



Friday Flyer

7th December 2018

Dear Parents,

As you are all aware we are constantly striving to make St Michael's a better place and one of the new initiatives that we are involved in is called 'Challenge Partners'. As part of this initiative we recently took part in a 3 day review of the school with a focus on the key areas of teaching and learning, leadership and outcomes of pupils. It gives me great pleasure to inform you that all areas above were deemed to be at least 'Good' and whilst the full report is not available on our website yet, I assure you that it will be within the next few days. However, I can share some of the comments made from the review team in this flyer for you and as you will read there are many positives to take out of the review. I am very proud of all of our pupils and the progress they continue to make and would also like to thank all of my colleagues for the hard work that has gone into making St Michael's a better place.

Attendance continues to be an issue for the school and I would like to remind you how important it is to ensure that your child/ren are in school during term time. Even if absence is authorised it does not help our quest to prove to the authorities that we are improving in this area. Persistent lateness in the mornings is also an issue and I have spoken to the children about this issue recently. Whilst 95% of our pupils arrive on time and are ready to learn there is a small minority who need to improve. Persistent lateness will cause disruption for the pupils who are already in school and particularly for the child that has to enter the classroom later than everyone else. Your help would be gratefully appreciated in improving this important area of school.

Christmas is upon us and the staff and pupils are busy preparing for the many different events that will take place over the next few weeks. I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible next Wednesday evening when our Year 4 pupils perform Aladdin. As always The Friends of St Michael's continue to work like busy elves and I am very much looking forward to the Christmas Fair next Friday. Our choir performed at the Quedam this week and they return on Thursday 13th at 5.00pm to dazzle and entertain the passing shoppers. Hopefully, you will be there to listen. The junior boys and girls football teams were also representing the school this week and my congratulations go to them all.

The last two weeks of term promises to be busier than ever and we are all looking forward to experiencing some festive fun around school. There are wonderful Christmas displays in and around school and my thanks as always go to those who go above and beyond in making St Michael's a very special to be.

Have a wonderful weekend and I look forward to seeing you all at some point next week. Have a restful weekend.



Challenge Partner Review

- The headteacher and the senior leadership team (SLT) are relentless in setting high expectations for all members of the school community.
- The school is calm and purposeful and pupils describe it as a 'happy place' to be.
- Pupils are proud of their school and their achievements and speak passionately about the experiences they receive at St. Michael's.
- Curriculum provision is borne from a deep understanding of the needs of pupils and the context of the school.
- The 'St. Michael's experiences' and the 'University of St Michael's' are key components in increasing pupils' linguistic, artistic, cultural and sporting skills. Pupils consider it positive to be good at something.
- Teachers create learning which inspires pupils.
- Pupils themselves describe learning at St Michael's as 'fun', 'brainworking' and 'memorable'.
- Differentiated, targeted questioning keeps pupils alert and their confidence in their teachers encourages them to 'have a go'.
- Teachers are confident in their subjects.
- Pupils display a pride in their presentation and are eager to share their best pieces of work.
- The challenge of misconceptions was seen at the start of one lesson due to the teacher's vigilance and 'next steps' in books leads to pupils making improvements.
- Strong relationships make a significant contribution to learning.
- There is a positive climate for learning in each classroom, routines are well established and pupils rise to high expectations.
- Teachers believe that pupils can do well which is infectious as pupils become resilient and determined.
- Teachers are prepared to take risks.
- The use of resources to create interest is evident across the curriculum.
- The use of real life, tangible examples enable pupils to deepen and embed their knowledge, skills and understanding.
- Enjoyment of learning is leading to high levels of engagement.
- Leaders provide a secure and caring environment so that all pupils can learn without barriers.
- Pupils are showing that they are keen to do well and older pupils have ambitions for the future which involve further study.
- Consistency in the approach to managing behaviour has changed the culture of the school.

Dates for the Term Ahead

Wednesday 12 th December	Year 4 Performance at 6pm – Parents invited to attend
Thursday 13 th December	Choir performing in the Quedam at 5pm
Friday 14 th December	PTA Christmas Fayre at 2.30pm School will finish at 2.20pm
Tuesday 18 th December	Pop-up pantomime in school – £1 non uniform day
Wednesday 19 th December	Christmas Jumper day and Christmas lunch
Thursday 20 th December	Church service time 11am – Parents invited to attend School finishes at 12pm
Friday 21 st December	Inset Day
Monday 24 th December	Christmas Holidays



January

Monday 7 th January	Inset Day
Tuesday 8 th January	Children return to school
Friday 10 th January	Open Afternoon – For September Starters

Safeguarding

Safeguarding means - Protecting children from abuse and maltreatment, preventing harm to children's health or development and ensuring children grow up with the provision of safe and effective care.

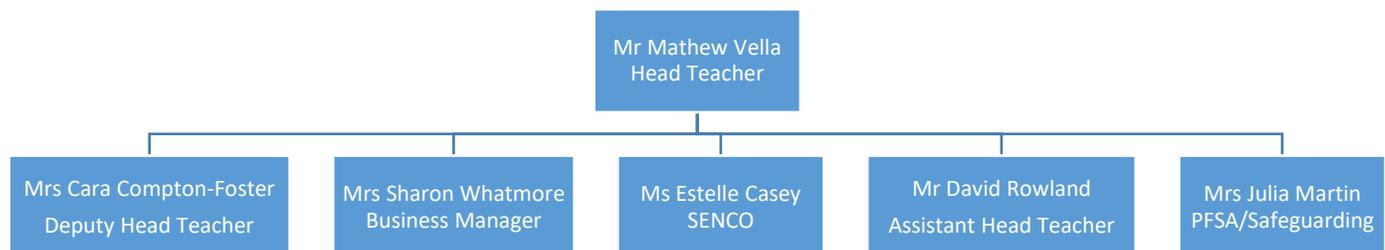
Designated Safeguard Lead - Matt Vella

Deputy DSL - Julia Martin

Deputy DSL - Cara Compton-Foster

St Michael's Leadership Team

Our Senior Leadership Team are always on hand to meet to discuss any concerns that you may have. Please contact the school office on 01935 423863.



Football Tournaments

Year 3 and 4 Football tournament took place at Bucklers last week. They played really well and had a mixture of results with wins, loses and draws.

Year 5 and 6 Girls football took place this week. They had tough competition and gave it their all.

Both teams played really well and showing promising signs ready for tournaments in 2019.



After School Clubs

After School Clubs will finish on Thursday 13th December. There will be no Ukulele club running next week due to the Christmas Fayre.

Bookings for After School Clubs starting on 14th January are now open and these can be booked via <https://stmichaelsacademy1.parentseveningsystem.co.uk>. All current bookings will not carry over and you must book for your child to attend from January.

If you have any problems please speak with the School Office who will be able to help you.

School Car Park

Just a reminder that parents are not to use our car park to drop off children to school or when collecting.

We have noticed a rise in parents doing this and not only does this make it harder for staff to park their cars but there is a significant safeguarding issue for our children walking to and from school.

Thursday 20th December

On Thursday 20th December the school will finish at 12pm. We will hold our Christmas Church Service at 11am and then all children will return to school to collect their bags and coats before being dismissed.

Choir Singing in the Quedam

The Choir performed in the Quedam yesterday and did a wonderful job. They have worked hard practicing and made us proud with their performance.



They will be performing again at the Quedam on **Thursday 13th December at 5pm**. Please come along and support them. Thank you

Year 4 Performance

Year 4 will be performing Aladdin for their parents on Wednesday 12th December at 6pm. Children who are involved in the production need to be in school for 5.30pm.

Unfortunately we are only able to accommodate 2 adults per performer as we only have limited space in the hall.

We look forward to seeing you there.

Friday 14th December

School will finish at 2.20pm.

Friends of St Michael's will be holding their Christmas Fayre from 2.30pm.

There are lots of great stalls such as, a photo booth, stocking game, envelopes on the tree, raffle, mystery tombola and each class will be selling items that they have made.

Please come along and support this event.