

St Michael's

Church of England Infant School



St Michael's
School

14th December 2022 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 and routines.

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!

We have already been involved in lots of festive fun and there is still more to come!

The children thoroughly enjoyed their Christmas lunch last Wednesday. The tables and hall were decorated by Mrs Leney and Mrs Stewart and they did a wonderful job of making it look nice for everyone. The staff all joined the children for lunch and lots of fun was had by all. It was lovely to see the variety of Christmas jumpers and outfits! We also had the Pantomime on Thursday, which all the children and staff said was the best one yet! We will definitely be looking to book them for next year.

Thank you to all of the parents and FRIENDS who supported the Christingle workshop last Sunday. It was a huge success and it was heart-warming to see so many families join us at Church afterwards. The children also sang beautifully.

The children have worked incredibly hard over the last few weeks, rehearsing for the Christmas Nativity. They were excited (and a lot nervous!) to perform to you all this week. Again, we were all incredibly proud of the children's behaviour and they performed beautifully. Thank you all for coming to watch.

Storytelling evening

Our Storytelling evening was a huge success! The children enjoyed rotating around the school for some wonderful stories and crafts and the FRIENDS provided some welcome festive fun in the hall.

Staff changes

Sadly, we have said and will be saying, goodbye to three members of staff this term. As you know, Mrs Piggott will be retiring at Christmas. She will be very missed by all the school community but we wish her the very best in her retirement. Mrs Piggott will be replaced by Lucy Bullen from **Tuesday 3rd January**. I know you will all give Lucy a warm St Michael's welcome.

Mrs Schultes has left us for a life on the emerald Isles! She has relocated to Ireland with her family. We wish her the very best of luck. We will also be saying farewell to Mrs Hine at Christmas. Mrs Hine has decided to go back to working with the police. This was her previous career before

having her son and he is now of an age that she is able to take that role on once more. We wish her the best of luck. All three ladies will be very missed.

We welcome two new staff members from January. Mrs Nell, a Year 1 parent, will be joining us as a full time learning support assistant in Ladybird class. Mrs Hanna, a Year 2 parent, will be joining us as a part-time special needs assistant, working across the school. We are delighted to have them on the team.

Wish list



The staff are incredibly grateful for the generous donations we receive via the FRIENDS, as well as your own contributions for projects, performances, school trips - the list goes on!

We have had some interest from families for alternative ways to inform you of the resources required to run the school and support teaching and learning, knowing how budgets seem to be squeezed, more than ever. For this reason, the staff have created an Amazon wish list for those families that shop there and would like to contribute in an additional way, every now and then. There is a variety of items on there so take your pick and any resources will be very gratefully appreciated.

The link for this can be found below. You are able to let us know that you have bought something (of course, you can remain anonymous if you would prefer this) so that we can acknowledge this in our newsletters and say thank you.

https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/dl/invite/dzct2RI?ref_=wl_share

Thank you!

We would like to thank all of the parents who came to help 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 morning.

A huge thank you to the Governors, the FRIENDS 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.

We would also like to thank Ben Tatham and Tony Butler for the amazing work they do for us voluntarily. During the summer holiday and this term they have arranged and carried out a project to replace all our lighting with LED lights. Tony managed the project for us and it will save us a lot of money. They both carry out many maintenance tasks for us including renewing the yellow lines around the school, mending leaks, moving cupboards and white boards and many more things. They also provide invaluable advice. THANK YOU BOTH!

Clubs and collection from clubs

Clubs will resume from the week beginning **9th January 2023**, look out for information in the New Year.

There are 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 twelve children only. This is because of the amount of adult input needed to support the activities.

In order to support the smooth running of parental pickups from after school clubs, we would like to draw your attention to the procedure for ensuring this.

All parents must now wait outside the early years gate to collect. If siblings are joining parents for the pickup, we ask that you either keep your children with you or ask them to play on the grass verge near the early years outside area, if there is a short wait. If Caterpillar club is on the

playground, we ask that siblings do not access that area so that the supervision of these children can be safely managed. We thank you in advance for your consideration.

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 2022-2023	
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