

St. Michael's CE (VA) Junior School



Friday 7th October 2022

Dear Parents/Carers,



To all year 6 Parents

Secondary School applications – Year 7 – 2023-2024

Please note that the statutory national closing date for applications is 31st October 2022. Applications can be made online via www.essex.gov.uk/admissions.

Please look out for the Secondary School Open Evenings which begin soon – please visit the Secondary School's website for this information.

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/iEmThI>.

Important dates for your diary

Autumn Term:

12 th October	Parents' Evening (3:40-7pm)
13 th October	Parents' Evening (3:40-6pm)
19 th October	Harvest Festival at St Michael's Church (10am)
21 st October	Times Tables Rock Star day
24 th October	Half-term
31 st October	Children return to school
31 st October	Tempest photography – Years 3, 5 and 6
4 th November	Tempest photography – year 4
11 th November	Remembrance Service
14 th November	Anti-bullying week
18 th November	Children in Need
20 th November	World Cup begins
23 rd November	Year 5 parent meeting regarding 2023 Year 6 residential
30 th November	St Andrew's Day
7 th December	Year 4 Christmas Production 5pm
8 th December	Year 4 Christmas Production 2pm
14 th December	Christmas Lunch
14 th December	Wear a Christmas hat day in aid of Brain Tumour Research
15 th December	Christmas Carol Service at St Michael's Church (10am)
20 th December	Last day of Autumn term

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/> .

Safeguarding

ZEPETO

We would like to raise your awareness about a popular App called ZEPETO.

<https://www.internetmatters.org/hub/news-blogs/what-is-the-zepeto-app-what-parents-need-to-know/>

It's an app where users can create an avatar, play games and post videos and messages that can be seen by friends and strangers. Users can also post photos. Unfortunately, there doesn't appear to be great security, safety procedures or parental controls that can be applied to stop anyone contacting the user.

There is a 'craze' on the app by where a user will post a photo of their face, body or both and create a 'face/body reveal' – they entice people to follow them by revealing small pieces of the photo when reaching certain amounts of likes. As you can imagine the photos need to be provocative to gain the likes.

Intergenerational Work – St Michael's as the hub for Galleywood's Dementia Friendly Community

- Intergenerational Community Club restarted this week (with some new members too) and plans are underway to get involved with even more community projects this year.
- The Community Clubbers are going to be joining forces with the Food Bank, the Wednesday Fellowship group at St Michael's Church and other plans are in the pipeline. Our young people can have a real impact on our local community.
- Mark from the Alzheimer's Society is joining the children in school for a Dementia Friends session on Wednesday 12th October.
- Class 5J are off to Manor Lodge on Tuesday 11th October to meet residents for the first time in a 'getting to know each other' session.
- If you know of any local community projects that our young people could get involved in, please speak to Mrs Orton on the playground or via the office.

TTRS Day – Lunchtime prize up for grabs!

Our lovely ladies in the kitchen will be running a 'sticker on a plate' competition on Friday 21st October (TTRS Day in school) for those children having a hot meal. The prize will be maths stationery.

Dinner Menu

Next week's menu will be week 3.

Food Bank Donations – we are starting to collect donations for our Harvest celebration in the Church – please send in any donations from Monday 10th October. Thank you.

Thank you for all of your food bank donations to date. We are continuing to collect via our boxes in the front foyer and the following items are currently required: We will also be collecting for the Food Bank for our Harvest Festival this year.

FOOD ITEMS

- TINNED RICE (PUDDING)
- LONG LIFE MILK
- COFFEE - SMALL/MEDIUM JARS
- INSTANT MASH POTATO (PACKETS AND MEDIUM BOXES)
- SPONGE PUDDINGS
- SWEETS AND CHOCOLATE BARS
- TINNED FRUIT
- TINNED FISH
- TINNED POTATOES
- CUSTARD - TINNED AND SACHETS
- TINNED MEAT
- BAKED BEANS
- JAMS/PRESERVES
- BISCUITS
- FRUIT SQUASH
- BREAKFAST CEREAL
- SOUP
- PULSES
- TINNED SPAGHETTI
- TINNED VEGETABLES
- TEABAGS - 40 OR 80
- UHT FRUIT JUICE
- UHT MILK
- RICE

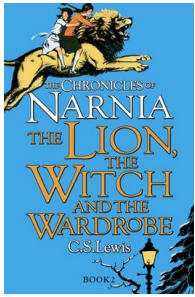
NON-FOOD ITEMS

- SHAMPOO - MENS AND LADIES
- SHOWER GEL - MENS AND LADIES
- DEODORANT - LADIES
- NAPPIES - SIZE 5 AND LARGER
- TOILET ROLLS
- CLEANING MATERIALS

We will also be collecting for the Food Bank for our Harvest Festival this year – more details on this are to follow.

All Things Reading!

Year 3 Recommends...



Four adventurous siblings—Peter, Susan, Edmund, and Lucy— step through a wardrobe door and into the land of Narnia, a land frozen in eternal winter and enslaved by the power of the White Witch. But when almost all hope is lost, the return of the Great Lion, Aslan, signals a great change . . . and a great sacrifice.

Library update

- We have some wonderful librarians joining us on a voluntary basis to help to man the library and keep the system ticking over – we are very grateful for this support.
- Do you know a storyteller? We would love to have some storytelling visitors to St Michael's. Please contact the office with any recommendations.

Galleywood Library

The following regular activities on at Galleywood Library on Saturdays are:

Saturday Crafts – 10am-12pm – come and make a simple craft

Block Builders – 2-4pm – come and create something with Duplo or Lego

(Every first Saturday of the month) **Saturday Story Time** 10.30 – 11am – come and listen to some stories.

Tuesday 25th October (half term) – 2.30 – 4.30 – World Inside a Book – celebrating the stories of Julia Donaldson with a trail, crafts and story time. No need to book, free drop in session

Our Values Champions

Value Award

Name _____ Class _____



Value Award

Name _____ Class _____



Value Award

Name _____ Class _____



Value Award

Name _____ Class _____



Congratulations to the following children who received a St Michael's Value Award over the last fortnight:

These children have received a 'Love' Value Award:

Alfie (5J), Promise (3R), George (3R)

These children have received a 'Courage' Value Award:

Harry (5J) Aaron (5J) Finley (5J) Harry (5J) Emma S (5J) Grace (5J) Charlotte (5J) Analia (5J) Zak (5J) Anika (5J) Gabriella (3R)

SMASH – St Michael's PTA

As many of you know, most of our successful SMASH committee members have decided to step down from their roles on the committee for a variety of reasons – we thank them for all of their efforts.

I am pleased to say that I have already had several parents show an interest in joining the committee, thank you in advance. If there are any other parents who feel they can give up some of their time to share ideas and help with events, please can you drop your contact details at the office for Mrs Prigg.

As it stands for now, I will communicate with parents about our plans and how we intend to spend the raised funds to benefit all of the children. These can be discussed at the first committee meeting but for now, we are already looking to spend a small amount of the raised funds on two more ipads and an interactive board for the music room – all of the children enjoy music lessons, fortnightly, taught by Mrs Maxwell. In addition, there are previous projects to discuss at the first meeting and the idea of purchasing a gigantic, interactive timeline for the playground fence which will tie in with our foundation subjects and the Learning Journeys that the children interact with in the classrooms. Other ideas to discuss may be additional playground equipment and the Woodland area.

Times Table Rockstar Results

Times Tables Rockstar Leader board – Week ending 30.09.22

	First	Second	Third
Year 3 most improved	Zakariya H	Evy J	Jack U
Year 3 most correct answers	Zakariya H	Vinnie M	Hannah J
Year 4 most improved	Finley C	Benjamin M	David B
Year 4 most correct answers	Nyren I	Ennis C	Florence K
Year 5 most improved	Ethan V		
Year 5 most correct answers	Radinu W	Giselle B	Analia G
Year 6 most improved	Dylan TW	Scarlet WN	
Year 6 most correct answers	Dylan TW	Scarlet WN	Roshni B

Year 5	57
Year 4	54
Year 3	35
Year 6	17

Norfolk 2022

Year Six have returned from a wonderful week away in Norfolk. Staying at 'The Pleasance' hotel in Overstrand, they went out on coastal walks (in the day and at night), steered boats along the Broads, observed seals on Blakeney Point and danced until they dropped at the end of the week disco! They experienced all types of weather during the week, smiled their way through it all and had the most amazing time. The children were enthusiastic, energetic and an absolute credit to you. In fact, members of the public commented on their exemplary behaviour and impeccable manners. Superstars!



Another busy fortnight in school – the time has whizzed by! We have enjoyed using our new cycle track during our Daily Mile slots and have been making the most of the autumnal sunshine during this time. It was great to welcome in so many parents of our Year 3 children last week and we look forward to seeing more of you during Parent Consultations next week.

Have a restful weekend.

Yours sincerely,
Mrs Orton