

# St Michael's C of E VA Primary School

Current core Christian value:  
FRIENDSHIP



'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.

9 September 2016

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 I 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
- Staffing News
- Meet the Teacher Meetings
- Thank you from Miss McCann
- Out of School Achievements
- Breakfast Club
- Parish News Subscription
- Church Information
- Meet Your Governors
- Parking
- Secondary School Moving On
- Pottery Exhibition

## Staffing News

Due to personal family reasons, Miss Davé has not been able to take up her post at St Michael's as Cats class teacher, covering Miss McCann's maternity leave.

I am pleased to be able to inform you that Mr Andrew Emeny has agreed to share the teaching in Cats Class with Mrs Webb until the end of the autumn term.

Most of you will already know Mr Emeny as the interim Headteacher at St Michael's during the spring and summer terms of 2015. Mr Emeny is highly experienced and knows the children of St Michael's well so is ideally suited to the post.

I am sure you will make Mr Emeny feel welcome as he returns to St Michael's.

## Meet the Teacher Meetings

There will be an opportunity for you to meet your child's teacher at a short meeting, to look at expectations and routines for the year ahead. These take place in the classroom and they will finish in time for you to collect any other children at the end of the day. **However, should your meeting run over the allotted time, any children in other classes will wait with their class teacher until you arrive to collect them.**

The dates and times for these meetings are as follows:

**Monday 12 September at 1.00pm - Ants**  
**Monday 12 September at 3.00pm – Bees**  
**Wednesday 14 September at 3.00pm – Eagles\***  
**Wednesday 14 September at 3.00pm – Cats\***  
**Thursday 15 September at 3.00pm - Dolphins**

These meetings have been very well received by parents in the past but we do realise that it may not be possible for everyone to attend. Therefore, in addition, we will continue to send out class newsletters each term, the first of which will contain much of the information discussed at these meetings.

There will not be time to discuss individual children at these meetings but you will have an opportunity to discuss your child's progress with his/her teacher at the Parent Consultation Evenings to be held during the week commencing 31 October. Further details regarding these meetings will be sent out nearer the time. Should you have something you wish to discuss with your child's teacher before then, please arrange an appointment either by telephoning the office or writing a note to the teacher concerned.

***\*class teachers will speak directly to parents who have children in both these classes as to how to manage the afternoon.***

## Breakfast Club



We are pleased to be back with a lovely new kitchen in the Parish Centre, and we would like to welcome all our children, especially the new reception children.

The breakfast club is already full for this term and we can only accept ad hoc bookings for Friday mornings. The cost of an ad hoc session is £6.50 per child.

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).

Many of our breakfast club families also need after school childcare. If you are a childminder and would like to give us your contact details, we would be happy to pass these on to the interested parents.

## Thank you

I would just like to say a huge thank you to all of the lovely end of term gifts I received. Myself and my partner were touched by the kindness of your gifts for our baby. So far we have bought a lovely change bag and mat with the vouchers we received, and are intending to buy some more bits when we know what else he needs! I wish all children at St Michael's a successful first week back, and look forward to popping in to see them all once baby is here.

Miss McCann

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

Alex in Cats class achieved his 100m swimming badge over the holidays, moving him up to Stage 5.

Several children took part in the Summer Reading Challenge, entitled 'The Big Friendly Read'. Well done to Meera and Toby in Cats, as well as Emily in Eagles.

William S in Dolphins came 2<sup>nd</sup> in a 'Junior Handler' dog competition with 'Monty', his long-haired daschund, against 8 other dogs. 'Monty' really enjoyed competing with William!

## Parish News Subscription

The Parish News is a small monthly magazine of St Michael's church which focuses on church and community related events.

We are looking to widen our readership and warmly welcome any new subscribers – an annual subscription of 10 issues is available for £6. A copy of our September magazine is available at the office for your perusal.

If you are interested in subscribing to the Parish News or would like to submit a written contribution we would be delighted to hear from you.

Please contact Linda Withington by email. [lmwithington@gmail.com](mailto:lmwithington@gmail.com)

## Church Information

Rev Padley would like to inform parents of two one-off events happening in Church this term.

Information sheets regarding these events are attached to this parentmail, separate to this newsletter.

### Meet Your Governors

The governors would like to invite all parents and carers (pre-schoolers welcome) to have a cup of tea and a chat from 2.30pm to 3.15pm on Wednesday 21 September in the Parish Centre

We do hope to see as many as possible there. We will be very pleased to meet you.

### Secondary School 2017

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

We have sent home a 'Moving On 2017' 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.

### Pottery Exhibition

There is an exhibition of ceramics on display at the Kingsbury Barn this weekend.

An information sheet is attached to this parentmail, for your information.

### Parking

As you will all be aware, the school takes a very serious view on inconsiderate and dangerous parking outside both sites.

We have sent numerous requests to parents to use the 10 minute free voucher for the NCP car park or the designated 2 hour free slots in St Michael's village for parking when dropping and collecting children. Parking outside either Lower School or Top School is highly dangerous and severely compromises the safety of our children.

We work very closely with the police regarding this matter and they have advised the school to send them any registration numbers of cars parking inconsiderately outside either site, so that they can follow this up for us. This will continue this year.

May we politely request that all parents adhere to this request, at all times, so that we can be assured that our children remain safe outside the school.

Any parent wishing to use the NCP car park can collect a voucher from the school office.

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

| Title                         | Class  | Via        |
|-------------------------------|--------|------------|
| After School Booster Sessions | Year 6 | Paper copy |
| Moving On 2017                | Year 6 | Paper copy |
|                               |        |            |
|                               |        |            |

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

Date of next newsletter: 23 September 2016

## Diary Dates – Autumn Term 2016

| Date  | Event  |
|---|--|
| Monday 12 September 1.00pm  | Meet the Teacher – Ants parents                      |
| Monday 12 September 3.00pm  | Meet the Teacher – Bees parents                      |
| Wednesday 14 September 3.00pm   | Meet the Teacher – Cats parents                      |
| Thursday 15 September 3.00pm  | Meet the Teacher – Dolphins parents                  |
| Thursday 15 September 8.45am  | Second hand uniform sale – Lower School playground   |
| Thursday 15 September 3.30pm  | Second hand uniform sale – Top School playground     |
| Friday 16 September 3.00pm  | Meet the Teacher – Eagles parents                    |
| Wednesday 21 September 2.30pm   | Meet the Governors in the Parish Centre              |
| Thursday 22 September (eve)   | Welcome drinks for new parents with the PTA          |
| Friday 23 September 9.00am  | Ants assembly to parents                             |
| Wednesday 28 September 6.15pm   | PTA AGM  |
| Friday 30 September 9.00am  | Bees assembly to parents                             |
| Tuesday 4 October 2.00pm  | Abbey Harvest Celebration                            |
| Wednesday 5 October 9.00am  | Harvest festival in church                           |
| Thursday 6 October  | Photographer in School for class photos              |
| Friday 7 October 9.00am   | Eagles assembly to parents                           |
| Friday 21 October 9.00am  | Dolphins assembly to parents                         |
| Monday 24 October-Friday 28 October   | Half term break                                      |
| Week commencing 31 October  | Parent consultation evenings (dates to be confirmed) |
| Thursday 3 November   | Around the World workshops for Ants, Bees and Cats   |
| Friday 11 November  | Nasal flu vaccinations for Years 1, 2 and 3          |
| Friday 18 November  | Cats assembly to parents                             |
|   |  |
| <p><b>Please note – future dates regarding our Christmas calendar of activities will be issued nearer the time.</b></p> |  |
|   |  |
|   |  |

- 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!***