

St. Michael's Nursery & Infant School

NEWSLETTER – OCTOBER 2019

Attendance and Punctuality

The current whole school attendance is 97%!! Year 1 is in the lead with 99%, in 2nd place Year 2 with 97%, 3rd place Reception with 96% and finally Nursery with 94%. This is fantastic and we would like to thank all families of St Michael's for their hard work in getting their children to school and on time too.

Unfortunately we still have a few families who are persistently late. Please try to arrive on time because if it is after 9.00am you must sign your child in at the school office and a member of staff will have to take your child into class. This causes disruption to the teacher and the rest of the children who will have started their Literacy lesson as soon as the register is complete.

If you are finding it difficult to get to school for 9am don't forget that the morning club is open from 8.00am. We do need to have notice that your child is going to be in morning club and the cost is £1.00 per session.

Celebration of Autumn

Thank you to everyone who came to St Michael's Church for our celebration of Autumn! It was lovely to see so many families there to support the children. The children performed and sang beautifully and we are very proud of them all.

Near misses on Station Road

As you may be aware over the years we have had lots of problems with Station Road and traffic. We have had many parents report to us that drivers just won't stop to allow people to cross. Recently some new Belisha Beacons were installed in an attempt to make drivers more aware of the crossing. However, there are a minority that still refuse to stop! We have since written to the Cumbria Highways department to see if they can help any further and are still awaiting a response from this. PCSO Alison Renney informed us that there have already been two traffic surveys carried out on Station Road in the last two years and unfortunately both deemed there wasn't an issue. PCSO Alison told us she will get in touch with a CRASH officer to see if there is anything she can do to help.

We have asked Orian to provide us with a Lollipop Lady which will help with the safe crossing before and after school but please can everyone remain vigilant when crossing this road and ensure children always cross with an adult.

We will soon be having a Road Safety Week in school to teach the children the importance of staying safe on the road.

Correct Uniform

Everyone is looking fantastic in their St Michael's Nursery and Infant School uniform, however, please ensure children wear appropriate footwear too. Black school shoes are durable and weatherproof. Many children come to school in shoes unsuitable for the weather or playground resulting in feet getting wet or accidents happening. Please also ensure that all uniform is labelled with your child's name. Thank you

Governors - Fundraising by Mrs Sheena Brown, Chair of Governors

Our Chair of Governors Mrs Sheena Brown, wrote out to many companies in the area asking for help in raising monies to buy resources for school. Thankfully, we had such a positive response from lots of local companies. We received monies from Iggesund, who regularly donate and support us and bought some Maths Beebots for our Reception class, we also received several cheques from companies including Dobies and Thomas Armstrongs! The most amazing response came from Mandale Homes. A lovely lady called Caroline Graham from Mandale sent us an email asking how the company could help and what they could offer! During the summer holidays, two decorators came into school and painted our Upper School cloakroom and stairwell, which was in need of some TLC and completely transformed it! The place looks amazing and we would like to say a special thank you to Mrs Brown for taking the time to write out to these companies in the search for funding and for always supporting our school. We have sent letters of thanks to all these generous companies for their continued support of St Michael's Nursery and Infant School.

Pumpkin Carving Competition – whole school including Nursery 31st October

It is nearly time for our annual pumpkin carving competition. If you would like to help your child carve a pumpkin and enter the competition, please can we have all pumpkins in by the morning of **Thursday 31st October - all entries cost £1.00**. The pumpkins will be judged then they will be sent home with the children at home time. A prize will be given to a boy and girl in each year group for the best-carved pumpkin. Good luck everyone!

Autumn Disco Thursday 7th November 4.00pm – 5.30pm

The children are invited to our Autumn Disco on Thursday 7th November. The price is £2 per child which is payable on arrival and will include a party plate and a drink. There will be lots of party games and dancing and children can come in fancy dress or party clothes. Children do not need money for the disco once the entry fee is paid.

The Nursery children will not be able to come to this event and it is for St Michael's pupils only.

Victorian Christmas Experience at Helena Thompson Museum Thursday 7th November, Reception, Year 1 and 2

On Thursday 7th November, Reception, Years 1 and 2 will spend the day at the Helena Thompson Museum for a Victorian Christmas Experience. The children will explore and enjoy what Christmas might have been like in the 1800's. We will be sampling Victorian Christmas food, creating cards and decorations and experiencing the simple Christmas traditions in a Victorian Home.

Please can all children come to school in Victorian Costume to go to the museum. No charge will be made for this visit and children should come to school at normal time 8.50am and be collected from school at normal time 3pm. Thank you

Ideas for Victorian Costume:

Boys

Dark trousers, light shirt, waist coat, flat cap etc.

Girls

Dark coloured dress, white pinafore, frilly hat etc.



Remembrance Day Monday 11th November 2019

101 Years ago the guns fell silent on the world's first truly global war. We believe it is time to think about all of those who lived through this tragic and remarkable time and who put Britain on the path to becoming what it is today. On Monday 11th November 2019 we are inviting parents to come into school and join the children in a 2 minutes silence for Remembrance Day. If you would like to join us for the silence, please go to the school hall for 10.45am. We look forward to seeing you all there.

Operation Christmas Child

This week we will be sending home leaflets for the annual Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child shoebox donation. The leaflet provides details of how to pack your shoebox and gift suggestions. In previous years we have only received a few of these important shoeboxes. If you are unable to make up a shoebox for donation we would welcome any of the items listed in the leaflet such as dolls, cuddly toys, pens, toothbrushes, soap, hat scarf, gloves etc. to allow us to make up the boxes in school. Any donations must be handed in to school by **12th November 2019**.

School Photographer Friday 15th November

The school photographer will be available for family photographs with siblings who do not attend our school from 8.30a.m. in the school hall. All children will have an individual photograph taken during the day and children who have siblings in school will also have them taken together on this day.

School photographs make a great gift at Christmas so please be prompt when ordering to ensure you receive your order on time and avoid a delivery charge.

Children in Need – `Spotacular` Friday 15th November

The BBC Children in Need brings out the best in us, it's our chance to shine, to step up, to do whatever we can to help change the lives of disadvantaged children and young people across the UK. On Friday 15th November we will be having a `Spotacular` activity day in school. As this is the same day as our school photographs we are not going to be wearing fancy dress but instead, after the photographs have been taken there will be an opportunity for your child to have their face painted. We will be sending home a Pudsey decorated money tube. We would be extremely grateful if you can pop any spare change into the tube and return it on Children in Need day.

Dates for your diary:

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| <i>17th October</i> | <i>KS1 to Whale Tales Book Launch at Mayfield – children only</i> |
| <i>18th October</i> | <i>School Closes at 3pm for half term</i> |
| <i>28th October</i> | <i>School re-opens for Autumn Term 2 8.50am (Morning Club starts at 8am)</i> |
| <i>30th October</i> | <i>KS1 Dental Survey</i> |
| <i>31st October</i> | <i>Flu Immunisations</i> |
| <i>31st October</i> | <i>Pumpkin Carving Competition</i> |
| <i>7th November</i> | <i>Victorian Christmas at the Helena Thompson Museum for Reception, Year 1 and Year 2. Children to come in Victorian fancy dress</i> |
| <i>7th November</i> | <i>Autumn Disco 4pm - 5.30pm Reception, Year 1 and 2</i> |
| <i>11th November</i> | <i>Year 2 to Cenotaph 9am</i> |
| <i>11th November</i> | <i>Remembrance Day Silence in School hall 10.45am – Parents invited</i> |
| <i>15th November</i> | <i>School Photographer 8.30am</i> |
| <i>15th November accessories</i> | <i>Children in Need – children to wear uniform and bring Pudsey</i> |
| <i>18th November</i> | <i>Road Safety Week – PCSO Renney Road Safety Assembly</i> |
| <i>21st November</i> | <i>Road Safety Workshops from NIS Ltd</i> |
| <i>29th November</i> | <i>Non Uniform – Dress Down for Chocolate Day – more details to follow</i> |
| <i>4th December</i> | <i>Miss Rachel Dance Performances in the Parish Rooms – more details to follow</i> |
| <i>5th December</i> | <i>KS1 Bingo in the school hall 1.30pm</i> |
| <i>12th December</i> | <i>Nativity in St Michael's Church 2pm</i> |
| <i>17th December</i> | <i>Christmas Dinner Day</i> |
| <i>19th December</i> | <i>Christmas Parties</i> |
| <i>20th December</i> | <i>Christmas Jumper Day and Toy Day</i> |
| <i>20th December</i> | <i>School Closes at 1.15pm for Christmas Break</i> |
| <i>7th January</i> | <i>School re opens at 8.50am (Morning Club starts at 8am)</i> |