



St Michael's Academy

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Principal: Judith Barrett
Vice Principal: Caroline Lancey

Chair of Governors: Jonathan Gammon
Business Manager: Alison Draper



NEWSLETTER March 2016



Dear Parents, Carers and Friends,

Welcome to our March newsletter. Thankfully the sun is shining and there are signs of Spring all around us. It's so lovely to be travelling to and from work in daylight after so many weeks of doing it in the dark. It definitely lightens the spirit doesn't it?

As this is such a short half term, less than a month until we are on holiday again, we are having to pack our Easter celebrations in to a very tight time scale. All the festivities and the times and dates are in the diary section of this newsletter. You are very welcome to join us for any or all of them.

One of the things I would like to make you aware of is the huge increase of numbers we have benefitted from this school year. We are at present 262 on roll which is our biggest in all the years I have been here. This has meant that we have had to make slight changes to how we do things. I would like you to be aware that we will be separating our Celebration Assemblies starting from the one at the end of this term. Lower School Celebration assembly will start at 1.30pm and Upper School will start at 2.30pm. If you have children in both LS and US you are of course welcome to attend both. We have done this to ease the amount of space and movement for the children.

As our numbers have increased so of course has the level of funding we receive from the DFE. This has enabled us once again this year to run more classes than we have ever received funding for. At the start of this year for instance we received funding for 7 classes and actually ran 9. Because of the financial expertise of our Business Manager Mrs Draper, we are currently receiving funding for 8 but running 10 and a half classes, which includes my current teaching commitment in Year 6. This has enabled us to keep all classes the right side of 30, and quite substantially so, as well as employ well qualified TA's to work in classes plus a SENco, SEN Teacher and PFSA. I am confident that when you came in to see the work of your child at the recent Parents Evenings, you were able to see the impact of these actions on their learning. The children are

making very good progress indeed and for those who find life harder there is substantial support.

Judith
Principal

Contact Details

We are at times having difficulty contacting parents as mobile/landline phone numbers and email addresses have been changed. It is important that you let us have all up to date contacts should there be an emergency or if a club/event has been cancelled and we need to contact you either by phone or text. Please let the office know so your child's records can be update. Thank you.



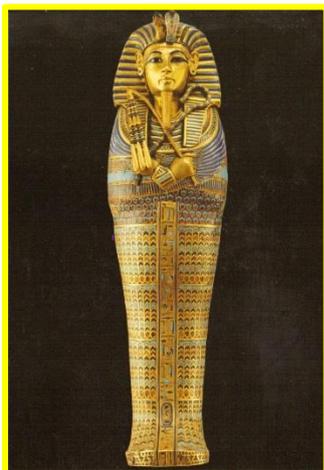
CROSS COUNTRY EVENT – 1 March 2016

The children that have been chosen (at random) to take part in the Cross Country event at Yeovil Showground are:

Anita Fortuna (Rosen)	Oliver Scadding (Rosen)	Lewis Hill (Rosen)
Paulina Malec (Walliams)	Harvey Lee-Flatt (Walliams)	William Ennor (Walliams)
Zachary Wellman (Ahlberg)	Isabel Coy (Wilson)	Lacey Newman (Wilson)
Chloe Green (Jennings)	Charlie Hughes (Jennings)	Alix Goodwin (Fine)
Sian Davison-Reynoldson (Wilson)		

The minibus will be leaving school at 3:15pm and returning between 5 and 5:30pm. Please make sure your child has their PE in school so they are dressed accordingly.

What's Been Happening in Cole Class



This week Cole class have continued to learn about the fascinating world of the Ancient Egyptians. Last half term we focused on the geography of Egypt and the vital importance of the River Nile. However this half-term we will be focusing on the history of Ancient Egypt. We are beginning to look at their fascination with the afterlife now that we have studied the gruesome process of mummification in some depth! Also, we have enjoyed practising our Easter songs with Mr Champion so we're ready for when the Year 3's lead the Easter service at the end of term.

However, the real highlight In Cole Class this week has been taking advantage of the beautiful sunshine. We have had fun doing a range of practical maths activities out on the playground and in the classroom which have made for memorable learning experiences. Our maths topic has been 'measures'. We have measured the time of things in seconds; the length of things in millimetres, centimetres and metres; the weight of things in grams and kilograms and finally we have measured liquid in millilitres and litres.

Here we used stopwatches and timed each other to see how long we took to run a lap around the playground - many did it in 30 seconds!



Here we used trundlewheels to measure the perimeter of the playground as our target was measuring the perimeter of a 2D shape. Once the children learnt how to use the trundlewheel they were off and found out the perimeter was 60 metres!

Here we used scales to weigh items you'd find in a kitchen, from a packet of cookies to a jar of curry sauce. It was surprisingly fun to do.

The children did really well to read the scales as they went up in increments of 20 or 50. If any adults at home could consolidate the children's learning by perhaps baking a cake with them this would be a perfect practical activity to do.



The children said: *"We like doing practical activities because it's more fun than working in your book but we're still learning!"*

LOWER SCHOOL FOOTBALL FIXTURE - 2 MARCH 2016

On Wednesday 2nd March we have a lower school league football fixture away at Huish. The squad is as follows:



Mason Williams
Nick Rice
Finley Turner
Oliver Hughes

Thomas Hodge
Connor Mapletoft
Zak Rhoden

Conlun Ferguson
Jake Hoyle
Alfie Smith

We will aim to get to the match at 4pm and kick off soon after. Please complete the form below so we can make final arrangements. You are more than welcome to come and watch but please be aware that all children must return back to St. Michael's after fixtures so the new football kit can be kept in school. We will aim to be back between **5** and **5:15**. Please also state below whether you intend to pick your child up from St. Michael's or if you are happy for them to walk home.

Please complete and return the form attached.



UPPER SCHOOL FOOTBALL FIXTURE – 8 March

On Tuesday 8th Milford we have an upper school league football fixture away at Milford. The squad is as follows:

Jack Tyrrell	Charlie Hughes	Josh Sculthorpe
Liam Fouracres	Shane Potheary	Filip Novak
Aiden McCarthy	Rhys Mapletoft	Lewis Ashford
		Brae Tyrrell

We will aim to get to the match at 4pm and kick off soon after. Please complete the form below so we can make final arrangements. You are more than welcome to come and watch but please be aware that all children must return back to St. Michael's after fixtures so the new football kit can be kept in school. We will aim to be back between **5** and **5:15**. Please also state below whether you intend to pick your child up from St. Michael's or if you are happy for them to walk home.

Please complete and return the form attached.

UPPER SCHOOL GIRLS FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT

7th March 2016



On Monday 7th March there is an upper school girl's football tournament at Westfields School. The squad is as follows:

Lacey Caines Jennifer Morgan Klaudia Pula	Grace Whatmore Millie Manley Alix Goodwin	Poppie Knapman Elli Lavender Anabel Eke
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You are more than welcome to come and watch but please be aware that all children must return back to St. Michael's after fixtures so the new football kit can be kept in school. The tournament starts at 4pm and should be completed by 5pm; therefore we will aim to be back between **5:30** and **5:45**. Please complete the form below so we can make final arrangements.

Please complete and return the form attached

GYMNASTICS



The children below have been selected to take part in a gymnastics competition at Orchard Gymnastics. The Upper School competition is on Friday 4th March at 1pm. The Lower School is on Friday 11th March. Both teams will be back in school for 3.30pm collection.

LOWER SCHOOL 11-3-16	UPPER SCHOOL 4-3-16
Orthia Potts Savina Ivanova Frankie Andrews Ellie Mae Chinnock Katie Coy Chloe Welsh	Sheya Orchard Livvy Orchard Katie Gardener Keisha James Bailey Tansley Lacey Caines

School Meal Provision

St Michael's Academy has been awarded a Healthy School status. As such we are committed to provide our own nutritious and healthy lunches which we will make fresh on site daily. We source and order our food a week in advance for the number of children who have pre-ordered and paid for meals. We do not offer a 'pay on the day' option. The cost of a meal is £2 per day. The menu is a 3 week rolling menu. It is available to view on our website and a copy is available from the school office.



REGULAR SCHOOL INFORMATION



NO SMOKING

GENERAL REMINDERS

Along with all other schools in Somerset, St Michael's Academy is a no smoking site, which also includes e-cigarettes.

Can we also ask that you look carefully at tee-shirts and other items with slogans and messages on to make sure they are appropriate for our children to see? Many thanks for your co-operation.

Can we also remind you to send your children to school looking clean and smart with a haircut appropriate for their age. It states very clearly in our prospectus that it is not our school policy to have hair cut less than a grade 3 and no dyed hair or totemic patterns. They should also be in black school shoes or trainers and not beach shoes or coloured trainers.

ABSENCE

If your child is absent from school please let the school know before 9am.

LOST PROPERTY

Please label your child's belongings. We have a growing selection of coats, uniform and PE kit in lost property.

FRUITY FRIDAY

Send your child in with 50p if they would like a bag of fruit and a juice drink. There is no charge if your child is entitled to Free School Meals. This is phenomenal value as there hasn't been a price increase in 7 years.



Swimming 2015/2016



Please note that on swimming days the children leave school at 8.30am prompt. 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 2 ~ 2016

Day	Year	Cost	Leave School/ Bus Leaves	BACK AT SCHOOL
Monday	Rosen Class @ Fiveways	£1.50	8.30am	10.00am
	Year 4 @ Goldenstones	£2.00	8.30am	10.00am
Tuesday	Year 6 @ Goldenstones	£2.00	8.30am	10.00am
Wednesday	DKS Class @ Fiveways	£1.50	8.30am	10.00am
Thursday	Year 5 @ 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, (shorts no longer than mid-thigh please.) Long hair must be tied back.

Please make sure they bring their money each week. Children in receipt of Free School Meals or Service Children 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.



In line with all Somerset schools, please refrain from bringing your dogs onto the playground. Thank you.



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.

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
- 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.

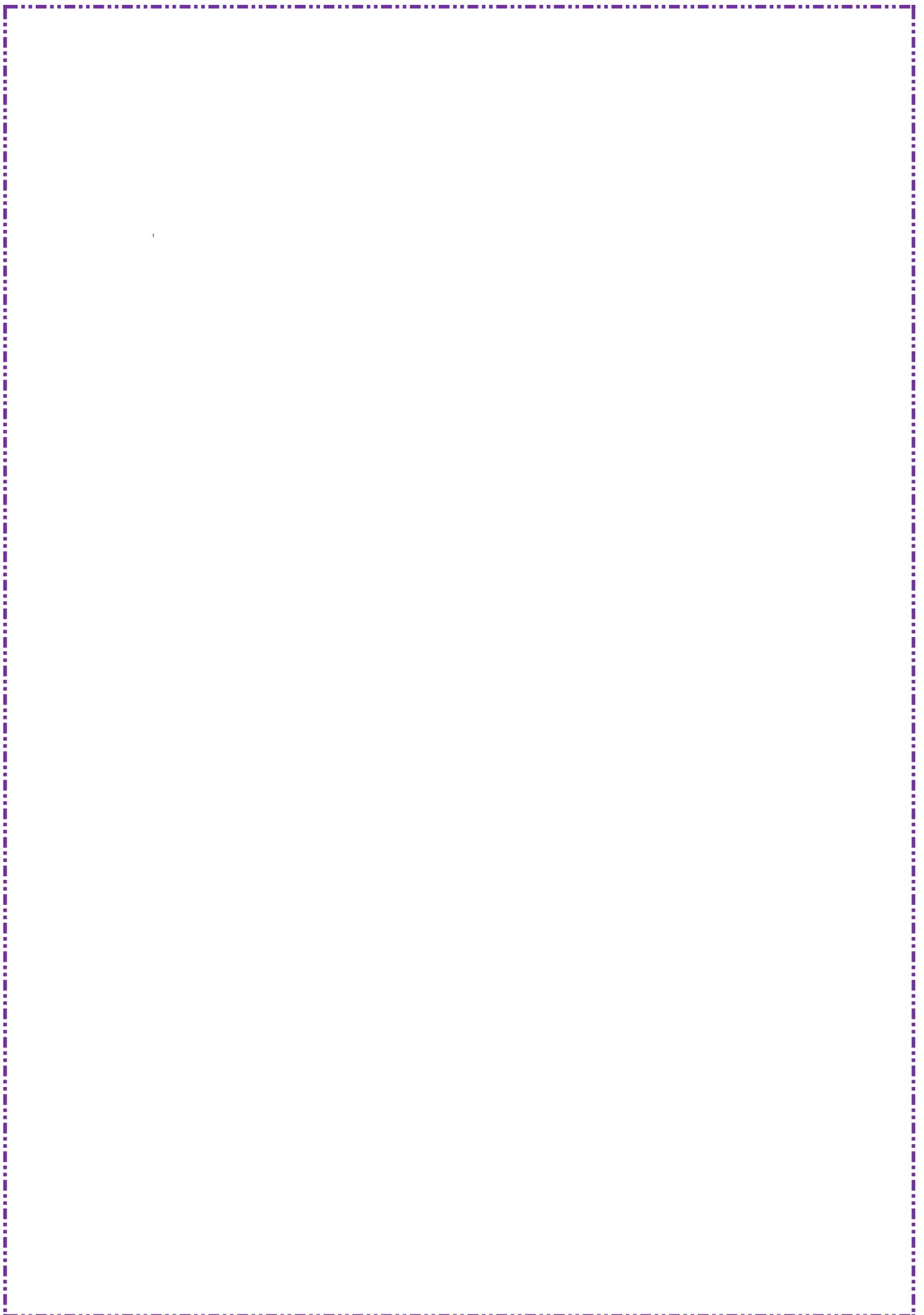
St Michael's Academy

DIARY DATES

March 2016

29	SHAKESPEARE WEEK - Governors Meeting 5pm
1	Upper School Tempest Performance by Young Shakespeare Company Cross Country Event @ Yeovil Showground - back to school approx. 5.15pm
2	Able Maths Day Lower School Football Fixture @ Huish Governors Meeting – Finance 5pm
3	
4	Payment due for Y6 Taunton Museum Trip - £7 Gymnastics Competition – Upper School
5	Saturday
6	Sunday
7	Ahlberg Class Assembly – 2.45pm. Parents are welcome to attend. Girls Football Fixture @ Westfield
8	Upper School Football Fixture @ Milford
9	
10	
11	Gymnastics Competition – Lower School
12	Saturday
13	Sunday
14	Full Governors meeting 5pm
15	
16	Y6 trip to Taunton Museum
17	
18	
19	Saturday
20	Sunday
21	NO SCHOOL CLUBS THIS WEEK
22	10.30am Easter hat parade, followed by hot cross buns and hot chocolate. Parents very welcome to attend. Easter Church Service – 2.00pm – St Michael & All Angels Church. Parents welcome to attend.
23	Celebration Assembly Lower school 1.30pm Upper school 2.30pm
24	Easter Egg Hunt. BREAK UP FOR EASTER – Return to School Monday, 11 April
25	Good Friday
26	Saturday
27	Sunday

RETURN TO SCHOOL MONDAY, 11 APRIL 2016
No School Clubs the first week back after Easter Break



FOOTBALL FIXTURES – Mr Bisgrove
Lower School – 2 March 2016

Child's Name		Class	
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I give permission for my child to take part in the football fixture:

- Wednesday 2nd March at Huish.
- I am able to help with transport between St Michael's Academy and the venue
- I give permission for my child to be transported by Academy staff and or other parents
- My child will walk home alone
- I will collect my child from St Michael's Academy

Signed: _____ Date: _____

FOOTBALL FIXTURES – Mr Bisgrove
Upper School – 8 March 2016

Child's Name		Class	
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I give permission for my child to take part in the football fixture:

- Tuesday 8th March at Milford
- I am able to help with transport between St Michael's Academy and the venue
- I give permission for my child to be transported by Academy staff and or other parents
- My child will walk home alone
- I will collect my child from St Michael's Academy

Signed: _____ Date: _____

FOOTBALL FIXTURES – Mr Bisgrove
Upper School Girls – 7 March 2016

Child's Name		Class	
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I give permission for my child to take part in the football fixture:

- Monday 7th March at Westfield School
- I am able to help with transport between St Michael's Academy and the venue
- I give permission for my child to be transported by Academy staff and or other parents
- My child will walk home alone
- I will collect my child from St Michael's Academy

Signed: _____ Date: _____

