



St Michael's Primary
School
& Pre-school

King's Way
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The Countdown to Christmas is on and we are well into the swing of Christmas festivities here at St Michael's. We have had a wonderful series of events organised by our excellent PFA ranging from Christmas Crackle to wearing something Festive for Chocolate and a fun filled Disco. The Children have been very busy preparing for our Carol Concert and Nativity Performances. Their wonderful singing has filled us all with Christmas spirit and we know they will make you very proud at the Performances. We are also looking forward to the Christmas Bazaar, Christmas lunch and the Christmas Production in Exeter. Thank you to your amazing children for all their hard work and participation this term, and you the parents for your constant support. The staff and I would like to wish you all a very Happy Christmas and a healthy and prosperous New Year.

Mr Kiddle Head Teacher

Open Day and Primary School Applications

Your application for a Primary School place is due by 15th January 2017. Please do not leave it too late. St Michael's Open Day will be on Thursday 12th January 2017.

New Digital Register

We have moved to a new digital register which have sped up our registration times. It is vital that children are in school on time. The school gate will close at 8.55am after which point your child will need to come in via the office and will require signing in by the parent/carer stating the reason for lateness. If a pattern of lateness emerges, we have a duty of care to investigate and if appropriate report it to the School Attendance Officer at Dorset County Council. Please help us and work with us to get your child to school on time.

We have noticed a marked improvement in late arrivals since switching to this system. Many thanks to all our parents/carers for your support. Our overall attendance is 96% so far this term.

Appointments

Please may we remind you that all medical appointments during school time need documentation.

After School Clubs will start the week of 9th January 2017

Wednesday: Dodgeball with Go Active – Letters are out. Deadline for applications is 7th December.
Thursday: French and Spanish with Madame Sturtridge and Drama for Year 6 only with Sue Wiscombe

Swimming Classes

Swimming classes will start for Pyrites Class on Friday 13th January for 6 weeks. Letters will go out at the start of term.

If there are any parent volunteers who will be able to help us on a Friday please do get in touch with Lizzie/Nicole in the office.

Contact Details

Please ensure that you let the School office know if you change any of your contact details. It is vital we are able to communicate with you in the event of an emergency.

Breakfast Bunch Club

Our Breakfast Club runs each school day of the year in the hall from 8am-8.50am. A variety of delicious breakfasts are provided by our team. Please ensure that you book in advance at the school office.

PE Sessions

If your child has pierced ears, please ensure that they bring tape to put over their stud earrings during PE/Games sessions to avoid the earrings getting caught.

Coats

Please remind your children to bring their coats with them every day. We are still spending quite a bit of time outside and regularly walking to Church with the children.

Fundraising

Thank you to all of you who helped raise funds for Children In Need this year. We are delighted to say your very generous donations raised a grand total of £ 148.48! Thank you everyone.

A big thank you to all of you who kindly prepared Christmas Shoeboxes for Samaritan's Purse. We donated 32 shoeboxes bursting with generosity.

Also, why not try a 'Reverse Advent Calendar' - each day you add an item to the box and then just before Christmas donate the contents to a foodbank.

Important Dates for the Diary

Wednesday 7th December at 10am at school; Nativity Performance KS1 only
Thursday 8th December at 2pm at school: Nativity Performance KS1 only

Friday 9th December: Christmas Fayre at School from 3.30pm

Tuesday 13th December: School Christmas Lunch

Wednesday 14th December: School Trip to see Christmas Production Peter Pan in Exeter.

Friday 16th December: Last day of term

Tuesday 3rd January 2017: First day of term
Monday 13th February – Friday 17th February: Half Term
Monday 20th February: Staff Training day SCHOOL CLOSED.
Tuesday 21st February 2017: School opens
Friday 31st March: Term Ends

Term Dates for 2017/2018 attached to this Newsletter

TERM DATES FOR SCHOOL YEAR 2017-2018

AUTUMN TERM 2017

Monday 4 th September	Staff Development Day – SCHOOL CLOSED
Tuesday 5 th September	Staff Development Day – SCHOOL CLOSED
Wednesday 6 th September	School Opens
Friday 20 th October	Staff Development Day – SCHOOL CLOSED
Monday 23 rd - Friday 27 th October	HALF TERM WEEK - SCHOOL CLOSED
Monday 30 th October	School Opens
Friday 15 th December	Term Ends

SPRING TERM 2018

Tuesday 2 nd January	School Opens
Friday 9 th February	Staff Development Day – SCHOOL CLOSED
Monday 12 th – Friday 16 th February	HALF TERM WEEK - SCHOOL CLOSED
Monday 19 th February	School Opens
Thursday 29 th March	Term Ends

SUMMER TERM 2018

Monday 16 th April	School Opens
Monday 7 th May	BANK HOLIDAY - SCHOOL CLOSED
Friday 25 th May	Staff Development Day – SCHOOL CLOSED
Monday 28 th May	SPRING BANK HOLIDAY – SCHOOL CLOSED
Tuesday 29 th May - Friday 1 st June	HALF TERM WEEK - SCHOOL CLOSED
Monday 4 th June	School Opens
Wednesday 25 th July	Term Ends

FREE SCHOOL MEALS

MAKE SURE OUR SCHOOL GETS ALL THE FUNDING WE ARE ENTITLED TO!!

There is one way that you could really help us!

*If you **do not** already claim Free School Meals then:*

PLEASE find out if your child is eligible for Free School Meals. Just go on to www.dorsetforyou.com/free-school-meals-queries, select the 'Apply now' button. You will be guided through the process and asked to enter your National Insurance Number. By the end of the procedure you will know if you are eligible.

If you need help or do not have access to a computer please contact the School Office or complete the slip below.

This **does not** mean that your child needs to eat the school lunch. You can provide them with their own packed lunch, if you prefer. We can also provide assistance with school uniform, school trips etc.

We will be eligible for **£1320** per child, so if 10 children are eligible, this will give the school **£13200!**

Please come and let the School Office know if you are eligible by the 20th January 2017

Please complete and return to the School Office asap:

Child/Children's Names: _____

Parents/Carers Full Names: _____

Date of Birth: _____

National Insurance No. _____

Email Address: _____