

St. Michael's Newsletter



Friday, 22nd January 2016

Dear Parents and Carers,

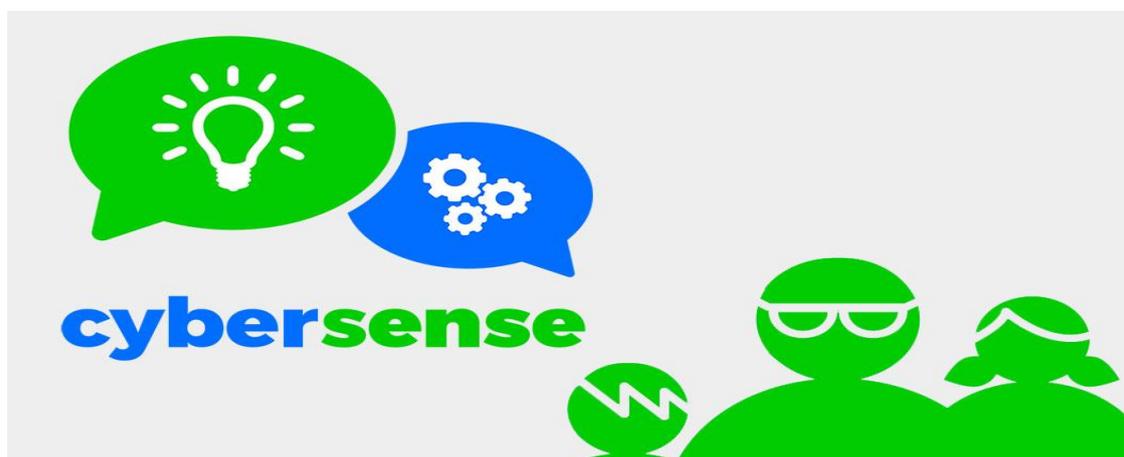
Cake Sale

In Year 3, we have some budding entrepreneurs who would like to run a cake sale at playtime on **Friday, 12th February** (the day we break up for the half-term holiday). They want to raise money to sponsor a penguin at Colchester Zoo. They need £62:00 to do this and they thought a cake sale would be a good way of raising funds. If you can support this venture, please donate cakes on the morning of 12th February. When further details are forthcoming from the children, I will pass those on to you. Thank you in advance for supporting our children in Year 3.

Internet Safety

We have been sent information from the Essex Safeguarding Board about this Cybersense App. We have forwarded the information to parents electronically with a link to the App. We hope parents will enjoy using it with their children and keeping them safe whilst using the internet and social media.

CyberSense is our new app designed to help parents talk about e-safety issues with their children to ensure that they make smart choices to stay safe online.



The app is aimed at children aged between 8-10 to help them think about what they would do if they were faced with different situations online; from [cyberbullying](#) to sharing content with someone they don't know.

The App includes a quiz that is played on a tablet with a split screen. This is mainly to encourage parents and children to answer the questions at the same time to help create talking points around different e-safety scenarios.

At the end of each quiz, depending on how many question have been answered correctly, you are rewarded with a specific amount time to play a fun game together.

The app is a great way for parents to get talking with their children about practical ways to be resilient and get the best out of the internet.

Apex Parent Support Group apexparentsupportgroup.co.uk



Thurs 4th Feb 2016
Meeting: 10am -12 pm
 Refreshments from: 9.30am
 The Apex, Thriftwood School, Slades Lane, Galleywood

Re-Cap and Re-mind!

What did we learn from 2015? Some things we looked at: Power Cards; Comic Strip Conversations; S.P.E.L.L.; Sleep and all sorts of strategies to help with difficult situations. Let's Re-cap together what we used, how things changed and the improvements we saw.... Re-mind ourselves of how we can be Proactive in 2016!

Next Meeting: Thursday 17th March

Apex works best when parents share their problems and strategies in a positive way to make positive change. For further information please don't hesitate to contact: Claire Smith (clairejsmith13@gmail.com) Visit "Apex" at - apexparentsupportgroup.co.uk OR thriftwoodschool.com

LIKE US ON facebook

We are unable to offer a crèche, so ask that children are NOT brought to meetings.



GROUP DETAILS

Apex Group is for families whose children have social communication difficulties which may involve the autistic spectrum. We aim to provide support for one another and to look jointly for positive strategies.

When: Monthly (Thursdays)

Where: The Apex
 Thriftwood School
 Slades Lane, Chelmsford CM2 8RW

Time: Refreshments from 9.30am
 Meeting 10am-12pm

For further details and directions contact
 Claire Smith: clairejsmith13@gmail.com

DATES FOR 2016

14th January
 4th February
 17th March
 14th April
 12th May
 9th June
 14th July
August - NO MTG (Summer)
 15th September
 13th October
 10th November
 8th December

We are unable to offer a crèche at present, so ask that children are not brought to meetings.

For all details visit Apex at: thriftwoodschool.com OR apexparentsupportgroup.co.uk

Packed Lunch Working Party

Many, many thanks to the parents and their children who participated in the first meeting to decide a packed lunch policy for our school. There was much discussion amongst both parents and children and a short list of items were drawn up to be included in the policy. Mrs. Cullen and Mrs. Rumsey will now draft a policy and share this with parents in a few weeks' time for their input. Many thanks to all the parents who gave up their time so willingly.

Menu week 2 next week winter menus – on website.

Dates for your Diary

Wednesday, 27th January @ 6:00 pm – SATs information evening for Year 6 parents
Tuesday, 9th February - Parent Consultation Learning Reviews 4:00 - 7:00 pm - Years 3 and 4
Wednesday, 10th February - Parent Consultation Learning Reviews 8:30 am - 12:30 pm - Years 3 and 4
 Thursday, 11th February @ 2:15 pm - Second meeting of the Packed Lunch Working Party
 Friday, 12th February @ play time – Cake Sale run by children in Year 3
 Friday, 12th February - Break up for the half term holiday
 Monday, 22nd February - Children return to school
 Friday, 26th February – Thriftwood Mother's Day Sale – 10:15 – 12:00 pm
Monday, 29th February - Parent Consultation Learning Reviews 4:00 - 7:00 pm Years 5 and 6
Tuesday, 1st March - Parent Consultation Learning Reviews 8:30 am - 12:30 pm Years 5 and 6
 Friday, 4th March @ 10:30 am - Choir to sing at St. Michael's Church
 Thursday, 24th March - The Easter service at St. Michael's Church @ 10:00 am
 Thursday, 24th March - Break up for the Easter holiday
 Monday, 11th April - Non-Pupil Day
 Tuesday, 12th April - Children return to school
 Monday, 2nd May - School closed for the May Day Bank Holiday
 Week beginning 9th May – 12th May - SATs exam week – Year 6
 Friday 27th May - Break up for the half term holiday
 Monday, 6th June - Children return to school
 Friday, 22nd July - School closes for the summer holidays
 Thursday, 1st September 2016 - Non-pupil day
 Friday, 2nd September 2016 - non-pupil day
 Monday, 5th September 2016 - Children return to school after the summer break

Yours sincerely

M. Rumsey

Maria Rumsey
Headteacher