

St Michael's

Church of England Infant School



Our value this half term is
Thankfulness

12th November 2021 Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers

The break of the half term seems to have done wonders for the children's energy levels and they are now getting stuck in to their learning for this term and we can already see some fantastic progress. We have had some wonderful feedback with our new approach to children's reading and we can see how well their reading is developing by focusing on decoding and re-reading to secure a good level of fluency.

Parent Consultations

You will now have had information on our parent consultations next week and will have hopefully booked a slot. If not, please do so quickly as they are getting booked up. These consultations are an invaluable time to share your child's progress and next steps and talk about any other issues that may have arisen over the start of the new academic year. If you cannot make the allocated time slots, please talk to your child's class teacher. We cannot guarantee an additional slot but we do try to make sure that we give you information on your child's progress in some form.

Lunch Club – Place of Peace

This half term has seen a full return of our popular lunch time club. Now that our Year 1 class is called Butterfly Class, we have had to think of a new name! After lots of discussions, Mrs Stewart came up with the wonderful idea of calling it 'POP' club which stands for 'Place of Peace'. We all thought this was a very fitting name and so POP club it is! This club is for children who may want or need a quieter lunch play. The children can colour, draw, play puzzles, games and just chat or read a book. We play relaxing music of all kinds and the children thoroughly enjoy their time there. This week, Mrs Travers organised an art activity for the children where they created a lion's mane from pasta twirls! A fun time was had by all!



We do generally encourage outdoor play and physical activity at lunchtime but we recognise that sometimes children need something a little different. This could be for a variety of social and emotional reasons. Children are welcome to come to the club when they would like to but on some days, we may need to limit the numbers due to popularity. This is a flexible approach and we monitor this on a regular basis.

Remembrance

Yesterday, the children made poppies to bring to our remembrance worship. The children walked respectfully into the hall and laid their poppies on the stage. The children showed such reverence and we were incredibly proud of them. We then took part in a worship where we sang a poppy song and we



watched a cbeebies clip about this. We then remained silent for two minutes in respect. You could have heard a pin drop! Well done St Michael's children. Please see the link below, if you would like to watch this with your child at home.



I used our value of thankfulness with the children at the end of the worship to show them how incredibly proud we were that they understood the significance and importance of the occasion.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pv_ub7Be7oA

Christmas Plans!

The teachers, along with Mrs Leney and Mrs Guegan have begun to put plans in place for the Christmas Nativity play. The Year 2 children will be auditioning on Monday for a speaking part and we are busy thinking about dances and songs to go along with the event. We are so grateful that we are able to share this event, live, with you this year. Please look out for more details about this soon.

Unauthorised Time Off

On our return to school this year, we have had many requests for time off during the school week, for day trips and holidays. We understand that some holidays that have been postponed due to Covid, are now being rebooked, however, once children are enrolled at school, they are required to attend every day. Children should only be absent from school if they are unwell, have Covid or there are exceptional circumstances. Day trips and holidays do not fit within this criteria and so we will not authorise these requests. In current circumstances, where children have had enforced time out of education, we cannot emphasise enough that building on learning each day is a vital part of a child's education. Removing a child for reasons other than sickness or exceptional circumstances can impact their overall progress. All schools are subject to regular monitoring by an inclusion officer from the local authority and if attendance dips below 90%, they will be looking at ways to work with us to support families to improve a child's attendance. We urge you not to book any events or holidays in term time.

Clubs

We apologise for the confusion around Multi Sports club this term. This has now been addressed with Premier Sports and flyers have been sent out. There are still available spaces if your child would like to attend. Please ensure your child has appropriate clothing for the club.

God Bless

Nicola Cleather
Head of School



Term dates

Term Dates 2021-2022	
Last day of Autumn Term	17/12/2021
Christmas Holiday	20/12/2021-03/01/2022
Spring Term Starts	04/01/2022
Inset Day (School Closed)	04/01/2022
1st Day of Spring Term (Back to School)	05/01/2022
Last Day of Half Term	11/02/2022
Spring Term Half Term	14/02/2022-18/02/2022
Inset Day (School Closed)	21/02/2022
Back to School	22/02/2022
Last day of Spring Term	01/04/2022
Easter Holiday	04/04/2022-18/04/2022
1st Day of Summer Term (Back to School)	19/04/2022
Last Day of Half Term	27/05/2022
Summer Term Half Term	30/05/2022-03/06/2022
Back to School	06/06/2022
Last day of Summer Term	20/07/2022
Queen's Platinum Jubilee Bank Holiday (School Closed)	21/07/2022
Inset Day (School Closed)	22/07/2022

Inset dates

Remaining INSET Days for 2021/22:

4th January 2022

21st February 2022

22nd July 2022