



SCHOOL NEWS

7th April 2017

Dear Parents,

As we break up for Easter, there is lot from the last few weeks to celebrate. Please read about the children's success in art, playwriting and sport.

Our value of the month for April is Joy and one of the most joyous occasions I have attended recently was the PTA's International Evening. It was wonderful to see the children representing so many different countries in their dress and the food that they brought with them. We were splendidly entertained by Richard Baker's drumming; very many thanks to him and the PTA for a truly memorable evening. We are very lucky at St Michael's to have people from so many countries and cultures as part of our community.

We have welcomed a number of visitors to school over the past few weeks. The Rainbow Theatre enacted the Easter Story, please read Sophia's account, and the fire service allowed Years 1 and 2 to explore a fire engine. Jamal and Daniel have written about the experience. Years 1 and 6 have both visited the Natural History Museum and Year 3 travelled to the Living Rainforest. We are yet again very proud to have been told how impressed people were with our children. Year 3 were complemented on their behaviour and their extensive knowledge.

A lot of excitement has been generated around science in the last weeks of term as all the

children worked in groups to create and carry out science investigations. The subjects of their experiments ranged from nappies to chocolate, octopi to paper aeroplanes. When we return to school, the teachers will be picking the best projects to go forward to a county wide competition.

You may have seen the beautiful cherry tree that has appeared at the front of school. Thank you very much to David Haycock for donating and planting the tree.

The last week of term was rounded off by the Easter Service on Tuesday afternoon. Each class contributed to the telling of the Easter story through drama, art and song. I have been told by a number of people how moving they found the service. The Year 4 violinists and the orchestra gave a concert on Wednesday which demonstrated just how far they have developed over the year. Thank you to all who came to the service and the concert.

May I wish you a very peaceful and joyful Easter Holiday and I look forward to seeing you all back on 24 April.

Best wishes,
Rosalind Owen

Our Value of the Month for April is

JOY

*Clap your hands all you nations;
Acclaim our God with shouts of joy.
Psalms 47:1*

Y3 and 4 Mixed Football County Final

Mrs Hasting's writes:

A team of Y3 and Y4 football players were invited to the Mixed Football County Finals on 5 April. St Michael's had a strong team; our defence was very good with Joia fearlessly tackling and Dexter and Morty sharing the other defensive position. Rhys was formidable in goal and consistently executed fantastic saves throughout the tournament. Jake, in striker position, was electrifying, scoring numerous goals and seizing every opportunity to 'break away' and score. Abby displayed great team-work with Jake and scored a few goals for the team. Their efforts achieved first place for St Michaels in their group.

We then played in the quarter finals where a tough team got the better of us and we were defeated. A downcast and tired team then played for 3rd or 4th position where we narrowly missed a podium place.

Dr Bridge and myself are very proud of the tremendous effort of this team and look forward to developing skills in the future. Well done! Remember you can keep up with all our sporting successes on the sports Blog on the website.



Oxford Playhouse Young Players Festival

Year 5 have spent a lot of time developing and writing plays as part of the Oxford Playhouse Primary Playmaker writing programme. Three of our children's plays were chosen for performance at the Playhouse and the class spent the afternoon of 29 March watching their plays being performed, along with plays by other schools. We are very proud of our featured playwrights: Thomas, Abby and Zoe.

Young Art Oxford and Oxford ArtWeeks

A number of children entered this year's Young Art Oxford competition and we are delighted that five children's art works have been selected for exhibition at the Ashmolean Museum. Congratulations to Imogen, Abby Kay, Izzah, America and Aidan. Their work will be on display in the museum between 4 and 6 May.

We will be celebrating art by all the children at our Oxford ArtWeeks open afternoon on Tuesday 23 May. Please come along and view their creations. (We have changed the date advertised in the ArtWeeks brochure, as school will be closed on 26 May.)

Head Teacher's Award

The following children have received Head Teacher's Certificates over the past weeks:

- Reception: Rosa, David, Zoe, Isabella, Earvin and Stan
- Year 1: Seth, Sabrina, Elara, Isabela, Genevieve and Elizabeth
- Year 2: Jillian, Josiah and Sophia
- Year 3: Mimi, Lucy, Ruby and Tyler
- Year 4: Abby, Joia, Nicole, Jack, Arfah and Harvey
- Year 5: Mohammad, Jasmyn, Manny, Nabeel, Emily and Shariq
- Year 6: Lukas, Jonny P, Mark, Laila, Wills and Lily

Congratulation to our recent star writers:

- Reception: Maya and Yunjin
- Year 1: Iden and Sophia C
- Year 2: David and Eliza
- Year 3: Abdullah and Mia
- Year 4: Morrigan and Pauline
- Year 5: Finn
- Year 6: Ana

Rainbow Theatre

On Tuesday the Rainbow Theatre came to school. First we went to the hall with Reception and Year 2. We sat on mats or benches. Then the play started. The play made me feel sad and happy and scared. A happy part was when Jesus came back to life. A sad part was when Jesus got pinned to a cross. The scary part was when Jesus was arrested. It helped me understand the story better.

Sophia C (Year 1)

Firefighter Visit

On Monday morning the fire brigade came to talk to us and their names were James and Declan. The whole class had a turn to squirt water that was in the hoses to try and knock the cones down. We learned that the water in the fire engine runs out in 3 minutes.

My favourite bit was when I squirted water in the cones and the water pushed the cones down. The whole class got to go inside the fire engine. The fire fighter who was outside was called Jed.

Jamal (Year 2)

We went outside and we looked at the fire engine and looked at all the tools. The fire engine would run out of water in three minutes with just two hoses running. We got to knock cones over by spraying water on the cones. There were four ladders on the fire engine. There were more than a thousand litres of water on the fire engine.

They had a really heavy tool for cutting open cars. The fire engine was really big. They told us to test our alarms on Tuesday. They had a kettle in the fire engine.

My favourite part was when we got to knock over the cones with the hoses. It was very easy and fun. The fire fighters were a bit funny.

Daniel (Year 2)

Internet Safety

The following links have been recommended to us as very useful for alerting parents to the risks of the internet and how to keep children safe on line. Please take the time to look at them.

<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/Support-tools/How-to-guides/>

<https://www.net-aware.org.uk/>

Eco-Council

All the children have voted for their class representatives for the Eco-Schools Committee and for a World Wild Life Fund Mascot, which we will be sponsoring. Our Mascot is the Snow Leopard and the members of the Eco-Council are:

Reception: Charlotte and Kodie

Year 1: Iden and Freya

Year 2: Finja and Mathieu

Year 3: Mia and Jakob

Year 4: Joia and Jack

Year 5: Hiba and Thomas

Year 6: Laura and Zachary

Miss Smith is leading Eco-Schools; please look out for news of exciting new initiatives.

PTA Film Club

After the very successful showing of The Peanuts Movie, the PTA are pleased to announce another Film Club event. This time Film Club will be split into two sittings, KS1 and KS2; children can choose to go to either or both events. The difference is the film choice, the time and choice of snacks. Both films are certificate U.

KS1

Film: Curious George

Snacks: Popcorn, juice or water and fruit

Cost: £2

Time: 3:30 - 5:00pm

KS2

Film: Diary of a Wimpy Kid 3 - Dog Days

Snacks: filled bread roll, crisps, small packet of sweets, juice or water

Cost: £3.50

Time: 5:30 - 7:00pm

Tickets will be available for sale on ParentMail after Easter. If children are attending both sessions, both sessions must be paid for.

Film Club is for St Michael's school children only.

Mickey's

To book and pay for sessions at Mickey's, please use the following website:

<https://mickeysclub.magicbooking.co.uk>

There will be a Mickey's meeting on Wednesday 26 April at 6:00pm in school.

Local church Easter services

St Michael & All Angels, New Marston

Palm Sunday 9 April: 10am Procession with Palms

Monday 10 April: 6pm Passover Meal

Tuesday 11 April: 6pm Simple Holy Communion

Wednesday 12 April: 11am Holy Communion

Maundy Thursday 13 April: 7:30pm Liturgy of the Last Supper; watch of prayer until midnight

Good Friday 14 April: 12 noon Ecumenical Worship at the War Plaque and bench, Marston Road; 1:30pm Liturgy of the Lord's Passion

Easter Day 16 April: 5am Dawn Easter Vigil; 10am All Age Easter Service

St Clements Church

Palm Sunday 9 April: 10:30am Holy Communion; 6:30pm Evening Worship

Maundy Thursday 13 April: 7pm Church Family Supper followed by Communion Service at 8pm

Good Friday 14 April: Stations of the Cross, Cowley Road, meet 10:15am Cowley Road Methodist Church; 2pm Time at the Cross, an hour of reflection in the church

Easter Day 16 April: 10:30am Easter Celebration with Holy Communion; 6:30pm Taize Easter Celebration with music and meditation

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 calculates the cost of lunches for the first half of the Summer Term.

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.

Total for this half term (28 days) = £48.30	
Meals taken in a week	Cost from 24 April to 25 May
1	£2.10 x 4 days = £8.40
2	£2.10 x 9 days = £18.90
3	£2.10 x 14 days = £29.40
4	£2.10 x 19 days = £39.90
5	£2.10 x 23 days = £48.30

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:

- 24 April:** **Back to School**
- 26 April:** Mickey's Meeting 6pm
Full Governing Body Meeting 7pm
- 28 April:** Sharing Assembly (not Year 4)
- 1 May:** **May Day Bank Holiday - no school**
- 2 - 5 May:** Year 5 residential at Yenworthy
- 4 May:** PTA Meeting in school 8pm
- 5 May:** Sharing Assembly (not Year 5)
- 5 May:** **PTA Film Club**
- 11 May:** Full Governing Body Meeting
- 12 May:** Sharing Assembly (not Year 6)
- 19 May:** Sharing Assembly (not Year 1)
- 19 May:** **PTA Discos**
- 23 May:** Oxford ArtWeeks open afternoon 1:30-3:30pm
- 25 May:** Sharing Assembly (not Year 2)
May Pole Dancing
- 25 May:** **Break up for Half Term**
- 5 June:** **Back to School**
- 8 June:** Class photographs
- 9 June:** Sharing Assembly (not Year 3)
- 16 June:** Sharing Assembly (not Year 4)
- 17 June:** **PTA Summer Fair**