



### Message from Mrs Tyler

Well the weather has kept us on our toes this week. I hear we are heading now for Storm Jorge – let's hope this is the last before we start to see an improvement in the weather and that March brings the arrival of Spring – I think we all need it!

We welcome some new staff this half term – Mr Edwards (see his pen portrait below) who will be teaching in Shackleton Class when Miss Baker leaves to have her baby; Mrs Maylam, who has joined us as a Learning Support Assistant and Lunchtime Supervisor; and also Mrs Burney and Mrs Waterhouse who join us next week as additional Lunchtime Supervisors. We hope they all settle into school life well.

We have the Year Group contributions within our Newsletter this week which expand on some of what we have been doing in school. We hope you are enjoying the extra information about each year group every month. There is also the usual information about forthcoming events. It therefore only remains for me to say have a lovely weekend, and wrap up warm!

### Children's Achievements

Congratulations to:

- Ollie T in Columbus who won a silver medal at the Rushmoor Royals Open Meet for 200m Breaststroke. Great swimming, Ollie!
- Carla M in Shackleton Class was awarded a trophy for being positive whilst playing for Wildcats Football Team. Well done, Carla!
- James B in Shackleton class has been awarded his green belt in karate this week. Great work, James!
- Amelie R in Luther King Class has been awarded the Blue Peter Music Badge and a certificate for entering the BBC 500 words competition. Fantastic, Amelie!
- Bella L in Attenborough Class has also submitted a story for the BBC 500 words competition and received her certificate. Well done, Bella!

If your child takes part in activities outside school which merit a mention in our newsletter, e.g. sporting

or musical achievements, please let the School Office know, and we shall ensure it is included in the next newsletter

([adminoffice@st-michaels-jun.hants.sch.uk](mailto:adminoffice@st-michaels-jun.hants.sch.uk))

### Year 3 News

The children all seem refreshed from their holiday and eager to learn. We are continuing our study of biomes and South America until Easter, including some exciting field work studies. The children have looked at some climate graphs and used their knowledge gained from last half term to decide which graph relates to which biome. They were successful at this and could justify their reasons well referring to the graphs.

In Literacy we are looking at The Tin Forest and in Guided Reading, The Iron Man. The children have already begun to predict what they think the story of The Iron Man might be about and who the main characters might be.

In Maths we are currently looking at problems and investigations relating to money. The children will gain an understanding of budgeting for a party, learn how to calculate change after purchasing goods and which selection of coins is most suitable.

In Science we are continuing to look at bodies. This half term will be focussed on digestion and nutrition. The children are thoroughly enjoying this topic.

### Year 4 News

It is the start of another exciting and busy half term in Year 4. We discovered a lot about the Ancient Egyptians on our school trip to Haslemere Museum. This week, we held our 'Egyptian Day', where the children enjoyed exploring our Ancient Egyptian Artefact boxes, which included some different Ancient Egyptian costumes. Soon, the children will have the opportunity to learn about the food that the Ancient Egyptians ate when they design and bake their own Egyptian bread. Hopefully, you will have the chance to taste their cuisine. As part of this learning, we will also be learning about the benefits of a healthy lifestyle including diet, exercise and a healthy mind.



In Music, we have begun practising for our Easter Performance. We will soon be sending home copies of the songs that we are practising in school, and we hope that you will be able to join us at our concert showings on Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> March and Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> April. We look forward to seeing many of you before these dates at our Year 4 Work viewing on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March.

### Year 5 News

It has been a great week back at school with Year 5 and we hope that you all had an enjoyable and relaxing half term. Just before the holiday, we had our trip to Ufton Court to learn more about the achievements of the Ancient Greeks. We enjoyed lots of hands on experiences: a ground exploration through the city states (including some wool spinning), some theatron (performing the story of Theseus and the Minotaur) and Olympic Games in which we got to try sports like discus, javelin, Greek wrestling and long jump. It was a fantastic day and a big thank you to all of the parents who volunteered to give up their time to come on the trip with us; it is very much appreciated.

We were also lucky enough to welcome lots of you to our Work Viewing on 7<sup>th</sup> February. We hope you enjoyed the opportunity to look through the children's books and see some pictures of the children in action in their year group Handball tournament. This half term, we are continuing to look at the Ancient Greeks and will be writing our very own travel brochures for Elysium – the heavenly home of Virgo, a constellation that comes to visit Earth in our class book. We look forward to sharing our writing outcomes with you soon.

### Year 6 News

The children are very much enjoying our Restless Earth topic. Time has been spent in Geography using compass points to describe the route to a particular volcano; we will be using grid references and ordnance survey maps to locate dormant volcanoes in Scotland too! The homework projects, linked to our topic, were amazing. So much hard work had gone into producing the projects and the children were very proud to show their work in class.

Before half term in Literacy, the children wrote a short story inspired by a film clip entitled, 'Chaperon Rouge'. Figurative language was used to describe the setting and to engage the reader. This week, we started to read a short story by Michael Morpurgo, called The Giant's Necklace. Please ask your children about the story. Can they describe the different events? Where is the story set? Who are the characters? We will be using this story as a starting point for our next piece of writing.

Our recent 'My Happy Mind' sessions have focused on what makes each child special and unique. We have been thinking carefully about our strengths, and how we can grow our strengths even more!

In Maths, we have been developing our reasoning and arithmetic skills. The children enjoy problem solving and applying what they already know to work out the answers.

This week in Science, we embarked on our 'Evolution and Inheritance' topic. Children were asked to share their knowledge about fossils with each other, and storyboards were created to show how fossils are formed. We have seen some very creative and beautifully presented storyboards.

Last half term, it was really pleasing to see the children's sportsmanship and teamwork develop in their P.E. sessions. Their awareness of the rules, and positioning on the netball court, really improved. We have reminded the children that P.E. kits should be in school on Wednesday and Friday.

Before half term, many children took part in Bikeability sessions. It is really important for the children to remember all they learned during the week so they are safe when riding their bikes.

We are really looking forward to sharing our work with you at our next parent viewing on Wednesday 1st April at 2:45pm.

### World Book Day – Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March

For world book day next week (Thursday) we are inviting children to dress up as a favourite character from a story that they have read or shared, or from a book that really captured their imagination. Alternatively, if your child would prefer not to dress



up, we would like them to bring in some props associated with their favourite character. The challenge will be for their classmates (and teachers) to use the 'clues' to determine who their favourite character is.

As part of our own celebration, every class will hold a 'Book Talk', where we will be inviting children to bring a favourite age-appropriate book to school to share and recommend to their peers. It can be a book that they have enjoyed reading to themselves, or that has been read with them, fiction or non-fiction, and any length, but it is important that the children know the book well so that they can discuss it with their class. As well as talking about their favourite book, children may (this is optional) write a review or create a poster to support their 'Book Talk', which will then form part of a class 'reading recommendations' display. Children's book recommendations should not be any longer than 2 minutes. Teachers are happy to help any children with their book presentation, and support them in answering questions that the class may be eager to ask about the book.

### **Parents' Consultation Evenings**

Parents' Consultation Evenings will take place on 24<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> March. The on line booking system is now available, and will remain open until Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March. If you have trouble booking, please do not hesitate to contact the School Office.

### **Staffing**

As you all know, Miss Baker will be leaving before the end of the academic year to start her maternity leave. We are pleased to welcome Mr Nathan Edwards this week to our School who will be teaching Shackleton Class when Miss Baker leaves.

### **Pen Portrait - Mr N Edwards**

Name: Mr N Edwards

Likes: Jokes, Sport, Reading, Making friends and being organised

Dislikes: Bread and Butter pudding, bacon and arguing.

Unusual fact: I secretly enjoy a musical.

### **In school**

I started my career in education as a teaching assistant nearly 6 years ago at Lymington Junior School. I soon went on to train as a teacher via a Schools Direct programme at the University of Southampton and my most recent post was as a Primary Teacher at Colden Common Primary which I was sad to leave at the end of last half term. Learning on the job, in a variety of settings, has enabled me to gain a plethora of skills and resources which helps to facilitate well planned and resourced lessons.

As an inclusive primary practitioner, I value the importance of high standards to enable all children to achieve their potential. I am committed to ensuring that children are provided with inspiring learning experiences which allow them to progress and achieve. I believe in a broad and balanced curriculum for all and hold outdoor education and physical activity in high regard. I believe learning is best provided through experiences which enable engagement, collaboration and enjoyment.

Within school, I would describe myself as a highly motivated, committed and ambitious person. My colleagues would describe me as 'passionate for learning' as there is always an outside of the box activity in the pipe line within my year group or school. However, having the skills and support of all staff ensures they are always safe and enjoyed by all. I also enjoy coaching a variety of sports and hope this is something I can bring to your school.

### **Outside of school**

My wife and I have recently moved to the area to be closer to family and in our spare time enjoy walking and socialising with friends. I also enjoy playing rugby for the local rugby team. I've played for nearly 18 years and have gained some fantastic friends from the sport. We all support London Irish and when time permits we love to go to the Madjeski stadium for a catch up and watch the mighty greens usually lose. I'm a member of the local fishing club which I believe adds time to a busy life to reflect and enjoy silence.



### Year 5 Numeracy Club at Alderwood Senior School

Edward N, Holly H and Eleanor N from Parks class and Joe P from Luther King class all attended the Numeracy Club at Alderwood Senior school, where they enjoyed 5 weeks of fun maths sessions with children from other local primary schools after school on Wednesdays. This culminated in a trampoline session on the last evening, where they all received certificates for attending. Well done, everyone!

### #EatThemToDefeatThem

This month ITV and Veg Power launched another *Eat Them to Defeat Them* campaign focussed at primary school age children, shown on TV and in cinemas. We have been given 'Mission Packs' for each child so that they can hunt down and try each of the six featured vegetables at home.

The packs contain a reward chart and stickers to encourage children to eat the vegetable of the week, tips to encourage fussy eaters and links to tasty recipes. We will be sending the packs home on Friday and hope the children will enjoy trying new vegetables and recipes over the next few weeks.

### FOMO (1<sup>st</sup> of the month only) Service

Please see attached flyer advertising the FOMO (1<sup>st</sup> of the month only) service being held at St Michael's Church on Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> March starting at 10:30am. The multi-award winning director/producer of *The Lonely Planet*, Jeremy Higham, will be joining the congregation.

### Updated Information on Coronavirus (COVID-19)

National advice for travellers from areas affected by Coronavirus (COVID-19) has changed this week, and we understand that parents and carers may have questions about this. The school is following national guidance that has been issued for educational settings.

The latest accurate information on Coronavirus (COVID-19), including the current situation in the UK and details about the virus and its symptoms, can be found at [www.nhs.uk/coronavirus](http://www.nhs.uk/coronavirus). This is updated regularly and includes the most recent advice in relation to travel from certain parts of Italy - so we

encourage you to visit the website for the latest information.

The UK's Chief Medical Officer continues to advise that the risk to individuals in the UK remains low.

As a school, the most important action that we can take to protect against Coronavirus and other germs is to promote good hand and respiratory hygiene. We continue to encourage the children and staff to do the following and ask that you support this at home too. The advice is to:

- wash hands often - with soap and water or using alcohol sanitiser if handwashing facilities are not available.
- cover coughs or sneezes with a tissue, then throw the tissue in a bin.

We are following national advice and the school is operating as normal. Should the situation change or if we are given different advice, we will communicate this to you.

If you believe you are at risk, then please contact NHS 111 for advice.

### East Hampshire Local Cycling and Walking Strategy Consultation

Integrating walking and cycling into daily life has well-established benefits for the community, environment and the economy and we understand that having a good network of routes is important to help increase the level of physically active travel in our district including the journey to school.

In line with the Department for Transport's Cycling and Walking Investment Strategy 2017, East Hampshire District Council is working to produce a Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP) to help fulfil the Government's ambition "to make walking and cycling the natural choices for shorter journeys or as part of a longer journey."

East Hampshire District Council would really appreciate your participation in completing a short survey, which will define and prioritise essential



developments to the cycling and walking infrastructure in East Hampshire

The questionnaire is available online until Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2020. Please follow this link to complete the survey: [www.easthants.gov.uk/ontherightpath](http://www.easthants.gov.uk/ontherightpath)

### **Twitter**

Please follow us on @StMichaelsCEJun

### **Diary Dates**

#### **March**

2 <sup>nd</sup> Mar	3.30-4.30 pm PTA Meeting
3 <sup>rd</sup> Mar	Group School Photos
5 <sup>th</sup> Mar	World Book Day
5 <sup>th</sup> Mar	2.30 pm Parent Forum
9 <sup>th</sup> -13 <sup>th</sup> Mar	Sport Relief Week
12 <sup>th</sup> Mar	4:00-6:30 pm Gremlin Dance Challenge – Princes Hall (Dance Club)
24 <sup>th</sup> Mar	3.50-6.30 pm Parents' Consultation Evening
25 <sup>th</sup> Mar	9.15-9.45 am Year 5 Work Viewing
26 <sup>th</sup> Mar	5.00-7.30 pm Parents' Consultation Evening
27 <sup>th</sup> Mar	9.15-9.45 am Year 4 Work Viewing
31 <sup>st</sup> Mar	5.30-6.30 pm Year 4 Easter Performance

#### **April**

1 <sup>st</sup> Apr	9.15-10.15 am Year 4 Easter Performance
1 <sup>st</sup> Apr	2.45-3.20 pm Year 6 Work Viewing
2 <sup>nd</sup> Apr	2.45-3.20 pm Year 3 Work Viewing
3 <sup>rd</sup> Apr	Last day of Term
4-19 <sup>th</sup> Apr	<b>Easter Holidays</b>
20 <sup>th</sup> Apr	First Day of Term

This is not an exhaustive list. More dates may be added.