

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



Friday 16th July 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

## A message from Mrs Prigg



As always, a very busy end to this academic year but a really joyful one as we have been able to end the term with many of our usual summer activities taking place, although with a difference! Thank you to all the staff and Governors who have been amazing during another very unusual year – they all deserve a well-earned rest over the summer holidays.

I would also like to thank all the parents for their support over this last year and I am very much looking forward to opening our doors far more to you all from September.

Good Luck to all the year 6 children who are leaving St Michael's to start the next stage of their educational journey, we are very proud of them and their achievements and we wish them every success in the future.

## Important dates for your diary

### Summer Term:

**20th July** Last day of term  
**21<sup>st</sup> July** Staff Inset Day

### Autumn Term:

**1<sup>st</sup> September** Staff Inset Day  
**2<sup>nd</sup> September** Children return to school  
**22<sup>nd</sup> October** Staff Inset Day  
**17<sup>th</sup> December** Christmas holidays  
**21<sup>st</sup> February** Staff Inset Day  
**27<sup>th</sup> May** Staff Inset Day  
**6<sup>th</sup> June** Staff Inset Day

### School Uniform

Please look out for a letter reminding parents of the smart school uniform expectations before uniform shopping begins over the summer holidays!

### Our Website

Remember that you can access lots of important information on our website which you may find useful. Please look on <http://st-michaels-jun.essex.sch.uk/> .

### **Amazon Wish List**

If you would like to help the School, have a look at our Amazon wish-list – no gift is too small and every gift is important to us.

You can use the following link in your browser to access our wish list and then log in

<http://amzn.eu/iLEmThI> .

### **St Michael's is a Food Bank Donation Point!**

Year 4 pupils at Community Club have organised for our school to become a place where food items can be donated for the Chelmsford Food Bank. Last week, they set up a stall on the front playground after school and many of you generously donated and kick-started our efforts brilliantly – thank you! These items will be regularly dropped off at the Beehive Lane depot. Donation boxes will be outside Year 4 and in the foyer until the end of term. Items needed at the moment include:

- **SMALL AND MEDIUM JARS OF COFFEE**
- **TINNED RICE PUDDING**
- **SPONGE PUDDINGS**
- **LONG LIFE MILK**
- **TINNED PEAS**
- **TINNED CARROTS**
- **TINNED MIXED VEGETABLES**
- **NON-FOOD ITEMS**
- **TOOTH BRUSHES**
- **TOOTHPASTE**
- **LIQUID SOAP**
- **TOILET ROLLS**
- **MEN'S SHAMPOO**
- **WASHING UP LIQUID**
- **SMALL OR MEDIUM WASHING POWDER, GEL OR LIQUID**

Items can be sent in with your child or dropped off in the foyer. Community Club thank you in advance for your kindness.

### **Safeguarding**

As we come to the last newsletter before the summer holidays, our minds turn to how are we going to keep our children occupied, happy and safe.

**Internet Matters** have put together information for parents on a variety of topics from safely using 'Pokémon Go' to 'Sharing Summer Selfies Safely'. Follow the link below .....

<https://www.internetmatters.org/hub/question/what-can-i-do-to-ensure-my-childs-safety-over-the-summer-break/>

**Beach Safety** – whether you are travelling abroad or having a staycation, keeping safe on the beach is a top priority. Newsround have made an informative news video with all the information you need.....

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/newsround/57257249>

**The 2 Johns** - remember the 2 Johns always have a huge amount of internet safety information including podcasts on a variety of subjects

<https://esafetytraining.org/>

**And finally...** the school website has information helping you report any concerns you have for the safety of any child whilst the schools are closed.

<https://st-michaels-jun.essex.sch.uk/safeguarding-child-protection/>

## **What to do if your child develops symptoms of COVID 19**

If your child develops symptoms of COVID-19, they must not come to school and should remain at home for at least **10 days** from the date when their symptoms appeared. Anyone with symptoms will be eligible for testing and this can be arranged via <https://www.nhs.uk/ask-for-a-coronavirus-test> or by calling 119.

All other household members who remain well, must stay at home and not leave the house for 14 days. This includes anyone in your 'Support Bubble'.

Further information is available at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-households-with-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection>

The 10-day period starts from the day when the first person in the house became ill.

Household members should not go to work, school or public areas and exercise should be taken within the home.

If you require help with buying groceries, other shopping or picking up medication, or walking a dog, you should ask friends or family. Alternatively, you can order your shopping online and medication by phone or online.

Household members staying at home for 10 days will greatly reduce the overall amount of infection the household could pass on to others in the community

If you are able, move any vulnerable individuals (such as the elderly and those with underlying health conditions) out of your home, to stay with friends or family for the duration of the home isolation period.

### **Symptoms**

The most common symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) are recent onset of:

- a new continuous cough
- a high temperature
- a loss of, or change in, your normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia)

**For most people, coronavirus (COVID-19) will be a mild illness.**

If your child does develop symptoms, you can seek advice from the nhs.uk website at <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/check-if-you-have-coronavirus-symptoms/>. If you are concerned about your child's symptoms, or they are worsening you can seek advice from NHS 111 at <https://111.nhs.uk/> or by phoning 111.

**If your child does receive a positive test, please contact the School as soon as possible – you can contact us out of office hours on [covid@st-michaels-jun.essex.sch.uk](mailto:covid@st-michaels-jun.essex.sch.uk)**

### **Lost Property**

Our lost property box in school is currently overflowing! If your child is missing any uniform or items of clothing, please do come and look in the box in the office lobby before the end of term.



### **Time Capsule**

Last week, in our last club session together, Community Club buried a time capsule at the end of the field. In it, the children placed items that they would want children of the future to find for them to learn about life in 2021. They included: information about Covid and the vaccine, photographs of various elements of school life, some food packaging, coins and an array of other things, one being a photograph of Boris Johnson! We said a prayer as we buried it and patched up the field so that it is as good as new. Thank you to Mr Jonathan who was tasked with digging us a big hole in the humidity – we really appreciated it!

### **David Cook Award**

On an annual basis (albeit not last year owing to the school closure) we have awarded a child the David Cook Award which is funded by the Cook family for five years (we are currently in year 3). The David Cook award is linked to English and in particular reading this year. The award and runner up prizes, are awarded to children who have progressed in either their reading ability or their reading behaviours and it has been VERY difficult for the teachers to make their nominations as so many children have progressed with their reading or are now reading for pleasure more because of the periods of Lockdown learning.

We will be announcing the winner and runners up in our final Achievers' assembly next week!

### **Save the Date!**

We are extremely lucky to have a Woodland area at St Michael's which sits just behind the bike shed. All the planned attempts to clear this and the surrounding area have always been delayed owing to Covid-19 restrictions however, as the restrictions lift and as we turn our attention to the Forest School starting again after the October half term, we are hoping that you can help the school clear the site, it is very overgrown!

I am asking if there are any willing parent volunteers who would be prepared to give up any spare time on Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> September to help me clear the site. I will have morning and afternoon slots and will send out more details when we return in September. I do appreciate that your time is precious and that parents are busy people so I would appreciate any help that you would be prepared to offer.

Thank you in advance.  
Mrs Prigg

### Joseph and The Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat

Last week, our wonderful Year 6 pupils staged their very own version of Joseph and boy, what a performance it was! With top-notch singing, glitzy costumes galore, second-to-none dancing and actors to rival those in the West End, I feel quite sure that we have many stars of the future here at St Michael's! Under the expert direction of Mrs Stevens and Mrs Dines and with Mrs Maxwell tinkling the ivories superbly, it really was a treat to behold. We are immensely proud of all that our Year 6 leavers have achieved and they have said that they will never forget the experience of being part of something so brilliant. Well done to all involved!

Ines and Izabelle said: *'After half term, we were told that our production was, 'Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat' and our roles. We were also told that we only had 15 and a half days before the actual thing. Some people were supposed to have smaller roles but stepped up to a larger role when needed. Time passed as everything clicked together like a puzzle. When the day to begin performances arrived most of us were nervous but all of us ended up having a good time. I don't think anyone will forget this moment.'*



### Year 6 Activity Week

Year 6 have had a fun-packed week in school this week to mark the end of their time at St Michael's. Look at these action shots!



### Even more eggs-iting times in the office!

The four chicks that hatched were introduced to their surrogate mum, Silvia the Brahma, on Tuesday night. The first night we were not sure that all the chicks had accepted her as mum, despite Silvia being overjoyed at their appearance and feeling very proud of herself!

By Wednesday evening they knew she was their mum and she has been showing them around their new home.

If you would like to watch a video of one of the chicks hatching follow this link

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zcqflZ2beog>

It is very long video from first crack to stumbling chick, but if you go in by 1 hour and 10 minutes things get exciting. We hope you enjoy it!



### Well done, Tommy!

Tommy in 3J recently took part in a tennis tournament and won all his singles matches and only lost in his first ever doubles match. Tommy did superbly considering he was the youngest there and his tennis club The Grove won against Danbury.



## Sports Day 2021



A wonderful Sports Day afternoon was held on Wednesday this week. Mr Leeding did a grand job of organising us all and what a joy it was to work together as a school, socially distanced in our bubbles, of course! St Patrick children were delighted as their house took the trophy this year – very worthy winners. Congratulations to all. Many examples of great sportsmanship were witnessed by staff- who were hoarse at the end of the day from all the cheering!

## Dinner Menu Next Week

Monday will be week 2 menu.

As Tuesday 20th July is the last day of the school year the Tuck and lunch menus have been changed;

Tuck: PIZZA

Lunch:

Fish fingers

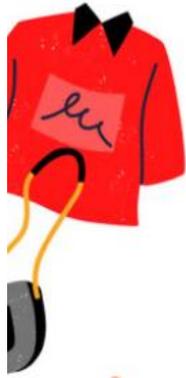
or

Veggie Burger

with Chips and Beans

Milk Shake and Ice Lolly

Jacket Potatoes will of course also be available.



SMASH IS EXCITED TO ANNOUNCE THAT ST MICHAEL'S IS GETTING A

## CLOTHING BANK

PLEASE DONATE YOUR GOOD QUALITY CLOTHING TO RAISE FUNDS FOR SMASH.



We can accept clothing, paired shoes, bedding, bags, towels and soft toys.

Please do not donate duvets, pillows or any items that are unwearable

Please look out for more details after Easter



# SUMMER CAMP

Boys & Girls 5-11 Years of age  
St Michael's Junior School, Galleywood, CM2 8RR

- Football
- Netball
- Basketball
- Treasure Hunt
- Dance
- Movies
- Arts & Crafts
- Nature Trail
- Volleyball
- Archery
- Board Games

**SUMMER CAMP**  
FUN IN THE SUN

Monday 26<sup>th</sup> July to Friday 13<sup>th</sup> August  
9am – 3pm Daily

£25 Per day  
To book please email: [funinthesunbookings@outlook.com](mailto:funinthesunbookings@outlook.com)

## Times Table RockStars Results for this fortnight:

### **imes Tables Rockstar Leaderboard – Week ending 02.07.21**

	<b>First</b>	<b>Second</b>	<b>Third</b>
<b>Year 3 most improved</b>	Analia G	Ray D	Amaya K
<b>Year 3 most correct answers</b>	Radinu W	Tommy G	Ray D
<b>Year 4 most improved</b>	Somah L	Kadi L	Amelia C
<b>Year 4 most correct answers</b>	Joseph N	Scarlet WN	Somah L
<b>Year 5 most improved</b>	Max H	Ethan R	Marley C
<b>Year 5 most correct answers</b>	Isaac M	Max H	Ethan R
<b>Year 6 most improved</b>	Jessica S	Jack H	Lydia R
<b>Year 6 most correct answers</b>	Jack H	Jessica S	Izabelle S

Year 3	300
Year 4	262
Year 5	219
Year 6	212

### **Times Tables Rockstar Leaderboard – Week ending 09.07.21**

	<b>First</b>	<b>Second</b>	<b>Third</b>
<b>Year 3 most improved</b>	Chloe G	Alfie LS	Ronni A
<b>Year 3 most correct answers</b>	Radinu W	Tommy G	Analia G
<b>Year 4 most improved</b>	Sadie R	Lily P	Alice B
<b>Year 4 most correct answers</b>	Caleb O	Finn WN	Scarlet WN
<b>Year 5 most improved</b>	Megan S	Max J	
<b>Year 5 most correct answers</b>	Isaac M	Megan S	Ethan R
<b>Year 6 most improved</b>	Izzy S	Jess S	
<b>Year 6 most correct answers</b>	Milly S	Jess S	Izzy S

Year 4	223
Year 3	231
Year 6	191
Year 5	92

It is hard to believe that we are nearly at the end of term and that this is the last newsletter of this academic year. And what a year it has been for so many different reasons. We have been and remain so proud of our pupils and the resilience that they have shown. In addition, the way that we have worked together in challenging circumstances as a school community – our staff, governors, parents and pupils - really is noteworthy.

A special goodbye to all of our Year 6 pupils who we wave off as they move on to pastures new and wonderful adventures ahead. We know they will dazzle their new teachers and we wish them the very best of luck.

Have a wonderful summer making memories with your children. Take great care and we look forward to seeing you all again in September.

Yours sincerely,

*Mrs Orton*