

# St Michael's C of E VA Primary School

Current core Christian value:  
LOVE



'Do unto others as you  
would have them do to you'  
(Luke 6:31)

'We believe we can achieve'

As a Church School we seek to ensure that the ethos and principles of Christianity underpin the experiences of the children in our care.

8 September 2017

Newsletter No 1

## Expectations

At the beginning of every new school year we re-establish routines and remind the children of the high expectations for the year ahead.

We also work hard to improve the standards of dress and school uniform. Therefore we set out below a brief summary of our uniform expectations for your information.

- We expect the children to look smart and to keep their shirts tucked in, to reflect a positive image of the school.
- Children should wear shoes and not trainers to school and they keep these on in class. They will need a pair of trainers or plimsolls for PE.
- Children with shoulder length or longer hair should have it tied up for school in blue or white hair ties.
- Haircuts should be appropriate to school uniform (ie no tramlines/patterns shaved into the hair).
- For children with pierced ears, only plain studs should be worn to school and these must be removed or covered in tape for PE. If your child finds it difficult to remove earrings, it would be better if they were not worn on PE days.
- Watches can be worn by children, but they do need to be removed for PE and it is the children's responsibility to look after their own possessions.
- No other jewellery or wrist bands should be worn to school.
- No nail varnish or transfers should be worn to school.

## This newsletter covers:

- Expectations
- Safeguarding
- Out of school achievements
- Breakfast club
- Communication with the Office
- Playground Safety
- Church information
- Medical appointments
- Club letters
- Lunchtime tennis club
- Secondary School 2018

## Safeguarding

The safety of every child remains our priority. To support us with this, could we please remind all parents:

- No child below Year 6 should be dropped off before school unaccompanied. You (or a nominated adult) should remain with your child until the school doors open at 8.45am.
- Children will not be released at the end of the school day until you (or a nominated adult) have arrived to collect them.
- Any Year 6 child walking to or from school unaccompanied can only do so with written consent from parents.
- If you make alternative collection arrangements for your child, please ensure the name of the nominated adult is given to the member of staff on the door (either site).
- Please do not telephone the office with these changes of arrangement unless absolutely necessary as messages cannot always be delivered in time for the end of day pick-up.

### Club Letters

The clubs timetable is on the school website (parent tab, forms) along with all the respective forms for joining.

The dates for clubs starting and finishing are marked on this timetable so please do make a note of these dates so that your child has their appropriate kit/change of clothes for each club.

**Should any after school club be cancelled, the provider will let you know directly using the contact number shown on your child's registration form.**

### Lunchtime Tennis Club

You will see from the clubs timetable on the website that the mini tennis club, run by Winning Start Tennis was due to start on 12 September. We have been informed that this will now start on 19 September and run for 10 weeks.

The children who have just joined us in Reception will be having a taster session with the tennis coach on the same day (after the regular lunch club has finished). Mrs Claridge will then send home letters, inviting you to sign your child up for the remainder of the course, should they wish to join (you would only be charged for the remaining 9 sessions).

### Church Information

Reverend Padley has advised that St Michael's parish is running several opportunities for adult learning and reflection in the next few months. A flyer is attached to this newsletter, under separate cover, for your information.

The church are also looking for somebody with advertising/marketing experience who would be willing to give assistance to the editors of Parish News in developing the advertising revenue, contacting new business opportunities and being part of the editorial team. You would be working from home, perhaps two or three hours per month and need to be fully computer literate. If you think that this is for you, please contact the editor, Sandie North by email ([sandrich2@btinternet.com](mailto:sandrich2@btinternet.com)) by 30 September 2017.

### Breakfast Club

We are pleased to be back and would like to welcome all our children, especially the new reception children.



The breakfast club is already full for this term but, if you would like to put your child's name on our waiting list, please email [denise.perchard@sky.com](mailto:denise.perchard@sky.com).

### Playground Safety

As part of our commitment to keeping children safe, may we politely request that all pre-school siblings are supervised at all times when they are on the school playground.

We have been advised that, in the past, some young children have been playing on the school equipment at Lower School. As tempting as this is for small children, this equipment is for the sole use of the St Michael's pupils for insurance purposes.

All children should also refrain from playing on the 'snug' play equipment at Top School out of school hours.

Scooters and bicycles should also remain off the playground at all times, unless being wheeled to and from the bike racks.

### Out of School Achievements (required by end of school day on Thursdays)

Meera in Cats class successfully took part in the 'Animal Agents' summer reading challenge and received a certificate and medal to celebrate.

### Secondary School 2018

Applications for secondary school places opened on 1 September for all our year 6 children.

We have sent home a 'Moving On 2018' leaflet to support you with your application. You will be able to apply on-line by visiting [www.hertsdirect.org/admissions](http://www.hertsdirect.org/admissions). Please note that the **closing date for applications is 31 October** and all paper applications should be sent direct to the Admissions and Transport Team, not the school office.

We are aware that our Year 6 children could be visiting prospective secondary schools, during their open days. If you wish to take your child on one of these visits, please let the school office know, so that the registers can be marked accordingly.

If your child normally has a school dinner, please ensure that their choice for the day of their visit is recorded with the office, if they will be returning in time for lunch, as orders have to be placed before 9.30am each day.

### Medical appointments

We should be grateful if any non-urgent medical appointments could be made out of school hours, to reduce the amount of disruption to the classes when children are arriving and leaving during lessons.

We do understand that these appointments can be difficult to obtain. If this is the case, an early morning or later afternoon appointment would be preferable, to minimise this disruption as much as possible.

Parents are also requested to put any appointment dates in writing, prior to the event, either by letter or email.

### Communication with School Office

The school office is open from 8.30am-4.30pm every day.

Should you need to contact the office for any reason, please either call in during the above hours, email on [admin@stmichaels.herts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@stmichaels.herts.sch.uk) or telephone on 01727 854866. The answer machine is checked regularly so, if the telephone cannot be answered straightaway, please leave a message.

Any correspondence for the office can be handed in to the member of staff on the door at either site or put through the letter box at Top School. The letter box is emptied regularly every day, so please post any letters and/or payments through the door, to avoid having to wait for the staff to answer the entry buzzer.

If you are not sure what day a club is running or what date they begin and finish, please check the school website, parents tab, forms, where you will find the clubs timetable for this term. Any clubs marked 'tbc' have not yet started. This information will be communicated to parents and children, once the decision has been made.

### Checklist of Letters sent home over the last two weeks - **PLEASE CHECK BOOKBAGS**

Title	Class	Via
Moving On leaflet	Year 6	Paper copy
School meal invoices	School meal children in years 3-6	Paper copy

**Please contact the school office if you did not receive one of the above letters.**

Date of next newsletter: 22 September 2017

## Diary Dates – Autumn Term 2017

Date	Event
Monday 11 September 3.00pm	Meet the Teacher – Ants and Bees classes
Monday 11 September 1.45pm	Eagles class begin swimming lessons
Tuesday 12 September 3.15pm	Meet the Teacher – Cats class
Wednesday 13 September 3.15pm	Meet the Teacher – Dolphins class
Thursday 14 September 3.15pm	Meet the Teacher – Eagles class
Saturday 23 September	Butterfly World fair in the school hall
Friday 29 September 9.00am	Cats parent sharing assembly
Wednesday 4 October 9.30am	School photographer in for class photographs
Wednesday 11 October 9.00am	Harvest celebration in church
Friday 13 October 9.00am	Bees parent sharing assembly
Week commencing 16 October	Parent consultation evenings (exact dates to be confirmed)
Monday 23 October-Friday 27 October	Half term break
Monday 30 October	Staff INSET day – No children in school
Friday 3 November 9.00am	Eagles parent sharing assembly
Friday 10 November 9.00am	Ants parent sharing assembly
Friday 24 November 9.00am	Dolphins parent sharing assembly
Wednesday 29 November	Flu vaccination programme (Reception-Year 4)
Tuesday 12 December 9.30am	Ants and Bees production
<b>Thursday 14 December 2.30pm</b>	<b>Ants and Bees production</b>
Monday 18 December	Children's Christmas lunch
Monday 18 December	Children's Theatre company in school – Treasure Island
Tuesday 19 December 9.00am	Christmas church service
<b>Tuesday 19 December 2.00pm</b>	<b>End of term</b>

- Further details regarding each event will be sent out nearer the time.
- Unless stated otherwise, all events are held at Top School.
- **Events annotated in red involve Ants and Bees children being collected from Top School.**



***Please write these dates in your diary or stick them on your fridge. School life is very busy and we don't want anybody missing out on the fun!***