

St. Michael's Church of England (VA) Junior School

Barnard Road Galleywood Chelmsford Essex CM2 8RR
Telephone: (01245) 472682  stmichaels.junior
Email: admin@st-michaels-jun.essex.sch.uk
Website: www.st-michaels-jun.essex.sch.uk
Headteacher: Mrs Rowen Prigg BA (Hons)
Deputy Headteacher: Mrs Lisa Dines BA (Hons)



St. Michael's CE (VA) Junior School

8th June 2020

By God's love we all flourish together.

At St Michael's, by God's love and through our Christian values of Love, Faith, Respect and Courage, we celebrate uniqueness and nurture curiosity, enabling each child to flourish on their own rich learning journey; whilst contributing to the wider community.

Dear Parents/carers

Welcome to St Michael's Junior School
from Mrs Prigg and all of the staff at
St Michael's



We are really looking forward to meeting you and your children. We hope that your families are well and staying safe. This is a very different welcome letter from St Michael's, as many of the scheduled transition opportunities will not be able to go ahead because of Covid-19. That means we are being even more creative in how we introduce ourselves and our school to your children; whilst also providing different opportunities to ensure that any questions you may have, will be answered or assurances you may need are dealt with, before we break for the summer holidays.



Transition for your children is so very valuable in preparing them for the next exciting phase of their learning journey. Instead of the normal transition arrangements we have decided to plan the following instead;

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Meet the teacher visits

Miss Walker (who coordinates the year 2 transition) and Miss James are your year 3 teachers in September

Miss Walker – 3W
(Squirrels class)



Miss Walker has prepared a virtual tour of the school, introducing the year 3 area and both classrooms to your children. The school entrance and the hall are also included in this tour.

This has been uploaded onto a dedicated 'welcome page' on our website. This will also be added to the Galleywood Infant website too.



Miss James – 3J
(Rabbits class)



There is also a video clip of the lovely story 'The origins of rock, paper, scissors', using Flip grid and can be viewed on the same website page. This will be added to the Galleywood Infant website too.

We have asked many of the children that are currently in school, to create some voice recordings about what they love and enjoy about St Michaels and prepare answers for FAQs. These can be heard on the same welcome page on the website. After looking at the Transition book, visiting our welcome page on the website, listening to the story and watching the virtual tour you may have some questions.

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If having visited the web page, watched the virtual tour, read the Parent and Pupil handbook, listened, and read all of the other information available, you have questions then we have created an email address just for you:
newyear3@st-michaels-jun.essex.sch.uk

This temporary email address will be monitored and every Thursday we will answer any questions that you have emailed. This will take the format of a Parent voice and will look like this:

Parent Voice

Thank you to the parents that have accessed our email address and posted the following questions:

You can see that several questions have been raised so I would like to adopt the 'You said, We did' approach to answering these questions.

You said	We Did

Every Thursday we will complete this document and publish it on the year 3 Welcome Page. However, please contact us at any time.

Kind Regards, Mrs Prigg

We will answer all the generic questions that parents have asked and will post it on the welcome page for ALL parents to read. Please phone the school if there is a personal matter linked to your child.

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With the help of Galleywood Infant school, we have some photos of the year 2 classrooms to compare to ours so that the children can see how similar our settings are. This is being made into a transition booklet that is also on the website and is an introduction to help familiarise your child to their new surroundings.



We are keeping our fingers crossed that the class teachers, I, Mrs Cullen (Pastoral care manager) and Mrs Martin (SENCo) will be able to meet you and your children, in line with the Government guidance, at some point before the summer holidays. We will continue to have ongoing contact with you during the next few weeks and throughout July to communicate any future plans.

The teachers would like to make a telephone call to all of you over the next two weeks to introduce ourselves. This will give you an opportunity to ask us any questions or pass on any information about your child. Instead of a Parents' meeting this term, we will plan to hold one early on in September.



Towards the end of term, we will be posting a 'flat Miss Walker' and 'flat Miss James' with instructions on how the children can take a flat emoji of both teachers with them wherever they go in the holidays! It looks like such fun! I hope you will enjoy this activity.



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Welcome pack

As we did last year, we have a Poster that illustrates what information you will need to read and make note of from our school website. You will also be signposted to the Parent and Pupil handbook that will give you all the information you will need for your child starting at St Michaels.

A Google form is included in the parent pack. You will need to complete this online as soon as possible.

Miss Walker, Miss James or Mrs Prigg can be contacted to answer any questions you may have so please do call us on - 01245 472682 Currently, the school is only open from Monday - Thursday but clearly this may change as the term continues, in line with the Covid-19 situation.

Uniform

Year 3 uniform - we do have second-hand uniform that is in very good condition. We will be selling what we have at a later date. Please come and have a look when we release the date.

Year 3 uniform - in addition to the uniform list in the handbook please ensure your children bring in trainers for outdoor learning and a warm jumper/coat specifically to be used for outdoor learning. These items of clothing may get wet and dirty.

We have created a 'Welcome page' on our website for our new year 3 families. On this page, you will find a 'Junior school ready' list in readiness for September.

Your first day at St Michaels

Thursday 3rd September 2020

- School gates open from 8.40am
- Children and parents/carers wait with their children on the front playground. This will be for the first day only. After that children can come straight into school from 8:40 am.
- At the end of the day the children are led onto the playground by an adult who will ensure they are met by their parent/carer.