

St. Michael's CE (VA) Junior School Newsletter

by Mrs Rumsey



Friday, 17th May 2019

Dear Parents/Carers,

Year 6 SATs

Congratulations to all the children and staff in Year 6 including Miss Taverner, who I inadvertently missed off my list of thanks last week – sorry! They have completed a brilliant week of exams. All the papers have been sent off to be marked and the results will not be announced until Tuesday 9th July; parents will be notified as soon as we receive them. Year 6 have displayed an exemplary attitude towards the tests this week; they have been focussed and totally committed and there has been a real team spirit – all of the children said that the SATs weren't nearly as bad as they thought they would be! To celebrate the end of the tests, our wonderful kitchen staff made the children a special treat – pancakes, ice-cream and chocolate syrup, which they loved!



Meet the teacher evening

On the 12th June, there will be an opportunity for you to meet your child's new class teacher for the next academic year. The evening will start at 7pm and Mrs Prigg, our new Headteacher, will also be there to meet parents. Class teachers will deliver a short presentation about the expectations for the new academic year; it is hoped that all your questions will be answered.

Class and team photos

Next Friday, the photographer will be in to take class and team photos, which will be sent home with the children when they arrive in school. Please ensure that your child is wearing proper school uniform.

Speech, Language and Communication Development

One of the key indicators of a child's success in school and in life is their vocabulary. We need to continue to expand their vocabulary all of the time. Here are some easy ways to do this:

1. **Make conversation a priority** - The quality of parent-child interactions is one of the biggest factors influencing vocabulary, so it's vital to talk to your child and expose them to different words.
2. **Read together** - The key to a wide vocabulary is a love of reading. It's important to make reading a routine. Don't just read school books, recognise your child's interests and find books that relate to them, as this will encourage them to [read purely for enjoyment](#). Keep reading aloud to your child, even once they're able to read independently, kids love to hear stories, and you can build their vocabulary by choosing books that would be too difficult for them to read themselves. Don't just stick to stories, reading [non-fiction](#) books, children's newspapers and [comics](#) will expose your child to a wider range of words. Talk about what you're reading, too, as this will help your child's [comprehension](#).
3. **Play word games** - I Spy, Scrabble, Bananagrams, Dobble, Crosswords, and Hangman. There's a huge range of [word games](#) that will help your child learn new words in a fun way.

Crazy Hair Day

We had some interesting hair styles as St Michael's today. Thank you everyone, we are still counting but have so far raised over £145 for SMASH.



Amazon Wish List

Thank you to Mrs England, Mrs Tumbridge and all our anonymous donors for our gifts this week. It really does help.

You can use the following link in your browser to access our wish list and then log in <http://amzn.eu/iLEmThI> .

Every gift is important to us no matter how large or small.



Quiz Night during Half Term

Following on from the success of our Quiz Night last year, we will be holding another event on the **1st June**. Tickets can be purchased on ParentPay (or via the School Office if not a ParentPay user). Each table can hold 8 people – you are welcome to form a group of 8 yourselves or ask to be added to another table. Please support this SMASH event.

Pop Up Circus

Get your tickets from the school office – NOW!
£6.00 in advance, £7.00 on the door
Please support this wonderful community event
BBQ, Mocktails, Bottle Tombola, Face Painting, Raffle and
Games for all the Family

SMASH NEWS

Dates for your diaries:-

Saturday, 1st June – Quiz Night

Wednesday, 5th June – Father’s Day Sale for Years 4 and 5

Thursday, 6th June – Father’s Day Sale for Years 3 and 6
All gifts £2.50

Friday, 14th June – Last Film Night of the year 6:00 – 7:30 pm

Friday, 28th June – Non-uniform Day (Dress in a multi-coloured outfit) – Donate bottles for the bottle tombola (Any alcohol to the school office please).

Friday, 12th July – Leavers’ Disco for all Year Groups

Please support these events. We are raising money for a new bicycle shed and for some new Chrome Books





THIS WEEK'S LEADERBOARD:

	First	Second	Third
Year 3 Most improved	Oliver B	N/A	N/A
Year 3 Correct Answers	Tommy W	Max J	Isaac M
Year 4 Most improved	Millie C	Izabelle S	Ruby May L
Year 4 Correct Answers	Samuel H	Jessica Sa	Harry L
Year 5 Most improved	N/A	N/A	N/A
Year 5 Correct Answers	Olivia M	Rylee S	Harry A
Year 6 Most improved	N/A	N/A	N/A
Year 6 Correct Answers	Erin M	Rhianna R	Mathilda EL

Trip Payments Due

Payments are now due for the trips and events below; please can you ensure that any outstanding balances on ParentPay are paid as soon as possible. The School will, unfortunately have no alternative but to cancel a trip if sufficient funds are not received to cover the cost of a trip or event.

Bhaktivedanta Temple visit – Year 6: £20 should now have been paid.

Aylmerton – Year 5: Payments totalling £280 should now have been made, please can you ensure that you have done this. If sufficient payments are not made before half term the School will have to consider the viability of this trip going ahead.

A final balance of £50 to be paid by July 2019.

Mersea – Year 4: Please can you ensure that you have paid all monies due for this trip as are making the final payment to Mersea Outdoors Centre this month. Thank you.

Forensic Science Day (all years) - £2.50 now due

Group 2 (Year 3) Swimming: £40 should now have been paid for this group of swimmers.

Violin Lessons (summer term): £100 (cost for 10 lessons with Miss Canale) has now been loaded on ParentPay for those children having violin lessons. Please ensure that you have cleared any balance for the spring term. Thank you.

Dinner Menu

The menu next week will be week 2. Please check the school website for the menu.

Don't forget Friday's are "Take-Out Fridays" as well as being Milkshake Day!

It is lovely to see so many children trying school dinners for the first time, we hope you enjoyed it. Don't forget that Mrs Darvill loves you to try things, so even if you are having a packed lunch go and ask her for a taste if you would like to try something, it will make her day!

School Social Media

Please make sure you follow our school social media accounts for important updates, and fun photos and videos of what the children have been up to!

Facebook	StMichaels Junior
Twitter	Stmichaelsjun1
Instagram	st.michaelsjuniorschool

Diary Dates

Thursday, 23rd May – Year 6 trip to Bhaktivedanta Manor
Friday, 24th May – Tempest Class Photos Day
Friday, 24th May – Break up for the Whitsun half-term holiday
Monday, 3rd June – Staff and children return to school
Wednesday 19th June- Friday, 21st June – Year 4 Residential Trip to Mersea
Wednesday 19th June – Year 5 Moulsham High School for taster day
Thursday, 20th June – Music Festival at the Civic Theatre
Friday, 28th June – School Reports sent out to parents
Sunday, 30th June – The Circus arrives at St. Michael's! SMASH Circus Event
Tuesday, 2nd July – Sports Day @ 1:15 pm
Wednesday 3rd July – Year 5 to Great Baddow High School for taster day
Wednesday, 10th and Thursday, 11th July – Year 6 Production
Monday, 15th July – Summer Music concert
Thursday, 18th July @ 10:00 am – Leavers' Service at St. Michael's Church
Friday, 19th July – School closes for the summer holidays



Yours sincerely,

M. Rumsey

Maria Rumsey
Headteacher