

*All Are Welcome, All Are Accepted,
All Are Loved and All Achieve*

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Dear Mothers, Fathers and Carers,

I am so pleased to send you our first newsletter of the year, and my first to you as Headteacher! I have had a wonderful welcome to St Michael's. On behalf of all the staff, welcome back to the new school year! It's been a great start back with your amazing children so far. They are refreshed after their summer break, and in a great mindset to get back in to their learning. I hope they are coming home and telling you about their days - hopefully a sense of routine has been good for them. It's been lovely to see them engaging in learning activities and working together again.

The school has been full of energy and enthusiasm, and the children look particularly smart in their uniforms - thank you for the way you support our school uniform; it all helps to set high standards.

There are lots of exciting plans already taking shape for this half-term and for the year - trips, visitors, learning, sports, clubs and many, many more!

I'd like to take this opportunity to welcome our new children and families to our St Michael's family, especially our youngest children in Nursery and Reception who have settled in really well and are beginning to get to know the routines of school life.

As always, please come and talk to us if we can ever help with anything.

Warmest wishes,
Miss Birks

Key Dates this half term: Autumn Term 1

4th September	INSET DAY 1
5th September	INSET DAY 2
6th September	Children return to school
8th September	FS1 start school
11th September	Parent's Newsletter out
11th September	After School Clubs start
18th September	Welcome meeting for Y6 parents -3:15pm
19th September	Welcome meeting for Y5 parents -3:15pm
20th September	Welcome meeting for Y3 and Y4 parents - 3:15pm
21st September	Welcome meeting for Y1 and Y2 parents - 3:15pm
22nd September	Welcome meeting for FS2 parents - 3:15pm
22nd September	School Council Elections
28th September	Open Afternoon for prospective families 2:15 - 2:45pm
29th September	Macmillan Cancer Coffee Morning - parents welcome from 9am
TBC	FS1 and FS2 Autumnal Walk
TBC	Harvest Collection - donations welcome
3rd October	Flu Vaccinations
5th October	Census Day - special menu
9th October	Individual Photos (inc sibling photos)
11th October	Family Quiz and Hotdog Night at 5pm
16th October	Parents' Evening (Zoom only) 3:30 - 4:30pm
17th October	Parents' Evening 3:30 - 6:30pm
19th October	Disco (FS2 and KS1 3:30-4:30pm, KS2 4:45-5:45pm)
20th October	Last day of term for children

School Terms and Holidays for Academic Year 2023-2024

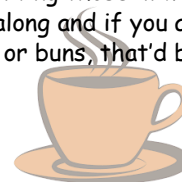
Autumn 1	
Monday 4th September	- Friday 20th October 2023
Half-term holiday	- Monday 23rd October - Friday 27th October 2023
Autumn 2	
Monday 30th October	- Friday 22nd December 2023
PLEASE NOTE - INSET day 30th October	
Christmas holidays	- Monday 25th December - Friday 5th January 2024
Spring 1	
Monday 8th January	- Friday 9th February 2024
Half-term holidays	- Monday 12th February - Friday 16th February 2024
Spring 2	
Monday 19th February	- Friday 29th March 2024
PLEASE NOTE - Bank Holiday 29th March and 1st April	
Easter holidays	- Tuesday 2nd April - Friday 12th April 2024
Summer 1	
Monday 15th April	- Friday 24th May 2024
PLEASE NOTE - Bank Holiday Monday 6th May	
Spring Bank holidays	- Monday 27th May - Friday 31st May 2024
Summer 2	
Monday 3rd June	- Tuesday 23rd July 2024
PLEASE NOTE - INSET Days 22nd and 23rd July	
Summer Holidays	- Wednesday 24th July - Friday 30th August 2024

Welcome Meetings

All parents and carers are warmly invited to their child's welcome meeting. This is a chance to meet your child's class teacher, find out about what they will be learning this year and to hear about how you can help your child at home. Looking forward to seeing you there!

Macmillan Cancer Coffee Morning

On 29th September, we will be hosting our coffee morning in support of Macmillan Cancer, an amazing charity dedicated to supporting those ill with cancer. We invite you ALL to come along and if you are able to make any donations of cakes or buns, that'd be really appreciated!



School Photos

Individual school photos will be taking place on 9th October. Siblings can also have their pictures taken together from 8:15am and photos can be purchased afterwards. Say cheese!



Step Up September

In school, we are having 'Step Up September' where the children, each week, have a different mission to step up and achieve. They earn 'step up' points which will later become house points.

Harvest Collection

In October, we will be celebrating the annual Harvest and will be asking families, if they are able, to donate food items which will then be distributed by Church to the local community. Tins, dried foods, packets, jars etc will all be welcomed. Please do not donate any fresh items. Thank you in advance!

Learning this September!

As a brief outline, these are some of the areas of learning that your children will be developing this Autumn half term:

Nursery - Our youngest children in school will be learning 'All About Me!', finding out what is unique and special about them and how to be a good friend. They will be reading Elma and painting their own portraits and Elma's! In later weeks, we will be reading "The Gingerbread Man" and creating all sorts of special creations linked to gingerbread.

Reception - We will be learning all about ourselves, and reading 'The Colour Monster', learning about different emotions. We will start our phonics to begin our reading journeys, listening to the Gingerbread Man and learning about shapes and colours in Maths! Our new areas and equipment outside will also be explored to bring our learning from indoors to outdoors - exciting!

Y1/2 - In Art, we will be exploring Picasso and his abstract art to recreate our own abstract portrait. In History, we will be thinking about our Grandparents and what life was like for them when they were our age. We will be investigating materials in Science and reading 'Lost and Found' in English to create our own adventure story!

Y3/4 - It's all about the Anglo-Saxons and Vikings in History this half term, where we will learn about their adventures and raids. We will read 'Gorilla' by Anthony Browne in English and write our own fiction tales - and we even have a special author coming to visit us too...! In Science, we will be investigating electricity and creating our own circuits, whilst in Art, we will be learning about Giorgio Morandi and creating our still life drawings.

Y5 - We are exploring a place far away from Rossington - North America! In Geography, we will be finding out its physical and human features as well as special landmarks, and in Art we will be developing architectural drawings linked to New York City. In RE, we will be exploring the importance of God, asking the question "Who is God?" and developing our understanding of our and other's spiritual answers. In Science, we will investigate forces whilst in English we are reading 'Queen of the Falls', linked to Niagara Falls.

Y6 - We are starting the year by reading 'Save the Tiger' during our English lessons, leading to us writing informative, persuasive texts about endangered animals and for a class read, our book is 'When the sky falls'. In Science, we are broadening our knowledge of and classifying living things and habitats. We're heading back to 1939 in History, back to World War 2, learning about the significant events and what life was like. In Art, we will be discovering about typography and drawing our own creations, whilst in RE, it's all about 'Believing, Behaving and Belonging' linked to creation.



Parent and Family Events

We have planned, throughout the year, events which bring parents into school more, both linked to learning and as a community. There are workshops, coffee mornings, open mornings, quiz nights and bingo nights planned - take a look at the yearly calendar for dates. We love the engagement we get from parents and always welcome parental involvement.

This half term, we have our **Welcome Meetings** 18-22nd September, **Macmillan Coffee Morning** on the 29th September, a **Family Quiz and Hot Dog night** on the 11th October.

We look forward to seeing as many of you as possible!

The Carriageway Closure

Following the Council's decision to close The Carriageway at the start and end of the school day, we have had a lot of positive feedback from parents and residents. If you would like to offer feedback to the council, you can do this by contacting Public Health—Wider Determinants.

Thank you to all who have supported and helped keep our children safer.

How can you help at home?

1. Encourage your child to read EVERY night.
2. Help them complete homework every week.
3. Help them to learn spellings and new vocabulary.
4. Help them to learn times tables
5. Encourage children to show excellent behaviour.
6. Make sure children arrive at school on time.
7. Ensure they wear their uniform.
8. Make sure your child comes to school every day that they are well.
9. Avoid taking any holidays during term time: children miss so much learning!
10. Encourage your child to play after school: Have down time together and have fun!
11. Talk to your child about what they are learning at school and celebrate their successes!
12. Come to school organized!

Parents' Evening

Our Parents' Evening will be held on 17th October, 3:30pm - 6:30pm. For any parents who cannot attend in person, we are also offering virtual appointments using Zoom on the 16th October, 3:30pm - 4:30pm. Nearer the time, we will send parents information of how to book their appointment with the class teacher.

Pop the date in your diary!

