



Message from Mrs Tyler

Christmas already seems such a long time ago! Thank you for all of your good wishes at the end of last term and for the lovely cards and gifts for staff – they truly are so much appreciated. For those of you that I haven't yet seen since the start of term, may I take this opportunity to say that I hope you all had a lovely Christmas and New Year and that 2020 has started well for you. I hope it will be a happy and healthy year for all.

It has been a positive start to the term within school, with all of the children settling quickly into routines once more. We welcome Miss Attrill (Mandela), Mrs Phillips (Curie) and Miss McCabe onto the teaching staff this term – they have settled well too! We are also delighted that Mr Hopgood has returned to do some PPA Cover for us on Thursdays and Fridays this term.

Alongside the Newsletter this week you will also receive a Year Group Letter and Topic Overview for your child's year group. If you have any questions, please do contact your child's class teacher in the first instance. We have included a few general reminders for you. I hope you find them useful.

Finally, before I sign off, I wanted to share some lovely news with you – Miss Baker is expecting her first child in the summer! She has, of course, given me her permission to share this news, and she has told her class today. Details about when she will start her maternity leave and who will take over Shackleton will follow in due course. In the meantime, I am sure you will all join with me in wishing Miss Baker and her partner every happiness.

Have a lovely weekend everyone!

Children's Achievements

Congratulations to:

- Carla M in Shackleton who plays for Wildcats Football Club and was awarded Player of the Day in a tournament held in December.
- Ollie T in Columbus who has been awarded his Bronze Certificate for 50m Breaststroke; Bronze Certificate for 50m Freestyle and Silver

Certificate for 100m Breaststroke. Great work, Ollie!

- Elsa A in Curie for competing in a swimming gala with Farnham Swimming Club in December. She won gold for Breaststroke; silver for Butterfly; silver for Freestyle and silver for Backstroke. Super achievement, Elsa!
- Grace F in Luther King who has completed all her swimming levels, and has been invited to join their advanced swimming school to compete! How exciting, Grace, what a great achievement!
- Thomas C in Parks who won the Musical Theatre Award whilst playing the Mad Hatter with the Illusion Dance Academy at Farnham Heath End. He won the award for going in with a smile and having confidence with the work. Fabulous achievement, Thomas!
- Eleanor S in Mandela and Poppy B in Fleming who have both been awarded medals and certificates from the British Dance Association for their Junior Tap and Junior Modern. Great work, girls!

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

YEAR 6 REMINDERS:

Important Dates to Note: 2020 KS2 Test Dates (Applicable to Year 6)

Please note the following dates for statutory tests for this academic year. It is important that pupils are present for all statutory tests.

Mon 11 May 2020 – Grammar, Punctuation & Spelling – Papers 1 & 2

Tuesday 12 May – Reading Paper

Wednesday 13 May 2019 – Maths Paper 1 & 2

Thurs 14 May 2019 – Maths Paper 3



SATs Information Evening – Year 6

Parents of children in Year 6 should today have received notification of an information evening to be held at school on Monday 3rd February 2020 at 6:00pm. The purpose of the meeting is to provide parents with information about SATs, including ways to support your child at home. There will also be an opportunity for you to ask general questions about the arrangements. **Please note that this is for adults only.** We hope to see you there.

MyHappyMind App

A letter was sent from the School Office on 13th December asking for feedback regarding the myHappyMind parent app. Please could we ask that you take a few moments to send the feedback form back to the Office, in order that we can get an understanding of how useful you have found the app. If you require a printed copy, please ask at the School Office. Your feedback is very important to us. Thank you. We have attached another copy of the form with this Newsletter.

HC3S – Taste Testing

On Wednesday 29th January HC3S, the school catering company, will be in school to carry out taste testing with the children. During the lunch hour they will be inviting the children to sample small tasters from both the current and new menu. HC3S are keen to encourage the children to try new foods and to discover their likes and dislikes for the new menu.

Children who are currently on the HC3S special diet register will not be able to participate in the taste testing. **If you do not wish your child to take part in the taste testing, then please email the school office by Friday 24th January.**

Winter Weather

With the start of the new term it's a good time to remind parents of our procedures for winter weather. Should there be snow overnight at any time, school staff will endeavour to be on site early and start clearing paths so that children and staff can get into school safely. We do everything we can to open the school, however there have been occasions when staff who

live some distance away can't get to school safely, so there are many things to consider before making a decision. Should we reluctantly have to make the decision to close the school, we send parents a text to let them know as soon as a decision has been made, and also publish our decision on the local radio station (Eagle Radio) and on the front page of our school website. **No messages from the school means that we are open.** Please can we ask parents **not** to phone the school to ask if it is open, but to check in the ways outlined above. We need to keep the phone lines clear so staff can let us know their situation. Thank you!

Weather warnings!

Please remember that the weather changes very quickly at this time of year so the children should all be prepared for wet and cold weather – coats are essential please in school, as we go out in all weathers!

Safeguarding Message – Online Safety

With so many children receiving digital media as a gift in some shape or form over Christmas – tablets and gaming consoles, for example – we thought it would be an appropriate time to remind you about the responsible use of such devices.

In the light of increasing concerns about child exploitation through social media, please do take the time to set up **robust parental controls** on devices and ensure that you set the passwords and codes so that only you know them. It is your responsibility as parents to know what the children are accessing on their devices and who they are talking to.

There is some helpful advice relating to this on Hampshire County Council's website:
<https://www.hants.gov.uk/socialcareandhealth/childrenandfamilies/safeguardingchildren/onlinesafety>

If your children are likely to be using the internet, you may find it helpful for them to be aware and to have viewed this website:
https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/5_7/

There are links for children of all ages.



Helpful advice is also available from the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children (NSPCC) website:

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/>

Aside from the risk of exploitation and cyber bullying, it is unfortunate in this day and age that content exists on social media that would be inappropriate, and potentially harmful, for young children to view.

If you know of anyone who receives images or videos on Snapchat, Instagram, Whatsapp, TikTok or via any other social media featuring inappropriate content, these should be deleted immediately and **reported to the Police** on the non-emergency **101 telephone number**. Many people are still unaware that showing or sharing such images or videos with others could mean they are committing a crime. However, if a genuine mistake is made, it is likely that it would be treated as such by the Police.

Term Time Holidays and Related Absence and Lateness – A Reminder

The Hampshire County Council Code of Conduct for term time absence stipulates that a penalty notice should be issued to parents where a pupil has 10 unauthorised absence sessions in the last 100 school sessions and there are no exceptional reasons why the pupil has been prevented from attending school.

Where a pupil has persistent lateness to school, schools are obliged to warn parents that, unless the pupil's punctuality improves, further lateness will be recorded as unauthorised absence. This unauthorised absence may lead to a penalty notice being issued when the 10 session threshold has been reached.

A Supreme Court ruling in April 2017 made it clear that pupils should attend school regularly in accordance with the school's rules. Hampshire County Council expects all schools to follow the Code of Conduct consistently and consult with neighbouring schools where siblings attend more than one local school. The Law states that unauthorised absence should result in legal intervention and Hampshire County Council expect all maintained schools and academies to respect this. The Local Authority has a duty to ensure schools comply with the Law and

support them in providing a legal intervention framework through the Code of Conduct.

Hampshire's Behaviour and Attendance webpages have a statement explaining the legal position for parents. Here is the link:

<http://www3.hants.gov.uk/education/hias/learning-behaviour-attendance/attendance-guidance-for-parents/possible-penalties.htm>

COULD WE PLEASE POLITELY REMIND ALL PARENTS NOT TO REQUEST ABSENCE IN TERM TIME UNLESS ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY. IT IS ALSO HELPFUL IF MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS CAN BE MADE OUTSIDE OF SCHOOL HOURS PLEASE, WHERE POSSIBLE – WE APPRECIATE THAT IT IS NOT ALWAYS POSSIBLE TO DO THIS.

SOME PLAYGROUND REMINDERS:

Football before School

I have spoken to all of the children today about the need for sensible behaviour when playing football or ball games before school. I reminded them all that my decision to allow these was based on sensible behaviour and only soft balls being used. I have been made aware that some are not following these rules. If this continues to be the case, then ball games will not be permitted at all.

A reminder please that parents should avoid walking across the centre of the playground while the children are playing football, for their own safety, if they do not want to be caught in the middle of a game.

Scooters

Please remember that scooters should NOT be ridden on in the school grounds. This is not us being mean, but to avoid unnecessary accidents with pedestrians. Thank you for your understanding.

Dogs

A reminder that dogs are not allowed on site.



St Michael's CE Junior School
North East Hampshire Area Schools' Orchestras'

Smoking

Smoking, including the use of e-cigarettes, is not allowed on site.

Behaviour Outside of School

Sadly, the school received a phone call from a member of the public this week informing us that she had observed two boys from St Michael's Junior School riding their bikes very fast down the alley by the Infant School.

Please can you remind your children that when they leave school they still have a responsibility to conduct themselves in a manner which reflects our school values. They are not just representing us, but you as well. Thank you for your help!

Parent Appointments

There are still some parents who have not made an appointment to see their class teacher since September and who did not attend Parents' Evening back in early November. Teachers have been asked to ensure they follow up with all parents so please do remember that it is important that you take up the opportunity to share your child's progress with the school. In addition, please remember that if you have any concerns at all, make an appointment with your child's class teacher in the first instance – please do not wait for Parents' Evening. It is important that your concerns are shared and dealt with promptly.

Phyllis Tuckwell Donations

Thank you to everyone who contributed to our donation pots at our Christmas performances over the last couple of weeks. We raised an amazing **£498.52** from our retiring collections for Phyllis Tuckwell Hospice in memory of Leila Frampton – thank you for your generosity.

Stamps

Don't forget about our appeal for used stamps - send them in to the school office and we will then donate them to the Phyllis Tuckwell Hospice. Thank you.

We have been asked to let you know about the North East Hampshire Schools' Orchestras' Extravaganza.

The North East Hampshire Schools' Orchestras (NEHASO) is a cluster of ensembles which form part

of the network of groups run by Hampshire Music Service. They rehearse weekly during term time and perform regularly in various concerts and events.

On **Wednesday 29th January and Thursday 30th January 2020** they will be hosting two evenings where students are invited from schools in the local area to experience some exciting music making with other young people, with the hope that they will join as regular members. However, if they want to go along for just these events, that's fine too!

The Extravaganza events run after school and are free to take part. There will be an informal performance at the end of each evening.

Details are as follows:

Wednesday 29th January 2020

Time: 5:00 – 7:30 pm

Venue: The Wavell School, Lynchford Road, Farnborough GU14 6BH

For wind, brass and string players from Introductory Level to approximately Grade 6; all ages welcome

Thursday 30th January 2020

Time: 4:30 – 7:00 pm

Venue: Alderwood Senior School, Aldershot GU12 4AS

For anyone interested in Taiko (Japanese Drumming); no previous musical experience necessary; Year 5 and above.

Further information is attached to this Newsletter.



Snacks

The following snacks are available for pupils to purchase from the school kitchen during the morning break:

Milk Shake - 50p

Orange/Apple Juice - 40p

Bread - 25p

Raisins - 25p

Fruit - 30p

Twitter

Please follow us on @StMichaelsCEJun

Diary Dates

16 th Jan	2.30pm Parents Forum
23 rd Jan	Choir to O2 for Young Voices
3 rd -7 th Feb	Year 6 Bikeability
6 th Feb	Year 4 Haslemere Museum
7 th Feb	9.15-9.45 am - Year 5 Work Viewing
11 th Feb	2.45-3.20 pm - Year 6 Work Viewing
13 th Feb	9.15-9.45 am - Year 4 Work Viewing
14 th Feb	9.15-9.45 am - Year 3 Work Viewing
14 th Feb	Year 5 Trip to Ufton Court
17 th -21 st Feb	Half Term
24 th Feb	Children back to school
2 nd Mar	3.30-4.30 pm PTA Meeting
3 rd Mar	Group School Photos
5 th Mar	2.30 pm Parent Forum
25 th Mar	Year 5 Work Viewing
27 th Mar	Year 4 Work Viewing
31 st Mar	5.30-6.30 pm Year 4 Easter Performance
1 st Apr	9.15-10.15 am Year 4 Easter Performance
1 st Apr	Year 6 Work Viewing
2 nd Apr	Year 3 Work Viewing
3 rd Apr	Last day of Term