

St Michael's

Church of England Infant School



This half term's value has been

FRIENDSHIP

Autumn 2020 Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers

Re-joining

What an eventful first half term! Re-joining after such a prolonged period apart has been a joy. None of us knew what challenges lay ahead but seeing the children gradually settling into school life once again and witnessing the growth of togetherness has been heart-warming. To support the children on this journey, we have revamped our Bee rules, adding in 'Be respectful' and 'Be thoughtful'. The children have embraced the renewed focus on these rules and we have been proud to send children home with their Bee rule stickers. Our Year 2's have risen to the challenge of being young leaders in our school and have been supporting our younger children by acknowledging good examples of Bee rule behaviours. Our new reception children have responded to this beautifully and we are incredibly proud of how well they have settled. Young leaders in the making!



Our value this half term has been 'friendship'. In our worships, we have focused on what a friend is, how to be a good friend, where do we look for friendship and friendship in more challenging times. We have used Bible stories to understand how Jesus was a model of friendship. The children have added many ideas and thoughts about how they can both be a good friend and how to accept friendship graciously.

Harvest

We have managed to celebrate Harvest with you all, in a creative way this year and it was lovely to hear such positive feedback from the video. Thank you for your generous donations to the Leatherhead Start. Below is a message from them.

"Thank you very much for your kind donation, it is greatly appreciated. Please thank the children for taking the time to help us!

Kind regards from Leatherhead Start"

The Church congregation thoroughly enjoyed watching the children at the Sunday service and we had a warm email from a parishioner exclaiming her joy at seeing children enjoying Harvest celebrations.



Recovery Curriculum

At the beginning of term we made well-being phone calls to all our families. We really appreciated your openness and willingness to support the school in helping your children settle. We feel these conversations gave us real insight into your child's feelings about both their time away and their feelings about re-joining. We used this information to support phase 1 of our recovery curriculum, focusing on the children's most immediate well-being needs. We have responded by adapting our learning timetable and style and allowing the children time to rebuild relationships. After working with your children for the last eight weeks, we feel ready to move onto phase 2 of our recovery curriculum. This will focus on identifying gaps in learning and ongoing well-being needs as well as planning for the next learning steps. We are busy putting plans into place for individuals, groups and whole classes. We would like to share our plans with you so we are inviting you to sign up to a telephone conversation slot early next term.

Open Days

Our Open Days take place on Friday 23rd October and Saturday 24th October. We are delighted to say that we are almost fully booked for all our slots! We are also available for after school slots by calling the school office - please do share this information with friends!

*Thank
you*

A huge thank you to Mr Rice for leaf blowing the grounds this week and also to Mrs Margetts for replanting the pots around our school.

Things to note:

The deadline for ordering your school photos online is 6th November.

Parent conversations re well-being and learning are:

Year R – the week beginning 9th November;

Year 1 – the week beginning 16th November;

Year 2 – the week beginning 2nd November.

Finally, we would like to wish you and your family a restful half term break. We look forward to seeing you all in a weeks' time.

God Bless.

Nicola Pleather

Head of School