



# St Michael's Academy

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Principal: Judith Barrett  
Vice Principal: Caroline Lancey

Chair of Governors: Nick Swain  
Business Manager: Alison Draper

A HAPPY  
NEW YEAR

## NEWSLETTER January 2015



Dear Parents, Carers and Friends,

Welcome back to the new school year. We know that it is going to be another fantastic one. Thank you to all of you who came to the Christmas activities, the children really enjoyed themselves and we sent them off ready to enjoy their holiday with you. They have certainly returned looking refreshed and ready for the challenges of the term ahead. As it's only 6 weeks until we break up for our holiday I know you will all ensure that the children are in school every day they can be. Thank you for your cooperation with this.

In the event of cold weather please can you ensure that your child is dressed appropriately? Thank you to those who do. At the moment we have several children in shirtsleeves and they are cold. A large part of their school day is spent sitting and this is a big old building. They will also need coats in school every day, with hats, scarves and gloves. Wellington boots are ideal on rainy days.

*Judith*

## **YEAR 6 NETBALL CLUB**

Netball club for year 6's will start on Monday 12th January. Sensible warm PE clothing required and trainers are a must. Without trainers children cannot take part. We are looking for new members so if any Y6 would like to join, then please complete the form at the back of the Newsletter. The club runs on Mondays from 3.30pm – 4.30pm and is run by Miss Stringer and Mrs Court.

## **YEAR 6 - Tuesdays**

For this half term until we break up in February, Year 6's can come in PE Kit on Tuesdays.

## **TERM TIME LEAVE**

When planning your holiday please see School Terms and Holidays attached. Can I remind parents and carers of Year 6 pupils that SAT's week begins on the 11<sup>th</sup> May. It is very important that your children are in school every day of this week as one absence can make all results null and void.

Pupils who are taken out of school during term time may find it hard to catch up and this can have a detrimental effect on their learning. The law states that parents DO NOT have the right to take their children out of school for holidays during term time. Any request for Term Time leave must be made in writing to the Principal in advance. Requests will not usually be granted. The Principal will only authorise term time leave in EXCEPTIONAL circumstances.

**Any unauthorised absence, including term time leave not agreed with the school could result in a penalty notice being issued to each parent for each child affected.**

## **FUNDING FOR TRIPS AND SWIMMING**

Parents/Carers who receive any of the entitlements below are entitled to funding for trips, swimming and school meals. The school will also be allocated money called Pupil Premium. This money is then used to support your child at school.

**Your child does not have to take up the option of a free school meal but will still receive funding.**

- Income Support
- Employment & Support Allowance (Income Related)- not Contribution related
- Income-based Job Seekers Allowance-not Contribution based
- Guaranteed Element of State Pension Credit
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- Child Tax Credit, providing you do not also receive Working Tax Credit, with an annual taxable income (as assessed by HMRC) of less than £16,190.

To apply please ask for a form at the school office.

## **REGULAR SCHOOL INFORMATION**

### **GENERAL REMINDERS**

#### **Swimming 2014/2015**



**Please note that on swimming days the children leave school at 8.30am.** Please ensure your child is in school 10 minutes before the children/bus leaves for registration, and for them to pay their swimming fees.

**If your child is unable to swim for medical reasons, but is not ill enough to be off school please DO NOT send them into school first thing as there is no provision for them.** Please keep them at home and send them in at the time listed to be back at school as all staff go swimming so there is no supervision for the children who do not go.

#### **Spring Term 1**

Day	Year	Cost	Leave School/ Bus Leaves	BACK AT SCHOOL
Monday	Rosen Class @ Fiveways	£1.50	8.30am	10.00am
	Y4 @ Goldenstones	£2.00	8.30am	10.00am
Tuesday	Y6 @ Goldenstones	£2.00	8.30am	10.00am
Wednesday	DKS Class @ Fiveways	£1.50	8.30am	10.00am
Thursday	Y5 @ Goldenstones	£2.00	8.30am	10.00am
Friday	Cole Class @ Fiveways	£1.50	8.30am	10.00am

Please ensure that your child has their swimming kit on the correct day. They need a towel and a swimming costume for girls, (no bikinis please) and swimming trunks for boys, (no long shorts please.) Long hair must be tied back.

Please make sure they bring their money each week. Children in receipt of Free School Meals do not pay.

Please make sure your child attends swimming each week, it is a very important life skill. The children here are very lucky to swim every week throughout the year as many schools do not offer this.



## SCHOOL CLUBS

**There will be no clubs during the first week back after the Christmas holidays.**

Day	Club	Run By	Time
Monday	<b>Netball</b> Year 6 Only	Miss Stringer & Mrs Court	3.30~ 4.30pm
Tuesday	<b>Table Tennis Club</b> Years 5&6 Only	Mr Jones	3.30~ 4.30pm
Wednesday	<b>Imagineering Club</b> Year 6 only	Mr Jones & Westlands	3.30~ 4.30pm
Thursday	<b>Football Club</b> Lower School <b>Table Tennis Club</b> Years 5&6 Only	Mr Bisgrove & Mr Whatmore Mr Jones	3.30~ 4.30pm 3.30~ 4.30pm
Friday			

## BAD WEATHER PROCEDURE



In conjunction with the Caretaker, I make the decision on snow and bad weather days whether the school opens or is closed. I can only open the school if I have enough staff to cover the care of the children using a 1.8 ratio. As only two of our teaching staff live in Yeovil, that means that the remaining staff have to travel in from villages, so if they were heavily snowed in, their journey would be impossible and dangerous. In the event of the school closing we will endeavour to put messages on:

- The school answer machine:
- School Website: [www.stmichaelsacademy.co.uk](http://www.stmichaelsacademy.co.uk)
- Somerset County Council website:  
[https://slp.somerset.gov.uk/cypd/Lists/Emergency School Closures Today/ClosedToday.aspx](https://slp.somerset.gov.uk/cypd/Lists/Emergency%20School%20Closures%20Today/ClosedToday.aspx)
- Local Radio: Heart (96-107) & BBC Somerset (95.5)

*We can also email and text you important information. Please let the office have your up-to-date contact details for this purpose.*

**There is NO PARKING at any time on the school premises. Please encourage your family to walk to school or if you really need to drive then park far away from the school entrance.**



# St Michael's Academy DIARY DATES

<b>January 2015</b>	
1	
2	
3	Saturday
4	Sunday
5	Children return to School
6	Year 6 basketball competition. 4~6pm. A separate letter has gone out.
7	
8	
9	
10	Saturday
11	Sunday
12	Netball Club for Y6 re~starts after school
13	The Gifted and Talented programme starts at Westfield Academy. Children attending have been notified.
14	
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27	Year 3 transition activities at Reckleford in school time.
28	
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31	

# Netball Club

My child \_\_\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_ class  
would like to join the Y6 Netball Club on Monday after  
school.

- My child will walk home on their own
- I will collect my child at 4.30pm

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Parent

Please return this form to school as soon as possible.

