

Dear Parent/Carer,

I hope that you all had a relaxing break and managed to do something fun with your children over the holiday period. Whilst the weather has been a little cold in the morning it is great to see the sun shining and the children enjoying themselves at break times.

I would like to remind you that all term dates are published on our website and any request for absence during term time will be rejected unless there are extenuating circumstances. If you still decide to take your child/ren away then a penalty notice will be issued. We continue to have an attendance figure below the national average and strive to be better in this particular area.

Academically, the children are working hard and continue to make progress. Your support at home is vital if the children are going to make the required progress that we all crave and listening to your child read, write or do a few numeracy sums will go a long way to helping us.

I am in the process of organising classes for parents who would like additional help with the literacy and numeracy work that their children are competing in school. If you are interested in attending these classes then please let Mrs Bunkin know in the school office.

I want to take this opportunity to let you know how delighted I am with the progress that the school is making since our OFSTED inspection in September. Behaviour for learning is much improved and whilst we still have some social issues to deal with at break times the staff and I are working very hard to improve this. It has also been great to see the number of parents interested in improving the school and I look forward to seeing those of you that have volunteered over the forthcoming weeks.

Yours sincerely

Matt Vella

Head Teacher

St Michael's Academy

Dates for the Term Ahead

Monday 26th February U10 Futsal Tournament 3 – 5pm at Bucklers

Thursday 1st March World Book Day

Children to dress as their favourite character for the day to

celebrate World Book Day

Friday 9th March Non Uniform day

Wednesday 14th March

Wednesday 21st March

Wednesday 21st March

Thursday 22nd March

26th Mar until 6th April

Monday 19th March

19th until 23rd March

children to bring in an Easter donation

Monday 12th March Year 3/4 Boys Football Tournament 3 – 5pm at Bucklers

Easter Bingo – more information to follow

Parents Evening

Themed Week – Stories around the world

Easter Church Service at 2pm - parents invited join us

Parents Evening

Year 5/6 Girls Football Tournament 3 – 5.30pm at Westfield

Easter Holidays

Bikes and Scooters

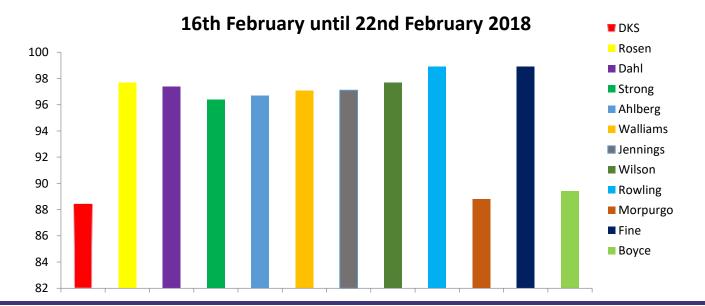
Please can we remind you that bikes and scooters are not to be brought to School. We have had reports of a few incidents involving them so the decision has been made to stop children bringing these to school. We have to think of the safety of our pupils.

Smoking

Please remember that we are a No Smoking school and this also includes smoking on the driveway, thank you.

Weekly Attendance

Congratulations to **Rowling and Fine** class who achieved attendance of **98%.** The winning class will receive 5 house points. The overall school attendance for this week is 94%.



Governors

We are looking for new Co-opted and Parent Governors. The role of a Governor is to work as a team along with the governoring body to ensure the school provides a good quality education for all pupils. This is a voluntary role and elected applicants will need to attend around 6 meetings a year which are usually held between 4pm and 7pm.

If you are interested in becoming a Governor please get in touch with the school office.

Swimming

Children need to be on the playground **no later than 8:25** as the bus leaves at 8:30. If the child misses the bus they will have to go into school and have lessons as they normally do.

Starting Monday 19th February. Swimming is £2 per child per each week.

Monday: Rowling and Walliams Tuesday: Ahlberg and DKS Thursday: Dahl and Rosen

Fit and Fun 4 Life

With Fit & Fun 4 Life, (formerly Rosemary Conley Diet & Fitness Classes)

And we have been operating here for the last 9 years!

Do you want to get fit and tone up?

Are you are looking for -

- Exercise that is fun and easy to follow with fun motivating music.
- Friendly experienced staff who understand how you feel
- A proven healthy eating plan, with food for the whole family with weekly information on cooking and healthy eating (weigh in is optional)
- Classes are for all levels of fitness and include aerobics, fat burning and toning sessions Classes are held in the school gym (please use side entrance) on Tuesday & Thursday evenings 6.30-7.30pm and we have our effective fat burning HIIT class every Saturday morning 9-10am. For details Call: 07855 433453 or 01935 864453 Email: fitandfun4life@outlook.com Or visit our Website at www.fitandfun4life.com, *and claim your first class FREE!*

Book Fair

Thank you for the wonderful support you showed to the Book Fair this week. We made over £900 which meant that we were able to have £500 in books for the school. It was lovely to see all the children enthusiastic in their reading.

No Dogs

Please may I remind all parents that we have a strict 'No Dogs' policy on site. Therefore, if you arrive to pick up your child with a dog then you must wait at the bottom of the drive and not outside the main school gate.

Year 6

We are very pleased to announce that we have begun a trial for all of our Year 6 children with **SATs Companion**, an online SATs revision tool, in the run up to the KS2 tests.

SATs Companion is partnered with BBC Bitesize and the Institute of Education, and offers over 25,000 different questions, along with video explanations to help Year 6 children with revision in maths, SPAG and Reading. Children can gain instant feedback on areas they are excelling in and need work in, with the data coming back to their class teacher to help inform interventions in school. It is accessible on laptop, tablet or phone.

All children have been given a login and a password in school, along with a demonstration on how to use it. If you are able to log in with your child, then there is a 4-minute explanation video in the help section which will further give you an idea of how this system can really help in the lead up to SATs. We hope you will be able to support your child in using SATs Companion.

This is an extremely valuable tool which we hope all children will take full advantage of.

ELSA

This is Mr Whatmore's ELSA group called the Pharoahs. They had fun decorating biscuits with icing and sprinkles to reflect their mood. Some of the children ate them but some took them home. They had great fun as you can see from the photo.



Holiday Requests

St Michael's Academy will no longer be authorising any holiday requests unless there are exceptional circumstances surrounding the trip. Term Time request forms still need to be completed otherwise these unauthorised absence may result in an attendance issue.

Medical appointments effect children's attendance so where possible please arrange these for after school or children need to be brought in and then taken again later for appointments

Dates for our School Year 2018/2019 will be emailed next week.

Pen Mill Football Club

Pen Mill Football Club are starting a Girls Training. Training sessions are on a Wednesday 5-6pm at Westfield School. First 2 weeks are free and then £2 a week thereafter. If you are a girl in year 3, 4, 5 or 6 and interested in Football come along.

Contact Grace Channing on 07837 769038 for more information.