

SCHOOL NEWS

25th February 2017

Dear Parents,

Welcome back after the half term holiday. I hope that you all had an enjoyable and restful break. Our first day back at school was eventful, with a call from Ofsted. The outcome of our inspection last week is still confidential and we will publish the result as soon as we are able. Thank to everyone: children, families, governors, staff, colleagues from other schools, the Diocese and the inspector for all your efforts on St Michael's behalf.

Last Wednesday we held a maths challenge day, where every class had the opportunity to work in teams to solve different puzzles. Reactions from children and staff were very positive; please look out for Ethan and Melina's report in this newsletter.

This coming week we look forward to welcoming you into school for the Parent Consultations on Monday and Thursday. Sign-up sheets are outside each classroom, if you still need to make an appointment. You are also all invited to watch the Pancake Day races on Tuesday at 2pm; the PTA are providing refreshments in the hall. Please come and join in the fun. The PTA are also hosting a film event for the children after school on Friday, further details are available separately in this newsletter.

This Wednesday we will be celebrating World Book Day with a visit from Duncan Beedie, the

author of 'The Bear who Stared' and 'The Lumberjack's Beard'. Everyone is invited to dress up in a woodland/lumberjack theme, please read the additional information from Mrs Pope below. Duncan Beedie will be available in the hall after 3pm for a book signing, including the opportunity to buy his books. Please come along.

On Friday we will be taking part in the annual OxClean event. Teams of children will be out and about in the local community helping to clean up, as well as spring cleaning in school.

Best wishes,
Rosalind Owen

Our Value of the Month for February
is
KINDNESS
Our Value of the Month for March is
FORGIVENESS

Head Teacher's Award

Before the half term holiday, Head Teacher's Certificates were awarded to:

Reception: Grace and Kiaa
Year 1: Elisha and Sofia
Year 2: Jillian and Daniel
Year 4: Isaac and Joy
Year 5: Finn and Mahreen
Year 6: Laura and Isabella

This week Head Teacher's Certificates were awarded to:

- Reception: Piper and Kodie
- Year 1: Seth and Millie
- Year 2: Thomas and Naomi
- Year 3: Sahar and Mia
- Year 5: Jude and Jasmyn
- Year 6: Jonny C and Ana

Please go and read the work of this week's **star writers**:

- Reception: Andi
- Year 1: Genevieve
- Year 2: David
- Year 3: Izzah
- Year 5: Imogen
- Year 6: Isabela

Maths Challenge Day

On Wednesday, the school took part in a maths puzzle day. A lady called Adele came in and gave the children different logic puzzles to solve as a team. Adele also sold maths puzzles. The children really enjoyed it. The first puzzle was where you had to put all the objects on the boat without you making them fall over. The next puzzle was where you had to fit all the 3-D shapes on three different sized trucks without them sticking out the top. The next puzzle was where you had to order the fish when there was only one different one every time.

Melina and Ethan (Year 3)

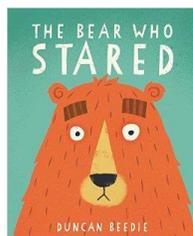
World Book Day

Mrs Pope writes:

We are delighted to announce that the author Duncan Beedie is coming to St Michael's on Wednesday 1 March to celebrate World Book Day with us (a day early!).

Duncan is a promising new talent in the world of children's literature, whose first book, 'The Bear Who Stared', has just been nominated for the Waterstone's Children's Book Prize 2017. The successor to this hilarious story about manners is 'The Lumberjack's Beard', another funny story but with a serious message underneath the humour about what happens to the natural world if we chop down too many trees.

Children in Key Stage 1 and Reception have enjoyed listening to both books and have contributed to a display in the Library based on The Lumberjack's Beard. The Gardening Club has also taken on the responsibility of planting the ten fir tree seeds the publisher sent with the book, while Year 5 had a discussion on the issues the book raised, contributing many interesting facts and thoughts. Duncan was so impressed by the efforts of our children, that he offered to come to the school, waiving the usual author visit fees, so he could meet everyone and check out all the brilliant work that has been done.



We'd like to give Duncan a big surprise and run our World Book Day theme based on his books. Therefore, if your child could dress up as either a lumberjack (beard optional) or an animal that could be found in a forest (rainforest would be fine too) that would be wonderful. We are planning all sorts of fun activities for the day, based on the books, so it should be fun and educational. Who could ask for more?

PTA Film Afternoon

Please come to St Michael's PTA Film afternoon:

Friday March 3rd 3.30-5pm
SNOOPY AND CHARLIE BROWN: THE PEANUTS MOVIE (Certificate U)
£2 per child to include popcorn and juice

Please collect children promptly at 5pm from the outside door by Year 4.

Children will be supervised by school staff and members of the PTA. Tickets are available from PTA members in the playground and at the school from school office. (Please ensure you have the correct money, as we do not keep change in the office).

This event is for St Michael's school children only.

Mickey's

From 13th March Mickey's will be using an online booking and payment system. From this date parents will need to book all sessions and settle invoices online using the website: <https://mickeysclub.magicbooking.co.uk>.

Please note that you will only be able to book places at Mickey's if you have set up an account on the website. No more paper bookings will be made after 10th March 2017. If you need any additional information, please contact the Mickey's Committee.

Red Nose Day

We will be supporting Red Nose Day this year on Friday 24th March. Red noses will be on sale for £1, Year 5 children will be coming to each class after lunch to sell them. The money we raise will go towards helping people living really tough lives in the UK and across Africa.

School Lunches

Please can we remind you that children in years 3, 4, 5 and 6 should only be asking to have school lunches if they have been paid for in **advance**.

Lunches can be paid for using ParentMail, which accepts a minimum payment of £10.50 for 5 lunches. The table below calculates the cost of lunches for the first half of the Spring Term.

Total for this half term (35 days) = £73.50	
Meals taken in a week	Cost from 20 th February to 7 th April
1	£2.10 x 5 days = £10.50
2	£2.10 x 10 days = £21.00
3	£2.10 x 15 days = £31.50
4	£2.10 x 20 days = £42.00
5	£2.10 x 25 days = £52.50
6	£2.10 x 30 days = £64.00

7	£2.10 x 35 days = £73.50
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Children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 are entitled to free school lunches through the Universal Infant Free School Meals scheme.

The latest lunch menu is available on the school website under Documents and Links.

Sainsbury's Active Kids Vouchers

We are continuing to collect Sainsbury's Active Kids Vouchers. There is a collection box at the front entrance. Thank you to everyone who has already donated vouchers, which we can exchange for new cooking and sports equipment.

Dates for the diary:

- 27 February: Parent Consultation 5-7pm
- 28 February: Pancake Day races at 2pm
- 1 March: World Book Day
- 2 March: Parent Consultations 3:30-5:30 pm
- 2 March: Full Governing Body meeting 7pm
- 3 March: OxClean/Springclean
- 3 March: Sharing Assembly (not year 5)
- 3 March: PTA Film Event 3:30pm**
- 10 March: Sharing Assembly (not Year 6)
- 14-17 March: Book Fair in school**
- 17 March: Sharing Assembly (not Year 1)
- 24 March: Red Nose Day
- 24 March: Sharing Assembly (not Year 2)
- 24 March: PTA International Evening**
- 28 March: Year 6 trip to Natural History Museum
- 31 March: Sharing Assembly (not Year 3)
- 4 April: Easter Service at Church
- 7 April: Sharing Assembly (not Year 4)
- 7 April: Break up for Easter Holiday 1:30pm**
- 24 April: Back to School**
- 2 - 5 May: Year 5 residential at Yenworthy