Grittleton House in Wiltshire. They have had a brilliant week, taking part in activities such as Body Zorbing, Buggy Building, Crystal Maze and Archery. The staff at Grittleton House were pleased to see our school return this year. We have had some wonderful comments on how polite St Michael's Junior School children are and what strong teamwork skills are demonstrated. A big thank you to Mrs Morgan, Mr Fewings, Miss Streek, Mr Lott, Miss Wren, Mrs Carpenter and Miss Fairchild for planning, organising and accompanying the children during the week.

The rest of Year 6 have had an amazing time in school and have enjoyed art, computing, archery, outdoor and indoor games. We are grateful to Miss Lucken, Mrs Ellis-Davis, Miss Baker and Mr Sanders who have put so much into ensuring that these children had a good week.

At this point in the school year, it is lovely to be able to share the news that we are now full with waiting lists in each year group and are also full in Year 3 next academic year. We are so pleased that parents are choosing this school for their children as we are very proud of our school and of our educational ethos, vision and values. All members of our school are committed to providing the very best education possible for all our pupils.

Today, we will be having the **Good Behaviour Reward** for Years 3, 4 and 5 to recognise all of those children who have not had a restorative all half term. They will be coming home with a certificate to recognise their achievements which I hope you will celebrate with your children. Due to SATS and Residential, Year 6 will have their **Good Behaviour Reward** after half term.

We are sad to say that Mrs S Jones in the office is leaving us today (again!). We are so grateful to her for coming back from her retirement to cover Mrs Oliver's maternity leave. Sadly Mrs Oliver will not be returning and so from Monday 3rd June, there will be a new friendly face in the office, Mrs Baker. Mrs Baker has worked at a local school before, and will be working in the office Monday to Friday from 8.30am to 1.00pm.

Just a final reminder that the next Inset Day is on Friday 28th June - please can parents note that the school will be closed to all students on that day.

I hope you all have a peaceful and restful half term holiday, hopefully with some better weather and I look forward to seeing you all on Monday 3rd June.



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SCHOOL SPORTS MORNING

Sports Morning will take place on Wednesday 26th June. A reminder please that your child will need to wear their active wear / pe kit for the day, and we look forward to having some fun as a whole school. There will be no hot lunch option this day from the school kitchen - the children will have a choice of a ham, cheese or tuna snack pack.

Please could parents ensure that each child has sun cream applied before school, has a sun hat with them and brings a water bottle to school with them. Parents are invited to support and join us on the field from 9.00am. Please note that the morning will finish by 12.00 midday. We really hope that you are able to join us and that the weather is kind to us! The PTFA will be selling refreshments during the morning so please bring cash with you!

SCHOOL UNIFORM

SCHOOL UNIFORM

Thank you to all parents and carers who continue to support the school by sending their child in wearing the correct school uniform. It really does make a difference and it is so nice to see the children in their active wear uniform. **Just a reminder:**

- Children should not be wearing any clothing that have logos on them.
- We are also starting to see a few girls in cycling shorts - very tight black shorts of varying lengths.
Please can parents note that cycling shorts have never been on the uniform information sheet. Cycling shorts are not on the uniform list for various reasons, one of these being that they are often worn very short and do not show below the t shirt.
- Children can wear plain black leggings, skorts, shorts (the usual PE short design) or tracksuit trousers.

PARENT FORUM

Thank you to all the parents and carers who attended the Parent Forum meeting last week. It was lovely to hear their views of the school and the positives far outweighed the areas they would like us to look at.

Some of the positives included:

- Outdoor learning lessons
- Parent events where they get to come in and do an activity with their children
- School trips and visitors in to school
- The school is an inclusive/community school (particularly when new children are starting and the class are told about them and encouraged to welcome them in)
- Teachers knowing the children really well - evident when parents meet with teachers
- After school clubs
- And most importantly, the children love coming to school.

Areas we have been asked to look at are:

- More (optional) homework activities to support learning in English and maths
- Letting parents know how the topic homework is celebrated in school
- More school trips
- Specific days / events like a multicultural day
- Support with how to get the most out of the topic homework activities

As a school, we will look at how we can work on the areas raised, helping us to make school an even more positive experience for the children and supporting the parents. Thank you so much to Miss Bourne and Mr Wilson who ran an activity room for the children who had parents at the meeting.



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SCHOOL INFORMATION

WALK TO SCHOOL WEEK: MONDAY 20TH - FRIDAY 24TH MAY 2024

Thank you to everyone who took part in the Walk to School Week this week. It was great to see so many of you walking to school and enjoying the British weather that accompanied it! We hope that your children are proud of their Walk to School Week certificates and that you all enjoyed extra opportunities to spend quality time with your family, connect with friends, or make new ones along the way!

RAGS 2 RICHES COLLECTION - TUESDAY 11TH JUNE 2024

We have signed up again to the Rags2Riches recycling scheme, to raise money for the school and to help others around the world benefit from our good quality unwanted clothes and shoes. Donated clothes and accessories are sent to Europe, Africa and even further away to be sold at market stalls as affordable items for those in real need of clothing.

Clean and reusable items that can be donated include any adults, children's and babies clothing such as jackets, jumpers, hoodies, trousers, skirts, scarves, gloves, belts, handbags, paired shoes and other footwear.

Please help us to help others and raise much needed funds for our school. Since June 2023, we have raised over £350 for the school so thank you for your continuing support.

PLEASE BRING BAGS FOR THE RAGS 2 RICHES COLLECTION TO THE SCHOOL OFFICE BY 11TH JUNE.

D-DAY THEMED LUNCH MENU - THURSDAY 6TH JUNE 2024

On Thursday 6th June, our school lunch menu will be themed to commemorate 80 years since the D-Day landings. The choice will be:

R: Fish, chips and peas

G: Potato, cheese and pastry pie

Y: Cold tomato pasta with cheese with vegetables sticks

On Friday 7th June, the menu will also be changed to roast dinner:

R: Roast beef and Yorkshire pudding

G: Vegetable Wellington

Y: Jacket potato

PARTRIDGE HATCHING 3RD - 13TH JUNE 2024

On Monday 3rd June, the school will be receiving grey partridge eggs to hatch from Incredible Eggs. The grey partridge eggs are ethically and responsibly sourced from a specialist partridge breeder based in Suffolk, who has been dedicated to their conservation for decades.

Once hatched, the partridges at school will then be reared at farms until the autumn. Incredible Eggs work alongside farmers and landowners throughout the UK and have identified sites with habitats suitable for optimum successful reintroduction. Incredible Eggs have taken great care to ensure the release sites are not located in the vicinity of any shooting estates where grey partridges are reared as game.

We hope your children will enjoy watching the partridges hatch and have the opportunity to gain a very real and meaningful understanding of the impact humans have on the environment, the consequences of this and the processes which can be implemented for the future.



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CHILDREN'S ACHIEVEMENTS



Martha H in Morpurgo took part in the Guildford 'Inflatable 5k' and did amazing, running a great time, in the heat! Her sister Faythe wasn't far behind - not as far behind as her parents! Well done Martha!

Charlie H in Shackleton and Ronnie S in Hawking both received their green belts in karate at Kaizen Karate Academy. They also took part in a karate competition - Charlie came 1st and Ronnie came 2nd. Congratulations!



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

SCHOOL NEWSPAPER CLUB

This week the children have enjoyed some of their playtimes on the school field. Newspaper club reporters were out on the field to capture some reactions.

Children in Year 5 commented, "It's amazing to be out on the field again. It's been such a long time since we were out here. Its great to enjoy being on the grass and in a more open space."

Year 4 children reported, "It feels great to be on the grass because it is such a sunny day and it makes everyone feel happy. There are way more things to do as well like running races and football."

Some children in Year 3 remarked, "I love being in a bigger area for playtimes. There is so much more you can do with your friends like going on the fitness equipment."

CONTACT US

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ALDERSHOT VICTORIA DAY PARADE - SATURDAY 8TH JUNE 2024



We will be taking part in the Aldershot Victoria Day Parade this year, with children and adults dressed for the theme of **Animals**.

Under this theme, we are creating our own sub-theme, asking those taking part with the school to dress as an animal from *The Lion King*, or to bring a cuddly toy of one of *The Lion King* animals.

The organisers have asked us for an idea of how many people will be participating as part of the school parade. The last two years we have had a big group and have won Best in Parade and it would be good to do this again this year.



The parade is on Saturday 8th June, with the walking starting at 11.00am.



In order to take part, you and your child would need to come to the Prince's Hall car park between 10.30-10.45am on Saturday 8th June.

We ask that all children are accompanied by an adult - you are welcome to bring the whole family along. The parade is due to start at 11.00am and lasts about 45 minutes. The parade will end at the High Street Multi Storey Car Park.

We would be grateful if you could complete the online form if your child and yourself or another adult would like to be involved in this Community event. Please reply online using the Microsoft form link by Friday 24th May.

PLEASE FILL IN THE FORM: <https://forms.office.com/e/VR14GXKyS0>

The Artroom and Rushmoor Borough Council have also teamed up and want to bring the young people of Rushmoor Borough another opportunity to get creative. They have created 2 short videos with simple instructions on how to make some animal masks.

One is aimed at younger children, and the other aimed at older, both needing some adult help. Each video is in two languages: English and Nepali. The videos can be found on The Artroom website at: www.the-artroom.com/victoria-day

It would be wonderful to see lots of animal masks, and it is a wonderful creative project to be involved in



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YEAR 4

YEAR 4 MULTIPLICATION TABLES CHECK

All of the Year 4 children have been working extremely hard to improve the rapid recall of their multiplication tables over the last half-term at school. They will be bringing home a multiplication tables booklet today so that they can continue to practice at home. In school, they have been using [timestables.co.uk](https://www.timestables.co.uk) and Maths Frame Multiplication Check. We would encourage a little and often approach so the children can maintain the progress they have worked so hard to achieve.

The Multiplication Tables Check (MTC) will be administered to all Year 4 children between Monday 3rd - Friday 14th June. The purpose of the MTC is to determine whether Year 4 pupils can recall their multiplication tables up to 12x12 fluently as outlined in the National Curriculum. Children will be tested using a computer, where they will have to answer multiplication questions against a clock. The test will last no longer than 5 minutes; children will have 6 seconds to answer each question in a series of 25.

You can help your child prepare for this test by using the following websites:

<https://mathsframe.co.uk/en/resources/resource/477/Multiplication-Tables-Check>

<https://www.timestables.co.uk/>

<https://trockstars.com/login>

YEAR 4 PARENT EVENT: MASK MAKING

Parents are invited to join their children for an afternoon of mask making as part of the Year 4 history and art curriculum. Each class will be holding their own session so please make note of the date and time of your child's class:

Hawking	Wednesday 5 th June	1.30-3.00pm
Curie	Thursday 6 th June	1.30-3.00pm
Fleming	Friday 7 th June	1.30-3.00pm

Each session 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.

YEAR 5

YEAR 5 PARENT EVENT: OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES - FRIDAY 21ST JUNE 1.30-3.00PM

Parents are invited to join their children for an afternoon of Outdoor Activities revolving around this term's geography topic on Friday 21st June from 1.30-3.00pm.

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.



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YEAR 6

YEAR 6 SATS

A big congratulations to all the Year 6s who completed their SATS last week.

BIKEABILITY TRAINING: 3RD – 5TH JUNE 2024

Bikeability training, provided by Hampshire Outdoors, will now be held at the school from Monday 3rd - Wednesday 5th June. For all children that have signed up for this training, please remember to bring your bike and helmet with you to school on Monday 3rd June. For those children who have requested a bike and helmet, these will be provided by Hampshire Outdoors at the start of the training.

If children wish to leave their bike at school for the duration of the training, it will be securely locked inside school. Please could bikes not be left in the bike shed overnight as we cannot guarantee its safety overnight.

YEAR 6 LEAVERS HOODIES

Today is the last day for ordering your child's Year 6 Leavers Hoodie.

They will have the St Michael's Junior School logo on the front left together with the child's initials. On the back is a large '24' including all the Year 6 student names (Christian name plus initial of surname). The hoodies are available in a range of colours and sizes.

The hoodies cost £20 and payment must be made via Scopay, or by cash in a named sealed envelope to the School Office. Please can all parents / carers complete and submit the emailed form by the end of today, Friday 24th May to secure the hoodie order. Hoodies must also be paid for by Friday 24th May. Hoodies will be given out on Friday 12th July and children can wear them into school for the rest of the term.

Form: <https://forms.office.com/e/CbSzVVx4ey>

YEAR 6 LEAVER'S SERVICE - GUILDFORD CATHEDRAL: MONDAY 17TH JUNE 12.30-2.00PM

The Year 6 children have been invited to attend the Diocesan Leavers' Service which is held at Guildford Cathedral. It is a traditional event that enables all of the Year 6 children from the Diocese to join together in a final act of worship before they move on to secondary education.

This year, service will take place on Monday 17th June 2024. We will be travelling to Guildford by coach, leaving school at 11.45am and returning by the end of the school day. We will be having an early lunch prior to departure. There will be no hot lunch options for Year 6 children on that day. The children can order a ham, cheese or tuna snack pack from the school kitchen on the day at a cost of £3.00 or bring in a packed lunch from home.

HAMPSHIRE SCHOOL E-LIBRARY SERVICE: SORA

The Hampshire School Library Service runs an E-Library and allows access to an exciting collection of premium e-books, audiobooks, comics, and magazines available on computers and devices like smartphones and tablets. This E-library service is free and all children at St Michael's are invited to use it.

In order to access our school's free digital collection, Sora is the recommended app. Please follow the instructions below to access the school's digital collection.

1. Download the Sora app or explore in browser <https://soraapp.com>. Sora can also be accessed on any device/browser at <https://soraapp.com/library/hampshiresls>
2. In Sora, find our school or enter the setup code hampshiresls
3. Sign-in to St Michael's collection of e-books by inputting a username, which is your child's first name and surname separated by a full stop as follows: firstname.surname Please note, no password is required
4. Browse the **explore** tab and borrow a book. Your book will open so you can start reading right away.
5. Close the book and go to your **shelf** to see all your books. From there, you can: tap **open book** or **open audiobook** to read or listen to the book. Tap **options** to renew or return the book and to get to your notes and your highlights.
6. Once signed in, you can use the Sora app to filter search results/content by using the **filter button** in the upper right hand corner.

Every book includes a full page of description, including a front cover picture, the interest age, a brief summary about the story or text, and an opportunity to 'look inside'. Books can be loaned out for a maximum of four weeks. Although there is often more than one copy of a text available, it is important that when a book has been read that it is returned swiftly, giving other children the opportunity to read that book.

Reserving titles:

1. Place a **hold** if a title is of interest and is already checked out.
2. If a title is placed on hold, watch for the titles to be ready for checkout as indicated through the in-app notification.
3. As soon as you have finished reading the title, mark the title as done and return.

'Always Available' titles?

Some titles in the collection are designated as 'Always Available', meaning that an unlimited number of users can borrow the same title simultaneously.

Can my school limit which titles are available to students based on maturity?

The Hampshire School Library Service shared collection have assigned titles to a Content Access Level (CAL) and during the school's authentication setup, students' credentials have been aligned to the levels:

Juvenile: Reception – Year 6

We really hope that you will enjoy using our E-library service, and that the children will find plenty of books that they would like to read. We look forward to hearing about the books that children read over the holiday!



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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.

27 th - 31 st May	HALF TERM - SCHOOL CLOSED		
3 rd - 5 th June	Year 6 Bikeability (for those children who have signed up)	Hall	3.00pm
3 rd - 13 th June	Partridge Hatching	In school	
5 th June	YEAR 4 HAWKING PARENT EVENT - MASK MAKING	Hall	1.30-3.00pm
6 th June	YEAR 4 CURIE PARENT EVENT - MASK MAKING	Hall	1.30-3.00pm
	Year 6 PSHE Presentation	Art Suite	3.00pm
	Year 6 PSHE Presentation	Art Suite	3.30pm
	Year 5/6 Selected Girl's Football Tournament	Samuel Cody	4.00-6.00pm
7 th June	YEAR 4 FLEMING PARENT EVENT - MASK MAKING	Hall	1.30-3.00pm
11 th June	Rags 2 Riches Collection	School	
12 th June	Year 2 Parent Information Evening	Hall	6.30-7.30pm
17 th June	Year 6 Leaver's Service	Guildford Cathedral	Afternoon
20 th June	Open Morning for children moving into Year 3	School	9.30-11.30am
21 st June	YEAR 5 PARENT EVENT	Hall	1.30-3.00pm
25 th June	Usbourne Book Fair	Hall	3.30-4.30pm
26 th June	School Sports Morning	Field	9.00-12.00pm
27 th June	Infant School Sports Morning	Field	9.00-12.00pm
28 th June	INSET DAY - school closed to all students		
3 rd July	Whole school transition morning	School	
8 th July	Year 6 Grittleton House Parent's Presentation (Sept 2024)	Hall	3.30-4.30pm
11 th July	School reports sent home		
17 th July	Year 6 Leaver's Production	Hall	PM
18 th July	Year 6 Leaver's Production	Hall	PM
22 nd July	Year 6 Leaver's church service with parents	St Michael's Church	AM
23 rd July	LAST DAY OF TERM		
24 th July - 30 th August	SCHOOL HOLIDAYS - SCHOOL CLOSED		
2 nd September	INSET DAY - SCHOOL CLOSED		
3 rd September	INSET DAY - SCHOOL CLOSED		
4 th September	BACK TO SCHOOL - FIRST DAY OF AUTUMN TERM		

80 years since D-Day Celebration



**Thursday 06 June
6:30pm to 9:30pm**

**Bell ringing, Bring-and-Share Buffet,
1940s Music, Dancing, Raffle**

All Welcome



St. Michael's Church, 120 Church Lane East, Aldershot, GU11 3SS