

St. Michael's CE (VA) Junior School



Friday 10th February 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

A message from Mrs Prigg



I am really proud to say that the children have been singing their hearts out in Singing Worship this half term, Mrs Maxwell and I have been really impressed and their beautiful singing has been heard from one end of the school to the other.

Thank you to all the parents who attended Parents' Evening this week, it was lovely to see and hear from so many of you – I hope you have a wonderful half term and let's hope we start to feel a little warmth in the weather!

Important dates for your diary

Spring Term:

13th February	Half-term
20th February	INSET Day
21st February	Children return to school
22nd February	Ash Wednesday service in school (pupils and teachers only)
1st March	St David's Day
2nd March	World Book Day – Details below
16th March	Red Nose Day
17th March	St Patrick's Day
29th March	Year 4 parent meetings regarding Mersea residential (2pm and 5pm)
30th March	Easter Service at St Michael's Church (10am)
31st March	Last day of Spring term

Dinner Menu

The menu after half term will be week 1 of the new Spring menu.

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

Online Child Sexual Exploitation

Law enforcement agencies arrest around 400 people and safeguard 600 children in the UK every month through their efforts to combat online CSE.

In 2019 (last data available) the police recorded over 15,000 CSE related crimes.

Do you know what your child is doing online? Please look at the resource below and ensure your child is safe.

https://www.internetmatters.org/?gclid=EAlaIQobChMIsvWJyfLn_AIVmpntCh3jQAC8EAAYASAAEgJXJvD_BwE

Children's Mental Health Week

Place2Be's Children's Mental Health Week 2023 is taking place from 6-12 February 2023. This year's theme is Let's Connect. In school we have taken part in a special assembly and looked at how connecting with others supports everyone's mental health. The assembly also looked at inspirational children who have achieved good things across the world. For more information and advice on supporting your child's mental health please visit:

<https://www.childrensmentalhealthweek.org.uk/about/>

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

5J continue to enjoy their half termly visits to Manor Lodge and have restarted 'Paint Pals' with them in between visits.

The Intergenerational Community Club have come up with their own mini action plan. Our next project is to set up a book swapping store in school, similar to the telephone box library on Pipers Tye. We are off to visit the telephone box after half term to get some tips on how to make this a success!

Attendance

Well done to 5J for the highest attendance this week.

Food Bank Donations

A message from Chelmsford Food Bank:

'Our foodbank relies on your goodwill and support. Our very sincere thanks to the very generous people of Chelmsford. We have had a lot of donations which we are in the process of sorting. To help us with this, we would ask you to hold back on donating for a while. We will update our website when we are able to accept donations again. The use of foodbanks has gone up and we foresee this continuing.'

Our Values Champions

Value Award



Value Award



Value Award



Value Award



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: Edmund (3R)

These children have received a 'Respect' Value Award: Isla (3R) Teddy (6S)

These children have received a 'Faith' Value Award: Bella (4MB)

These children have received a 'Courage' Value Award: Freya (3R) Sam H (6S)

Times Table Rockstar Results

Times Tables Rockstar Leader board – Week ending 03.02.23

	First	Second	Third
Year 3 most improved	Zara B	Estelle A	Freya WR
Year 3 most correct answers	Bradley S	Zakariya H	Jack R
Year 4 most improved	Bertie C	Olivia W	Grace C
Year 4 most correct answers	Harry B	Isabella S	Florence K
Year 5 most improved	Izzy H	Chloe S	Aaron M
Year 5 most correct answers	Radinu W	Izzy H	Giselle B
Year 6 most improved	Noah H	Caleb O	Finn WN
Year 6 most correct answers	Scarlet WN	Finn WN	Noah H

Year 6	331
Year 5	325
Year 3	301
Year 4	124

Book Adventure for Half Term

As part of Book Week, 'Chelmsford For You' is running a Book Adventure again this half-term (13th February - 17th February 2023)

Like last year, they will be hiding 10 books every day in various shops in the city centre. If a child finds a book, it is theirs to keep and they can also enter a draw to win £500 worth of books for their school!

If you have any queries regarding the event, please get in touch with 'Chelmsford For You' at info@chelmsfordforyou.co.uk or via phone 01245 260009.

All Things Reading!

World Book Day 2023

We will be celebrating World Book Day as a school community on **Thursday 2nd March 2023**.

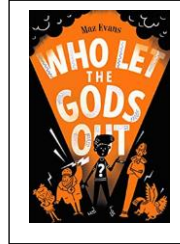
For that day, we would like all the children to make their **favourite book character using a fruit or a vegetable** and bring it to school that morning. These can be as simple or elaborate as you wish! An easier option would be to 'dress' a potato in some way; if your child fancies a real challenge then they could create a whole scene from their favourite book using fruit and vegetable sculpture! There will be prizes up for grabs and the children will get to look at the characters made by other classes.

Please speak to your child's teacher or myself if you have any questions regarding this.

In addition, look out for a task linked to World Book Day in February on your child's homework sheet – they will be asked to design a poster featuring a quotation from their favourite book.

There will be lots of bookish activities happening in school that day – it promises to be a real celebration of reading.

Year 6 Recommends...



'Who Let The Gods Out?' by Maz Evans

When Elliot wishes upon a star, he doesn't expect a constellation to crash into a dung-heap on his family farm.

The star is Virgo. She thinks she's perfect. Elliot doesn't. And together they release Thanatos, evil Daemon of Death ... epic fail.

They need the King of the Gods and his noble steed. Instead, they get a chubby Zeus and his high horse Pegasus.

Are the Gods really ready to save the world? And is the world really ready for the Gods?

Galleywood Library

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

Saturday Crafts: 10am-12pm

Block Builders: 2-4pm

Year 4 Superstars!

Year 4 pupils attended the 'Superstars' sporting event yesterday. St Michael's came 3rd out of five schools and we have a lovely certificate to prove it!. Nyren managed to come in second place in the boys category which is a fantastic achievement. Well done to all involved.



St Michael's Sports Report

Some of our year, three boys and girls attended a Football tournament at Great Baddow High school. They played four matches and won them all and therefore won the whole tournament! They all received a gold medal each.



Well done to them all, Mr Evans has said they were a credit to the school.

Here are 6S making Greek amphora pots with air dried clay. They used a coiling method



This Fortnight's Prayer (written by one of the children)

Dear God
We thank you for
family
and hope
and respect

It was lovely to see so many of you at Parent Consultations and One Plan meetings this week – it has been a very busy week in school for all.

Another half term completed and we are now officially half way through this school year!

I wish you all a wonderful half term break.

Yours sincerely,
Mrs Orton