

St Michael's Academy Newsletter

Week Commencing: 17 October 2016



The Week Ahead

Lower School	Upper School
<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ 18th Harvest Service▪ 19th Parents Evening▪ 20th Parents Evening▪ 21st INSET DAY▪ 31st Return to School	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ 18th Harvest Service▪ 19th Parents Evening▪ 20th Parents Evening▪ 21st INSET DAY▪ 31st Return to School

Dear Parents,

I can't believe that we are almost at half term, I really don't know where the weeks have gone. The year 3 children have settled into the routines well and are working hard.

Most children are coming into school ready to learn with all the appropriate equipment including uniform.

Just a gentle reminder that we have a uniform policy which needs to be adhered to, this includes black school shoes not trainers please.

Many thanks for your patience as we continue to change entrances and exits to accommodate the necessary improvement works, the children have been fantastic in responding and keeping themselves safe.

It has been a busy first half term and I have enjoyed getting to know staff and children and finding my way around. St Michael's is a great place to be with staff who are dedicated to providing a great education to all.

Have a great half term break.

Zoe Coghlan – Executive Head

Harvest Service



You are welcome to join us at St Michael's Church on Tuesday, 18th at 2pm as we celebrate Harvest. I would lovely if children could bring in a non-perishable item for the Harvest Festival on Tuesday, 18th. This will be taken up to the alter during the service and donated to the Lords Larder.

Scooters

Due to the significant increase in the number of children at St Michaels we have had to reconsider the policy in relation to scooters being used during school hours on the premises. We have had a number of “near misses” over the first weeks of term and this has shown that we do not have the space for the numbers of scooters currently being used during school hours.



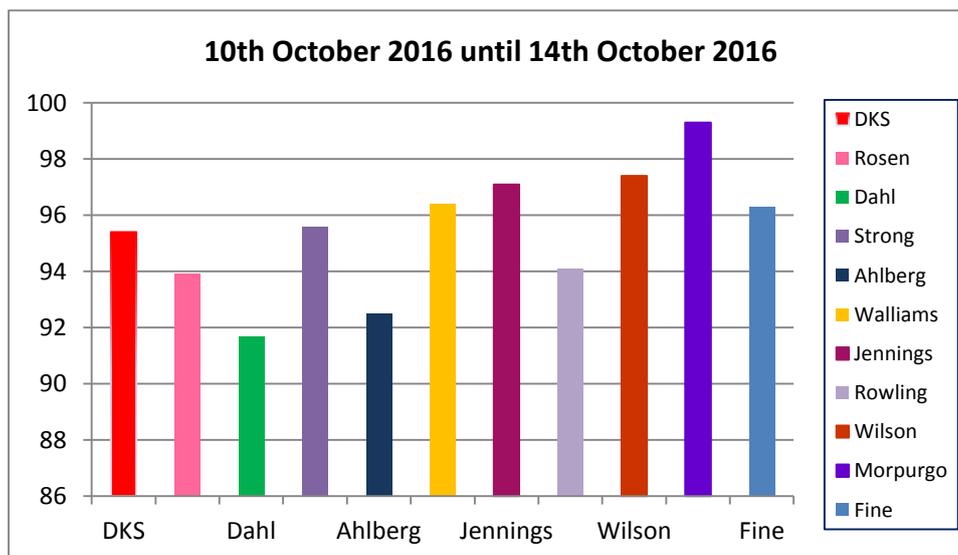
The school intends to buy 10 scooters which will be part of the play equipment available to children at lunchtimes.

Mrs Coghlan has spoken to the children in Assembly and explained that with effect from **Scooters must be taken home by parents and brought back at the end of school for children to ride home.**

ATTENDANCE

145 children recorded 100% attendance for the first half term. Well done all of you.

OWEN FLATT's name was pulled out of the hat and Owen and his family receive a prize of a Family Voucher for free entry to Stourhead National Trust Property.



Congratulations to **Morpurgo** class who achieved attendance of 99.3%

The winning class will receive 5 house points.

All children with 100% attendance at the end of the year will receive an award.

Parking

We have recently had complaints from local residents regarding inconsiderate parking on Grass Royal. Could we please ask that you park safely and not block residents' driveways? Thank you.



House Points Winners



This half terms house point winners are: **LYTES CARY**. This entitles members of Lytes Cary house to wear non-uniform on Thursday 20th.

Lytes Cary	Stourhead	Barrington	Montacute
953	916	856	755

Football Club

The football clubs run by Mr Mapletoft will start on Monday after half term. The selected children have been informed. Apologies for any confusion.

Monday 3.30 – 4.30 Years 3 and 4

Thursday 3.30~ 4.30 Years 5 and 6

AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS

There will be no afterschool clubs running on the nights of parents evening. **Wednesday and Thursday this week.**

Dinner Money



For those children who have paid school meals and require them on our return to school, week commencing 31st October, they need to be pre-ordered and paid for by Thursday, 20th please. This is so our catering staff can order the correct amount of produce as we prepare our meals daily on site using fresh ingredients.

Year 4 and Year 6 Residential Trips

We are in the midst of organising the residential trips to St Ives (Y4) and London (Y6). There are limited spaces for both. If you would like your child to take part then please complete the form at the end of the Bulletin and return to school by Thursday, 20 October. You will then be sent a booking form which you will need to return with the relevant non-refundable deposit. We will then

issue payment cards so you can pay weekly or monthly. The payment in full date will be on the cards. Those who have FSM can claim pupil premium funding.

LONDON – £250.00 – Hotel accommodation - visiting 3 museums, west end production of Matilda, meals out in restaurants and a flight on the London Eye.

St IVES - £120.00 – Hostel accommodation and visiting the Eden Project, Lanhydrock House, Barbara Hepworth Sculpture Park and an art lesson with an artist in Tate St Ives.

Ahlberg Class

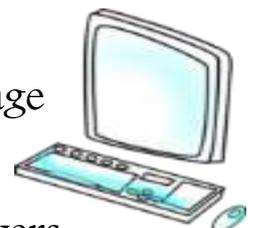
Literacy:



This term in literacy we have been reading *The Great Kapok Tree* which we then used to plan and write our own stories in a similar style. We have been identifying themes of a story, problems and thinking of solutions to those problems. We have also been looking at using inverted commas to punctuate our speech, using adverbs, adjectives and verbs which we have applied to our writing and included in our stories.

Computing:

We have been learning how to use the internet for research for topic work and to find out about our class authors. We have looked at how to change the appearance of the text or page image to increase its effectiveness. We have begun looking at how we can create and modify documents in Word and Powerpoint using copy and paste which we will be using to create covers for our topic work.



DKS Class

"DKS have answered these questions for St. Michael's newsletter. Our favourite lesson has been Forest School because we make lots of fun things. Our favourite day is Wednesday because we have Swimming and P.E. We would like to work on our handwriting as we believe our writing is important. Finally, the word we have chosen to describe DKS is that we are the "best"! We are very much looking forward to learning and having fun after half term."

Fine Class



Fine class caused quite a stir at the beginning of term when they were tasked with looking after a flour baby for 5 days. In order to properly empathise with the boys in Anne Fine's brilliant book 'Flour Babies,' Fine class made their own versions out of bags of flour and a few added extras. The babies were properly cared for, being taken to lessons and everywhere the children went, including a couple of

weddings over the weekend! In class, we had serious discussions involving stereotyping, and got into character, writing letters from the main character's point of view. Aside from being a bit of fun, Fine class learnt plenty about responsibility and the trials and joys of parenthood. One very important lesson was learnt during the experiment however - none of Fine Class are interested in having their own real-life baby for a very long time!

Strong Class

This half term, we have been focusing on the Rainforest in Strong Class. We have been looking at rainforest writing in Literacy and rainforest-themed texts in Guided Reading. In Topic we have been trying to answer some of the questions that we didn't know about rainforests, such as: Why does it rain so much in the rainforest? How many trees are there in the rainforest? What animals live in the rainforest? What are the arguments for and against deforestation? In Science, we have looked at ways of sorting and classifying animals and identifying the features of the habitats they live in.

Dahl Class

What a super start it's been to the school year. The children have settled so well and have been working really hard. There have been many things they have enjoyed; visits to their house team location and celebrating Roald Dahl day have been popular. Here are some comments made by the children about the first few weeks in their new school...



“I am enjoying my work in Numeracy because we get to do number investigations and it gives us a challenge.” (Ben)

“I like the work we’ve been doing in Art because we have created our own patterns by drawing straight lines. “ (Max)

“So far in Year 3 I have enjoyed all the work we’ve been doing especially Forest School because we get to make stuff using things from nature. I am also enjoying PE because I like playing different games with Mr Shire.”
(Chrystal)

“I’ve been enjoying ICT in school because I think I’m really good at it. I can copy and paste things from the internet into a word document.” (Ethan)

“So far I’ve enjoyed going outside at playtimes because it’s fun and I can play with my best friend. My favourite activity is Literacy because we get to do lots of writing and we get to join our writing up.”
(Alexandra)

“I am enjoying Year 3 because I like writing poetry and that’s what we’ve been doing in Literacy. I like going to assemblies, especially our singing assemblies with Mr Champion.” (Evie)

“I’ve enjoyed Forest School because all the things I’ve made I’ve been able to play with at home.” (Theo)

Walliams Class

In year 4 Numeracy lessons, we have been focusing on our times tables and will continue throughout the year. We have really enjoyed playing lots of games to help us remember our times tables. Some of our favourites have been ‘Splat!’ Hit the button, times table bingo and bubble multiples. In addition to that, we’ve been focusing on Number and Place value! Some of us have really enjoyed the challenges relating to Roman Numerals, word problems and puzzle challenges. One our favourite problems were when we had to solve different problems relating to finding 1000 more or less. Once we had solved those problems we had to use the answers to find the 4 digit code to win a prize!

During our Forest School sessions with Mr Jones, we have really enjoyed our delicious hot chocolate at the beginning of the session especially now it is getting colder. In our sessions we have been focusing on our rainforest topic. We’ve have made lots of interesting things in Forest School such as a tree house for a cuddly toy using recycled materials, creating our own apple juice and charcoal pencils. To make pencils, we cut small twigs and removed some of the insides so we could see through it. Once we had done that we had to squeeze the charcoal into the hole. It was great drawing pictures with them.

After half term, Year 4 will be creating Rainforest Dioramas. To make these, we will need some cardboard boxes that are no bigger than a shoe box/cereal box size. If you do have any, please could you hand these into Miss Walby in Walliams Class.

Rosen Class

This week in Rosen class we have been focusing on poems in literacy. At the beginning of the week we practised and performed our version of the poem 'The Sound Collector' by Roger McGough and then recreated our own poems using alternate line rhyme. Towards the end of the week we looked at alliteration and animal poems. We have covered a range of different and have thoroughly enjoyed reading interesting and funny poems.

Morpurgo Class

The first half of the term has raced by with the children in Morpurgo class taking part in many exciting activities. The children thoroughly enjoyed reading Kensuke's Kingdom at the start of the term and produced some wonderful work which is on display inside the classroom. They have all worked hard on developing their numeracy and literacy skills and have enjoyed learning about the Ancient Greeks culminating with the class recently making Greek masks. It has been an active first half of term with the children refining their football, swimming and gymnastics skills during their PE lessons.



LONDON/St IVES RESIDENTIAL ~ Please return by Thursday, 20 October

I would like a booking form for my child to take part in the:
(Please tick)

- Year 4 St Ives Residential in (17-19 May 2017)
- Year 6 London Residential (28-30 June 2017)

Pupil's Name:	Class:
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Signed: _____ Date: _____
(Parent/Guardian)

November 2016 Diary

31	October - Children return to school
1	
2	
3	
4	Fr David Assembly
5	SATURDAY
6	SUNDAY
7	
8	Y6 Able Maths Day – Huish Primary – chosen children only
9	
10	Y3 Nasal Flu Vaccination
11	
12	SATURDAY
13	SUNDAY
14	
15	
15	
17	
18	Y5 trip to Yeovilton
19	SATURDAY
20	SUNDAY
21	
22	
23	
24	
25	
26	SATURDAY
27	SUNDAY
28	
29	
30	

31 October ~ Children return to school