

St Michael's

Church of England Infant School



17th December 2021 Newsletter

Our value this half term has been

Thankfulness

Next half term's value is

Patience

Dear Parents and Carers

What a wonderful half term. This is always one of the nicest half terms for children and staff. The Christmas fever normally starts quite early as children get involved in lots of preparation activities. Once again, the children's behaviour has been exemplary and we are very proud of how the children have managed the changes to their normal timetables.

A well-earned rest is now upon us and we know the children will benefit from a two-week break, spending time with loved ones and sharing the joy that Christmas brings.

Christmas Festive Fun!

The children have worked incredibly hard over the last few weeks, rehearsing for the Christmas Nativity and for the concert. The children sang their hearts out at both events and a jolly time was had by all! We were delighted to see so many parents join us for the concert and it felt very positive to have the whole community together for the event. We do hope you enjoyed it as much as we did! Thank you to all the staff for their combined efforts in making this a success.

African Art

What a hit our 'Take off' topic has been with the KS1 children! The second half of the term was focused on continents and countries around the world. Children gained a knowledge of the similarities and differences of both the physical features of countries and how cultures have differences and similarities, in different parts of the world. In relation to this, children engaged with an Art unit of African Art. This has truly inspired the children and we have had many children explore and investigate this topic at home and share what they have learnt with their peers. The children have produced some wonderful works of Art and below are a few for you to enjoy.





Ladybird class are now fully part of the St Michael's team and are becoming great, independent learners, choosing a range of different activities to inspire, encourage and develop their inquisitive minds. This term they have been exploring a range of different topics, including space, ourselves, and the build up to the birth of Jesus.



Nativity

A huge thank you to Mr Smith and Miss Rumble for once again helping us with the filming of our Christmas Nativity. For those of you watched it last year, you will remember how professional the finished product was! The children thoroughly enjoyed the process and we look forward to sharing this with you very soon. Please look out for a link.

Covid-19 Update

We are very pleased to report that we currently have no confirmed cases in our school at the moment, but we are obviously watching the media coverage closely and thinking about any additional measures we will need to put in place for January. As of 9th December, Surrey had 17 confirmed Omicron cases, but this is clearly likely to increase dramatically.

Advice received at the start of the week re the new national approach is shown below:

Daily testing for contacts of COVID-19

From Tuesday 14 December, a new national approach to daily testing for contacts of COVID-19 is being introduced (including until the end of this term). All adults who are fully vaccinated and children aged 5 to 18 years and 6 months, identified as a contact of someone with COVID-19 – whether Omicron or not – should take a lateral flow device (LFD) test every day for 7 days instead of self-isolating. Daily testing by close contacts will help to slow the spread of COVID-19.

Daily testing for contacts of COVID-19 will help protect education settings by reducing transmission and will also help keep pupils in face-to-face education.

Once notified by NHS Test and Trace as a close contact, all eligible staff, pupils and students should take an LFD each day for 7 days and report the results through the [Online Reporting System](#) and to their setting. If they test negative, they can continue to attend their education setting. Outside of the education setting, they should continue to follow the advice set out in the [Sunday 12 December press release](#). This approach should also be adopted over the winter break and on return in January.

If they test positive, they should self-isolate and [order a PCR test](#) to confirm the result. If the PCR is positive, they must self-isolate for 10 days. If the PCR test is negative, they no longer need to self-isolate but should continue to carry out the remainder of the daily tests, and only need to isolate if it is positive.

Anyone over the age of 18 years and 6 months who is not vaccinated, must isolate in line with government guidelines if they are a close contact of a positive case.

For students with SEND who struggle to or are unable to self-swab daily for 7 days, settings should work with students and their families to agree an appropriate testing route, such as assisted swabbing. Information on further support measures will be provided.

Thank you!

We would like to say a BIG thank you to all of you for our lovely gifts and kind words over the last few days. It means a lot and we have been thoroughly spoilt!

We would like to thank all of the parents who came to help out at our grounds tidy day last half term. We had a good turn out and everyone worked incredibly hard to make the school look tidy for the Open Day.

A huge thank you to the Governors and all the St Michael's staff for their continued support and hard work this term. We wish you all a very peaceful and restful Christmas.

Clubs

Clubs will resume from the week beginning 10 January, look out for information in the New Year.

There a limited number of spaces available so please book up quickly. For our Thursday, 'Art, Craft and Cookery' club, we have reduced the spaces to ten children only. This is because of the amount of adult input needed to support the activities.

Monday – no clubs

Tuesday – no clubs

Wednesday – Forest School Club

Thursday – Arts, Craft and Cookery club

Friday – Sports Club

All the staff and Governors wish our families a peaceful, restful and joyful Christmas and we very much look forward to seeing you all again in the New Year.

A Christmas Blessing

May love come alive within your heart
As Christmas time draws near.
May hope fill each room you decorate
And bring joy to those you hold dear.
May peace be before you at every meal
And faith ring through every song.
For Christ is alive, the light of the world
May he bless you all season long.

God Bless

Nicola Cleather
Head of School



Term Dates 2021-2022	
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