

# St Michael's C of E VA Primary School

Current core Christian value:  
RESPONSIBILITY



'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.

13 January 2017

Newsletter No 1

Happy New Year to all our families.

We hope you all had an enjoyable Christmas break.

## Snow closure

This morning saw our first experience of snow this year and we, therefore, followed our policy for informing parents of our decision to keep the school open.

- We sent a message via Everbridge (the new school notification system) so that they could send our message out to all parents who had registered. Unfortunately, Everbridge called the office this morning to inform us that our registration had been confused with St Michael's Primary in Bishop's Stortford. This means that, on this occasion, our message would not have reached you by this method. We have been assured that this error has now been rectified by the provider and any future messages sent by us via Everbridge will be delivered to you all.
- We sent a message via parentmail.
- We posted a message on the home page of the website.

Should any parent have found themselves in the position this morning of not knowing whether the school was open or not, please contact the school office so that we can confirm the best method of communication, in these circumstances in the future.

## This newsletter covers:

- Snow closure
- Out of School Achievements
- Message from Mr Emeny
- Breakfast Club
- Attendance
- Admission to Communion
- Sainsbury's Active Kids
- School Meal invoices

## Message from Mr Emeny

Dear children, parents, staff and governors

I wanted to express my sincere gratitude to you all for your cards, gifts and words of encouragement at the end of last term. I imagine it must be quite rare for a one-time headteacher to return after such a very short break in order to take up a teaching post at the same school. However, I can honestly say that not once have I regretted saying 'yes' to Mrs Rafferty's invitation and I thoroughly enjoyed my second spell working with you all. That in itself says so much about the school, its ethos and the people who have such strong connections with St Michael's. Thank you again for the kindness you have shown me and I wish you all a very happy and blessed 2017.

Andrew Emeny

## Attendance

We are continually striving to achieve an attendance level of over 97%, as research tells us that attendance has a direct impact on progress. During the second half of the autumn term we achieved an attendance of 95.6%. Whilst this was lower than we had hoped, we do realise that this was due to a slightly higher level of illness just before Christmas.

We are pleased to announce that Bees class achieved the highest attendance for last half term and every child in that class has received a sticker for their reward card.

Ants – 93.9%  
Bees – 96.6%  
Cats – 96.5%  
Dolphins – 95.1%  
Eagles – 96.0%

All children across the school who achieved 100% attendance have been given a Head Teacher's sticker for their reward card.

Well done everybody!

## Breakfast Club



It's been a really busy start to the term at Breakfast club! We are still very full most days, but can sometimes fit in an ad hoc booking (not on Tuesdays though) and we always have spaces on Fridays.

We are still looking for a new staff member so if you know of anyone who might be interested, please ask them to contact [denise.perchard@sky.com](mailto:denise.perchard@sky.com)

## Admission to Communion

St Michael's church annual Admission to Communion class for children aged 7 and above will be running early in the new year (4 x 1 hour sessions, probably on a Sunday afternoon). Some children and parents have already spoken to Reverend Padley about this but, if you are interested or want to find out more, please contact him:

[kennethpadley@gmail.com](mailto:kennethpadley@gmail.com)

## Christmas Jumper Day

You will recall that, just before Christmas, we joined in with the national Christmas Jumper Day, in support of Save the Children.

We are delighted to say that we raised £95.38 towards the charity.

Thank you to everybody for taking part.

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

Henry in Ants class was awarded a medal for taking part in ski sessions at the Snow Centre in Hemel Hempstead.

Jasmine in Dolphins class was part of a dance team who came 3<sup>rd</sup> in a dance competition.

## Sainsbury's Active Kids

The Sainsbury's Active Kids 2017 initiative is launched on 25 January 2017.

Please bring any vouchers into school and either pass them to the member of staff on the door each morning or post them in the box in the porch area at the side of Top School.

Many thanks for supporting us with this. It has proved to be very popular for us each year and the children have benefited from a range of new toys and equipment.



## School Meal Invoices

Invoices for school meals have been sent home this week.

Could all parents please note that payment for school meals is due no later than Monday 16 January, preferably via Wisepay.

If any parent needs a reminder of their Wisepay log-on details, please contact the school office.

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

<b>Title</b>	<b>Class</b>	<b>Via</b>
School dinner invoices	School meal children	Paper copy
Hertfordshire AgeUK flyer	Whole school	Parentmail
School Holiday Camps	Whole school	Parentmail
Music Percussion Club	Ants and Bees	Paper copy
English and Maths SATs booster sessions	Year 6	Paper copy
Home Learning Response letter	Whole school	Parentmail

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

Date of next newsletter: 27 January 2017

## Diary Dates – Spring Term 2017

Date	Event
Week commencing 16 January	Internal school clubs start
Friday 20 January 9.00am	Ants assembly to parents
Friday 27 January from 8.00pm	PTA Gig Night at the Rose & Crown
Friday 10 February 9.00am	Bees assembly to parents
Monday 13-Friday 17 February	Half term break
Week commencing 20 February	Parent consultation evenings – exact dates and times to be confirmed
Friday 24 February	'Just Joshing' Anti-bullying Workshop in school
Saturday 25 February 2.00pm-4.00pm	PTA jumble sale in the school hall at Top School
Friday 3 March 9.00am	Cats assembly to parents
Tuesday 7 March 11.45am-3.00pm	Tag rugby tournament
Wednesday 8 March	Book fair arrives in school and book fair open
Friday 10 March	Dolphins assembly to parents
Monday 13 March	Level 2 cycling proficiency week (year 5 children)
Tuesday 14 March	Last day for book fair
Friday 17 March (eve)	PTA Quiz Night at Branch Road Memorial Hall
Friday 24 March 9.00am	Eagles assembly to parents
Tuesday 28 March	Year 6 Crucial Crew visit
Wednesday 29 March 2.00pm and 6.00pm	Cats class performance
Friday 31 March 2.00pm	End of term

- 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!***