

St Michael's

Church of England Infant School



1st April 2022 Newsletter

Our value this half term has been

Compassion

Next term our value will be

Forgiveness

Dear Parents and Carers

What a joyful half term! I think for the first time, in a long time, this has felt like school life used to! From having workshops take place in school to having parents join us for key events in the calendar. We know how much this has meant to us all as a school community and your expressions of gratitude and enthusiasm have warmed our hearts.

The children have thoroughly immersed themselves in all that school life has to offer this term, especially enjoying our enrichment activities like World Book Day, the Great Fire of London workshop, the Gingerbread Man World Book Day workshop, the Mothers' Day assembly and of course our Easter Service in the Church.

We now look forward to our final term of the academic year. We have many more events that will take place and that we can bring families in for so do look out for information next term on these. We also have our whole school trip in the summer term and we will send out details on this very soon.

Our Key Stage 1 topic next term will be 'Dig it up'. The first half will be focused on farming and outdoor rural life and will be a Science based topic and the second half will be focused on dinosaurs and fossils with more of a History focus. In Early Years, the children will be learning about animals (zoo animals and pets) for the first half of the term and then minibeasts for the second half of the term.

Workshops galore!

In February, we arranged for a theatre company, Drama Hut to come into school to enhance our topic learning by running workshops. The children fully participated in these drama workshops and enjoyed the opportunity. They thought it was great fun seeing Samuel Pepys, Thomas Farriner and Alice!

For World Book Day, we invited another theatre company West End in Schools to run workshops related to traditional tales. The children enjoyed a Gingerbread Man workshop.



Fire, Fire!

What an eventful end to the term! This morning all the children took part in recreating the Great Fire of London. Over this week, the Key Stage 1 children have made Tudor houses ready to line up on the playground to set on fire! This gave the children first-hand experience of how quickly the fire would have spread over four days, across the houses, back in 1666 and what a fantastic finish to an exciting History topic. Our Early Years children joined us for this event. The activity was thoroughly enjoyed by all the children and staff and the children were exemplary in remembering and following our 'Be Safe' Bee Rule. We started the morning with Mrs Moore giving the children a fire safety talk in the hall followed by a round of 'London's Burning' before going outside to light up the houses.



Easter

The children have revisited or learnt for the first time, about the Easter story. The children understand the significance and importance of this time in the Christian calendar and have asked insightful and thoughtful questions and comments.

It was wonderful to then take our learning across to Church for the Easter Service. As mentioned previously, to be able to have you all join us for this was very special. It has been a long time since we have been able to go to Church as a school and we know this means a lot to all of us. Seeing the children parade to Church in their beautiful Easter bonnets made us feel very spring like, even though the weather had other ideas!

The children sang and spoke beautifully in Church and we were incredibly proud of their efforts. Thank you to all the parents who helped with walking the children to Church and back.

Phonics workshop

We are planning to hold a phonics talk/workshop for our Year 1 parents next half term. As mentioned in our last newsletter, Year 1 children are required to take part in a statutory phonics check in June. Our aim is to give you more information about this and how you can continue to support your child's phonic knowledge and reading at home.

Young Carers

16th March 2022 was **Young Carers** Action Day. Mrs Moore delivered a wonderful, thought provoking worship where the children learnt what a young carer is and the extra responsibilities that they might have. As a school, this is an area of support and signposting that we are looking to develop. As an inclusive school, we feel it is vital that young people understand that some families may be living different lives to their own and that we all have a part to play in understanding, supporting and being aware of these differences.



Chairs for FRIENDS



A huge thank you to Kate Sartorius and Amy Ward for jointly taking on the responsibility of Chairs for the FRIENDS.

I have met with Kate and Amy recently and we all felt very positive about plans for the coming year. We are hoping for parental help at various events coming up and we are in discussions over some possible fund raising events so we can focus on improving our enabling environment across the school, starting with our Early Years classroom and outdoor provision. Please look out for more information and please do offer your help if you can. The success of this very much depends on teams of families working alongside each other and any time you can give is always greatly appreciated. Even an hour here and there.

After School Club

Recently, we have had to advertise for an After School club supervisor for the summer term and beyond. Despite initial interest, we have unfortunately not received any applications. If you think you would be interested in this position, please do contact Mrs Piggott for the details. The club runs from 3 pm to 5 pm, Monday to Thursday and we are offering £15 per hour plus an hours admin pay.

A prayer for Easter

May you have.....

The gladness of Easter
which is *hope*

The promise of Easter
which is *peace*

The spirit of Easter
which is *love*

God Bless

Nicola Cleather
Head of School



Term Dates 2021-2022	
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

Term Dates 2022-2023	
Autumn Term Starts	01/09/2022
Inset Day (School Closed)	01/09/2022
Inset Day (School Closed)	02/09/2021
1st Day of Autumn Term (Back to School)	05/09/2022
Last Day of Half Term	21/10/2022
Inset Day (School Closed)	21/10/2022
Autumn Term Half Term	24/10/2022-28/10/2022
Back to School	31/10/2022
Last day of Autumn Term	16/12/2022
Christmas Holiday	19/12/2022-02/01/2023
1st Day of Spring Term (Back to School)	03/01/2023
Last Day of Half Term	10/02/2023
Spring Term Half Term	13/02/2023-17/02/2023
Back to School	20/02/2023
Last day of Spring Term	31/03/2023
Easter Holiday	03/04/2023-14/04/2023
Summer Term Starts	17/04/2023
Inset Day (School Closed)	17/04/2023
1st Day of Summer Term (Back to School)	18/04/2023
Last Day of Half Term	26/05/2023
Summer Term Half Term	29/05/2023-02/06/2023
Back to School	05/06/2023
Last day of Summer Term	20/07/2023
Inset Day (School Closed)	21/07/2023