

St Michael's C of E VA Primary School

Current core Christian value:
WISDOM



'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.

7 July 2017

Newsletter No 6

Summer Fair

This year's summer fair was an amazing success, with the weather staying dry.

Our sincere thanks go to everybody on the PTA who worked so hard, especially those members working so late on the Friday evening and early on the Saturday. Without this dedication, the fair would not work so well.

Folk Evening

The St Michael's Folk Evening proved yet another enjoyable event with the St Michael's maypole dancers stealing the show at Lower School!

We must thank again the PTA for their tireless efforts in preparing and running the catering department – we have been told that over £5,000 was taken.

The school office received a telephone call from a member of the public who had travelled from Luton especially to watch the dancers. A grandfather of a child at another school, he had originally tried to see his grandson dancing the maypole some weeks ago but missed the event due to traffic. Undeterred, he came to the Folk Evening, to see our dancers. He told the office that the dancers were amazing, commented on how friendly everybody was, how strong the community spirit was and how well the PTA had organized the refreshments.

We have also had positive feedback regarding the impromptu live band who appeared to play the music for our dancers – Mrs Groves has tried to recruit them already for next year!

This newsletter covers:

- Summer Fair
- Folk Evening
- Mrs Claridge
- Creation Day
- Sports Morning
- Breakfast Club
- Out of School Achievements
- Be Prepared for Summer
- Paralympian Visit
- Museum Explorer Passport
- NSPCC Messathon
- School Meals

Mrs Claridge

Some of us had the privilege of attending an awards ceremony recently at Oaklands College as Mrs Claridge had been nominated as Teacher of the Year for Primary Schools.

Out of over 50 nominations across Harpenden and St Albans, Mrs Claridge reached the final 4 and was named as one of the runners-up on the night itself.

We are all incredibly proud of her and everything she has achieved, both in our Early Years and Year 1, as well as the school's PE and RE curriculum.



Creation Day

Last Tuesday, the children spent the day enjoying a variety of learning activities, to celebrate the wonders of our world. The children produced a range of fantastic work, including art work, poetry, science and music all themed around the creation story. Reverend Padley joined in for part of the morning, answering a range of questions from the children in Dolphins and Eagles.

The children then attended a short church service in the afternoon where they were able to share what they had learned.

Museum Explorer Passport

Museums in Hertfordshire and Bedfordshire have teamed up to offer a free passport for children and families to take part in a series of challenges and free craft activities.

Children will get a stamp for each challenge they complete which goes towards an Arts Award Discover qualification and certificate. This award provides a great introduction to the arts and to other Arts Award levels.

You can collect your free passport from any participating museum in the two counties and more information is available at <https://museumexplorerpassport.com/>

NSPCC Messathon

The NSPCC are running a fantastic event at Aldenham Country Park on 19 August for children aged 4-11.

The children will be treated to a challenging 2.5km course that will see them tackle 22 different obstacles. There will also be a range of other exciting activities for whole families to enjoy.

For further information, please contact the event organisers on 0203 772 9720.

Breakfast Club

We continue to be very busy at the club.



Looking ahead to September, the breakfast club is now fully booked on most days. If you would like to go on our waiting list, please contact denise.perchard@sky.com

Sports Morning

This year's sports morning was postponed to the reserve date, thanks to the typical British weather but nothing stopped everybody having a fun time, once we were able to enjoy some sunshine.

All the children displayed wonderful sportsmanship. A special mention must go to our Year 6 children whose role included supporting the younger children in their respective groups. We have received a few comments congratulating these children for doing such a wonderful job.

All the children performed at their absolute best and worked really hard to gain points for their houses. The result was very close, with Alban just nudging ahead to claim the trophy!

At the end of the morning, the children were treated to an ice lolly, kindly provided by Ella W's grandma.

Paralympian Visit

The children were lucky to welcome Ian Rose into school this week, a Paralympian in Judo.

Ian has competed in five Paralympic Games and, after 22 years at the top of his game, retired in 2011. Since then, he has become a motivational speaker, inspiring others to find the best in themselves and progress to success.

The children were captivated by Ian and the staff have all fed back that this was one of the best assemblies they have ever witnessed.

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

Finn in Dolphins class recently played in two 10 and under tennis tournaments, winning one and coming runner up in the other.

Harvey in Eagles class recently took part in the final football tournament of the season with his club and they won every match, winning the overall tournament for the county.

Yoni in Dolphins class recently achieved his red tag at a Tae Kwon Do grading. He also took part in a competition where he achieved 1 gold medal in sparring, 1 silver medal in team patterns and a further silver in pre-arranged sparring.

Be prepared for Summer!

Sun Hats

In the hope that we shall be enjoying some lovely weather this half term, I should like to request that all children bring a named sun hat into school every day as we will be making good use of the Paddock during this term. Any child without a sun hat will have to sit in the shaded areas of the Paddock.

Suncream

I am happy for children to bring named suncream bottles into school. We will be talking to the children about how to apply their own suncream and also about the importance of not sharing with their peers. I should be most grateful if you could reiterate this message at home. I cannot allow any sharing of suncream to take place, due to the risk of allergies.

Water Bottles

Named water bottles should be in school as a matter of course but this is even more important at this time of year. It is important that children should drink plenty of water, especially during hot weather. All water bottles are taken to the paddock as there are no drinking facilities there.

School Meals

If any child wishes to change their dinner provision, ie from school meals to packed lunch or vice versa, could this information please be given to the school office no later than Monday 10 July.

Children moving from Year 2 into Year 3 in September will now be charged a cost of £2.40 per meal as the Universal Free School Meal initiative does not cover children in Key Stage 2.

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

Title	Class	Via
PTA Camp out and BBQ	Whole School	Paper copy
Leavers' Service	Whole School	Parentmail
Hockey Club flyer	Whole School	Parentmail
Mystery at Magpie Manor tickets	Dolphins and Eagles	Paper copy
Development at Lower School	Whole School	Parentmail

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

Date of next newsletter: 21 July 2017

Diary Dates – Summer Term 2017

Date	Event
Friday 7 July 9.00am	Ants sharing assembly to parents
Tuesday 11 July 9.00am	Bees 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!