ST MICHAELS JUNIOR SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER 4
22/10/2026

MESSAGE FROM MRS KINGHAM

Dear Parents and Carers,

What a fantastic first half term it has been! It has been wonderful to see the children settle so comfortably into their new classes, building positive relationships with their teachers and classmates and getting stuck into their learning with real enthusiasm. It was also lovely to welcome so many of you to Parents' Evening and to share in the children's successes so far this term. Thank you for your continued support and partnership - it makes such a difference.

Congratulations, Miss Moss

I would like to share some very exciting news. Huge congratulations to Miss Moss, who has been awarded a First in her Master's Degree in Mathematics - an outstanding achievement that reflects a great deal of hard work and dedication. We are delighted that Miss Moss has settled so well into our St Michael's community, and we are already seeing the benefit of the expertise and passion for maths that she brings to our school.

Attendance

Attendance reports for this half term have been e-mailed this afternoon. Every day in school matters. When children are in school, on time, every day, they make the most of every learning opportunity, keep up with new learning, build friendships and develop the habits that will serve them well throughout their lives. Small amounts of missed time soon add up: a child with 90% attendance will miss around 19 school days across the year - almost four whole weeks of learning. Arriving late also means missing important learning minutes at the start of the day, when key teaching and routines take place.

Our new Attendance Policy will be shared with you after half term. Our aim is to work in partnership with families to make sure children are in school every day and not missing any of their important learning. If your family is facing challenges that make attendance difficult, please talk to us - we are here to help and support you.

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MESSAGE FROM MRS KINGHAM

Staying Safe Over the Holidays

As the nights draw in and the evenings become darker, please help your children to stay safe. This is a wonderful time of year to enjoy local events and firework displays together, and it is also a great opportunity to talk with your children at home about how to stay safe - keeping a safe distance from fireworks and bonfires, wearing bright or reflective clothing when out in the dark, and staying close to a trusted adult. As our school rule reminds us, let's all Be Safe.

Thank You

Thank you for all your support throughout this first half term. The children have worked incredibly hard and should be very proud of themselves. I hope you all have a fabulous holiday and enjoy some special time together as a family. We look forward to welcoming everyone back on Monday 2nd November.

With best wishes,
Mrs Kirsty Kingham
Headteacher

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Attendance

Attendance is everyone's business - Every Learning Minute Counts							
This Week Whole School 93.4%		Year to Date Attendance					
		Whole School	National	Persistent Absence		National	
		95.4%	95.5%	10.9%		13.9%	
Year Group Breakdown (last 5 days)							
Year 3		Year 4		Year 5		Year 6	
95.5%		95.5%		94.4%		93.1%	
Daley	94%	Abbott	95.4%	Keller	96.5%	Attenborough	94%
Lewis	94.4%	Hawking	96.1%	Malala	91%	Earhart	90.9%
Simmonds	98.1%	Johnson	95.1%	Mandela	95.7%	Henson	94.4%

ROAD SAFETY AWARENESS

The Road Safety Team are offering a free parent webinar to support parents in setting a positive example to help their children make safer choices when walking, cycling and travelling in a vehicle, now and in the future.

The leaflet below highlights these messages and promotes the free parent lunchtime webinar, being hosted during Brake's Road Safety Week in November.

https://sway.cloud.microsoft/xEzqLOV8RGtXGhKN?ref=Link

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PARKING AT DROP OFF AND PICK UP

We know the start and end of the school day can be a busy time, and we're grateful to all the families who take care when travelling to and from school.

However, we have noticed a number of cars parking with their wheels well up on the pavement along the main road outside school. This leaves very little room for people on foot, and parents and carers with buggies and prams, as well as anyone using a wheelchair or mobility aid, are often forced to step out into the road to get past. This puts both adults and young children at real risk, especially at the busiest times of day.

The Highway Code advises drivers not to park partially or wholly on the pavement unless signs permit it, so we kindly ask that you leave the pavement clear for pedestrians. If you can, please consider parking a little further away and walking the last part of the journey; it's a great way to start the day together.

Thank you for helping us keep our school community safe and showing care for our neighbours, in keeping with our school vision to 'love your neighbour as yourself.'

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SOCIAL MEDIA & APPS

We are aware that a number of our Year 6 pupils are using messaging and social media apps, particularly Snapchat, and we would like to remind all parents and carers to check regularly which apps their child is using, who they are talking to, and to check what they are messaging to ensure that any unkind behaviour is challenged.

Snapchat has a minimum age of 13, which means it is not suitable for any child at St Michael's, and the Government has announced plans to raise the age for social media apps, including Snapchat, to 16 from 2027.

Features such as disappearing messages, location-sharing and "streaks" can expose children to inappropriate content and contact from people they do not know, and they make it harder for adults to see what is happening.

We often find that friendship problems which start online in the evening come into school the next morning. Too much time on these apps can also affect children's sleep, self-esteem and mood, leaving them anxious, tired or worried about missing out.

We encourage you to talk openly with your child about what they do online, to keep devices out of bedrooms at night, and to use parental controls wherever possible.

If you have any concerns, or would like any advice, please speak to your child's class teacher or contact myself and I would be happy to discuss.

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GREAT ATHLETES

A huge thank you to everyone who supported and sponsored our recent Great Athletes Event! The children had a wonderful time meeting Kelly Simm and taking part in some fun and energetic activities with her.

We are absolutely delighted to announce that, thanks to your incredible generosity, we raised an amazing £4,363.50 for which the school will receive a sports voucher of £2,327.10.

Thank you once again to everyone who donated, sponsored or helped to make the event such a success. Your support is greatly appreciated, and we are so proud of what we have achieved together!

All Sponsorship goodies for the children will be sent home after the half term.

POPPY APPEAL

Our poppies have arrived! From Monday 2nd November, children will be able to buy a poppy and other merchandise in school.

The Royal British Legion's Poppy Appeal raises money to help veterans, serving members of the Armed Forces and their families when they need support.

If your child would like to buy a poppy, please send them into school with a donation, and they will be able to purchase one during the school day.

Thank you for helping us support this important cause.

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CHILDREN IN NEED

We are pleased to be supporting Children in Need again this year, on Friday 13th November!

To help raise money for this wonderful cause, the children are invited to come to school in their own clothes for a donation of £1.

It's a lovely opportunity to have some fun while helping to make a difference to children and young people who need it most.

Thank you, as always, for your kind support and generosity!

BOOK FAIR

We are delighted to be holding an Usborne Book Fair in school on Tuesday 3rd and Wednesday 4th November, from 1.00pm to 4.00pm.

The children will have the opportunity to explore a wonderful selection of books and discover some exciting new reads! The children can then make a wishlist and parents are welcome to come along after school and have a browse. The books will be available to purchase through school or by scanning the QR code below, making it a great opportunity to encourage a love of reading and find something special to enjoy at home.

We look forward to welcoming you and the children!

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SCHOOL PHOTOS

The children will be bringing home their school photo proofs and details on how you can order the photos from Fraser Portraits.

The deadline for ordering photos to be delivered to the school (and save postage) is Friday 6th November 2026.

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YEAR 7 APPLICATIONS

Applications for children transferring to secondary school in September 2027 are open now.

Hampshire residents need to apply through Hampshire County Council (even if the school you are applying for is in Surrey)

https://www.hants.gov.uk/educationandlearning/admissions

Applications can be submitted online or parents can request a paper application form in exceptional circumstances by emailing admissions.team@hants.gov.uk. The deadline for applications is 31 October 2026.

Surrey residents need to apply through Surrey County Council (even if the school you are applying for is in Hampshire)

https://www.surreycc.gov.uk/schools-and-learning/schools/admissions

Applications must be made online. The deadline for applications is 31 October 2026.

Please consider the following when making an application:

- ·Name three schools on your application to maximise your chances of being offered a place at one of your preferred schools.
- ·Submit your application on-time, before the 31 October deadline.
- ·Use the County Council's school catchment area finder to check the catchment school for your address.
- ·Read the school's admission policies to find out how many places are available and what criteria will be used to allocate places if the school is oversubscribed.
- ·Think about how your child will get to school. See travel to school to help plan your journey and find out if you are eligible for help with transport. You must name your catchment school(s) if you have one, as a preference if you wish to apply for travel assistance.

If you require assistance with an application, please contact the school office team.

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ACHIEVEMENTS

Congratulations to Josh in Malala, who has successfully completed his Kumon English Programme and passed with flying colours!

Josh has shown great dedication and worked incredibly hard to achieve this fantastic milestone. It is wonderful to see his efforts rewarded, and we are delighted to celebrate his success.

Well done, Josh! We are very proud of you and your brilliant achievement!





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ACHIEVEMENTS

Congratulations to Martha H in Earhart, who took part in The Great South Run (Juniors) in Portsmouth on the 17th October and did amazing.

Martha came 12th overall in 9-11yr girls age category and 24th out of a total field of 298 girls which included the 12-15 girls. She also ran in in a tutu and looked fantastic!

Well done Martha, we are all so proud of you!







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YEAR 3

Please see below a table of the upcoming events for the Academic Year, all trips are available on Scopay.

Year 3		Trip/Event	Date	Cost
Autumn Term 2026	TRIP	Stone Age Theatre Workshop	Monday 9th November 2026	£6.10
Spring Term 2027	TRIP	Butser Ancient Farm	Thursday 4th March 2027	£26.50
Summer Term 2027	TRIP	VR Workshop - Egyptians	Friday 30th April 2027	£5.65

YEAR 4

Please see below a table of the upcoming events for the Academic Year, all trips are available on Scopay.

Year 4		Trip/Event	Date	Cost
Autumn Term 2026	Trip	Temple Visit	November - dates to be confirmed	
Spring Term 2027	TRIP	Ufton Court Viking Trip	Friday 26th February 2027	£16.60
Summer Term 2027	TRIP	VR Workshop - Mayans	Friday 30th April 2027	£5.65

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YEAR 5

Please see below a table of the upcoming events for the Academic Year, all trips are available on Scopay.

Year 5		Trip/Event	Date	Cost
Autumn Term 2026	TRIP	Winchester Science Museum	Friday 27th November 2026	£23.00
Spring Term 2027	TRIP	VR Workshop	Monday 1st February 2027	£4.20
	TRIP	Swimming	Friday 26th February 2027 - Friday 21st May 2027	

Swimming lessons are now booked for the Spring Term, and will commence on the 26th February 2027. As this is part of their National Curriculum, there is no cost to you and you will not need to sign up on Scopay.

YEAR 6

Please see below a table of the upcoming events for the Academic Year, all trips are available on Scopay.

Year 6		Trip/Event	Date	Cost
Spring Term 2027	PARENT EVENT	SATs Workshop	Thursday 14th January 2027 3.30pm onwards	
	TRIP	VR Workshoop - Earthquakes & Volcanoes	Monday 1st February 2027	£5.00
Summer Term 2027	TRIP	Guildford Cathedral Leavers Service	Monday 14th June 2027	
	TRIP	Residential - Grittleton	Monday 24th - Friday 28th May 2027	£361.00 + coach costs TBC
	TRIP	Think Safe	June 2027 (dates to be confirmed)	
	PARENT EVENT	Leavers Party	Wednesday 21st July 2027 at 2.00pm	

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DIARY DATES

DIARY DATES 2026/2027		
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 23rd October	**Inset Day - School Closed to Pupils**	
Monday 26th October	**HALF TERM WEEK**	
Monday 2nd November	**BACK TO SCHOOL**	
Tuesday 3rd November	Year 2 Prospective Parents Tour	2.00-3.00pm
Tuesday 3rd November	Usborne Book Fair	1.00-4.00pm
Wednesday 4th November	Usborne Book Fair	1.00-4.00pm
Monday 9th November	Year 3 Stone Age Theatre Workshop	School Hall
Wednesday 11th November	Remembrance Day	
Friday 13th November	Children In Need - Wear own clothes for £1 donation	
Friday 27th November	Year 5 Trip - Winchester Science Museum	All Day
Tuesday 8th December	Rocksteady Christmas Concert (School Hall)	9.30-10.30am
Monday 14th December	Christmas Church Service (School only)	
Friday 18th December	Christmas Lunch & Christmas Jumper Day	
Friday 18th December	**LAST DAY OF TERM**	
Monday 4th January	**Inset Day - School Closed to Pupils**	
Tuesday 5th January	**BACK TO SCHOOL**	

Contact Us
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