

# St Michael's C of E VA Primary School

Current core Christian value:  
RESPECT



'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.

19 May 2017

Newsletter No 3

## St Albans Fun Run – Schools Challenge

This year's St Albans Half Marathon will be held on Sunday 11 June and will once again be hosting a schools' challenge. The primary school with the largest percentage of participants will receive a cash donation.

To register for this challenge, please go to [www.stalbanshalfmarathon.co.uk](http://www.stalbanshalfmarathon.co.uk). Please remember to name St Michael's in the registration process.

It is hoped that the St Michael's gazebo will be in the park along with the other primary schools taking part, opposite Westminster Lodge. We are looking for a couple of volunteers to man the gazebo as the PTA are hoping to be busy with marshalling duties this year so cannot undertake this themselves. Please contact the school office, if you can help with this. It is a useful point of reference for before and after the race, as well as a safe house for the runners' belongings.

Please don't delay – register now to ensure your participation in this fun event and help try and win the prize for St Michael's!

## Herts Show tickets

We still have some complimentary child tickets available for the Herts Show. There is one ticket available per family for whoever would like one. Please contact the school office, if you are interested.

We also have one family complimentary ticket available. Anybody interested in receiving this ticket should also contact the school office. Names will be drawn out of a hat next Friday 26 May and the winner will be contacted by phone that day.

## This newsletter covers:

- St Albans Fun Run
- Children Unattended on the Playground
- Herts Show tickets
- Cake Tins
- Out of School Achievements
- Breakfast Club
- Faithfully Critical?!
- Music Lessons in School
- Kittle Photographic
- Sainsbury's Active Kids
- PTA News
- Staffing News

## Children Unattended on the Playground

We have been informed by one of our governors that children are being left on the school playground, before school hours, unattended.

As we have stated before, children must not arrive on the school playground before 8.45am without adult supervision, as school staff are not available to keep them safe. Year 6 children who have permission to walk to school unsupervised must also not arrive before 8.45am.

The doors of both schools are open at 8.45am when children can be dropped off, to come into the school building. If your child gets to school before 8.45am, a nominated adult must remain with them at all times.

This is a health and safety issue which we take very seriously and thank you for your support with this.

### **Cake Tins**

We still have some unclaimed cake tins in the office, left over from the recent Bees class cake sale.

If you believe one of these tins could be yours, please contact the school office before the half term holidays. Any remaining tins will be disposed of when we return after the break.

### **Faithfully Critical?! Supporting Young Adults' Big Questions**

Di Edworthy and I have been talking about the challenging questions which children ask as they get older, including about faith and the world:

How can I reconcile science and the Bible?  
How can God be all-loving and all-powerful?  
How do I tell right from wrong in a world where anything goes, etc!

RS syllabi are increasingly helpful at grappling with these questions – but children can also bring them home to their parent/carer! How can we help our children find answers that are thoughtful and faithful?

Di and I will be in **the Six Bells before pick-up 2.30 – 3.30pm on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> June** exploring this stuff about growing up spiritually. We can't promise any answers - but we are keen to air some of the issues and to consider how we can best support our children.

Do join us - and please catch us on the school gate if you'd like to share anything about this.

Reverend Kenneth Padley

[di.edworthy@btinternet.com](mailto:di.edworthy@btinternet.com)  
[kennethpadley@gmail.com](mailto:kennethpadley@gmail.com)

### **Kittle Photographic**

Kittle Photographic will be coming in to the school on Thursday 8 June to take individual pupil and family sibling photos.

Children need to be in school at normal time as their photographs will be taken throughout the school morning.

**Do you have a pre-school child?** The photographer will also be taking pre-school sibling family shots. If you would like one of these photographs taken, please can you bring your child and pre-school sibling to Top School at 8.30am where they will be photographed on a first come, first served basis.

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

Marina and Isla in Dolphins class played in the Under 10s League Football shield recently. Their team won on penalties and they were awarded their first trophy, together with a team shield.

Grace in Cats class has been accepted into the Abbey Girls Choir from September. The Choir Director was particularly impressed with Grace's excellent musicianship and singing voice, in particular, her performance of 'Away in a Manger'.

Bronwyn in Cats class has achieved the British Gymnastics proficiency award for Level 6.

Emily in Eagles class swam in her club championships, U12 age group. She gained an overall 10<sup>th</sup> position in the sprint event and 6<sup>th</sup> in the 200m event.

Tippi in Cats class has been awarded 'Gymnast of the Week' for learning her new routine so well.

Daniel in Eagles class received a certificate to mark his completion of the 2016/17 season with his local rugby club.

Finn in Dolphins class received a medal and certificate for being part of the winning team who competed in the Winter Mini Tennis Orange League for 2016/17.

### **Music Lessons in School**

The Musicale Primary Schools' Instrumental Teaching Scheme will continue to provide music tuition in the Autumn term.

The scheme is based on a trial period of four months and, for £53 per month (£41 per month if you have your own instrument), your child will receive an instrument and 10 individual 15 minute lessons.

If your child is in years 3, 4, 5 or 6 and are interested in learning the flute, clarinet, saxophone, trumpet, cornet, trombone, piano or guitar please email David Johnston at Musicale for further information.

His email address is [david.johnston@musicale.co.uk](mailto:david.johnston@musicale.co.uk)

### **Breakfast Club**

We are all looking forward to a break at half term after a very busy few weeks.



We have now been able to allocate places at the club for all new children on the waiting list for September. If you would like to go on the waiting list please contact [denise.perchard@sky.com](mailto:denise.perchard@sky.com)

### Staffing News

It is with mixed emotions that we announce that Mr King will be retiring at the end of this term.

Whilst we are delighted that Mr King has decided to enjoy this well earned rest, we are obviously very sorry to see him leave the St Michael's team.

As most of you will know, Mr King has been a valued member of staff for some 16 years and has got to know many staff, children and families over the years. His role at the school has become incredibly varied over the years; not only as a member of our Teaching Assistant and Midday Supervisory Assistant teams but also as somewhat of an expert on the school buildings themselves. His 'footballs-off-the-roof' skills are second to none!

I am sure you will all want to join us in thanking Mr King for everything he has done for the school during his time here and wishing him a long, happy and healthy retirement.

### Head Lice

We have been receiving more reports of head lice in school during this term. This week's appearance is in Dolphins class.

Could we politely request that, in an attempt to stop the spread of these lice, all children with long hair (beyond shoulder length) have their hair tied up for school.

We should also be most grateful if parents could undertake regular checks of all children's hair, treating any outbreaks immediately. Children do not have to remain off school if head lice are detected; as long as their hair has been treated before they come in.

### Sainsbury's Active Kids

Thank you to everybody who donated vouchers for this year's Sainsbury's Active Kids scheme. We received double the amount from last year!

We have ordered new play equipment for both schools which the children will be able to enjoy, once the weather improves!

### PTA News

St Michael's footballers will be delighted to know that the PTA have kindly purchased two new goalposts for the paddock. These will be constructed as soon as possible so that the children can get maximum use out of them.

The PTA are looking for a BBQ enthusiast, to help them with their range of events taking place over the summer term. If you feel you have the talents required for manning a BBQ and have the time to offer your services, please contact your class PTA representative.

Do you have any old crockery that the PTA could use for the crockery smash stall at the summer fair? If you do have anything lying around at home that is due to go to the charity shop, please could you let your class PTA representative know so that collection/delivery arrangements can be made.

Finally, the PTA are delighted to announce that the recent Bags2schools scheme has provided a profit of £140.00. Thank you to everybody who donated their unwanted clothing to this project.

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

Title	Class	Via
World Games Day	Year 4	Paper copy
St Albans Plus Partnership half term activities flyer	Whole school	Parentmail
Technology Camp at Aboyne Lodge	Whole school	Parentmail
Communication and Autism Team Advice Line flyer	Whole school	Parentmail

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

Date of next newsletter: 8 June 2017

## Diary Dates – Summer Term 2017

Date	Event
Monday 22 May 6.00pm	Norfolk trip information evening for parents
Friday 26 May 9.00am	Eagles sharing assembly to parents
Friday 26 May (eve)	PTA Disco
Monday 29 May-Friday 2 June	Half term break
Monday 5 June	INSET day – children not in school
Tuesday 6 June	Children return to school at normal time
Thursday 8 June	Photographer in school for individual and sibling photos
Monday 12 June-Friday 16 June	Norfolk residential trip for years 5 and 6
Wednesday 14 June	Cats class to Celtic Harmony
Thursday 15 June 10.00am-11.30am	Coffee morning in Eagles class, supporting ASD
Tuesday 20 June	KNex Challenge workshop in school
Wednesday 21 June (pm)	District Sports
Thursday 22 June (pm)	District Sports
Friday 23 June 9.00am	Cats sharing assembly to parents
Friday 23 June 3.00pm	Aylmerton sharing assembly to parents (Yrs 5 and 6 only)
Saturday 24 June 12.00pm-3.00pm	Summer Fair
Thursday 29 June 9.30am-11.30am	Sports morning
Friday 30 June 9.00am	Bees sharing assembly to parents
Monday 3 July 9.30am-11.30am	Reserve sports morning
Tuesday 4 July	Creation Day
Wednesday 5 July 8.00pm	Folk Evening
Thursday 6 July	Bees class to Mountfitchet Castle
Friday 7 July 9.00am	Ants sharing assembly to parents
Tuesday 11 July 6.00pm	Dolphins and Eagles performance
Wednesday 12 July 6.00pm	Dolphins and Eagles performance
Thursday 13 July	Class swap day
Friday 14 July 9.30am-11.30am	Image Theatre in school – The Selfish Giant
Friday 14 July (eve)	PTA BBQ and camp out
Thursday 20 July 6.00pm	Leavers' Service in church
Friday 21 July	School ends at 2.00pm

- 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!***