20th November 2026

Dear Parents / Carers,

And so we reach the end of an incredibly busy week, marked by an Ofsted visit on Tuesday and Wednesday. Can I say a huge thank you to you all for your support? Pupils behaved impeccably and we were immensely proud to showcase our school in action. Although we are not yet able to share the outcomes of the inspection, we will let you know as soon as the report is published.

Year 7 began the week on Monday with a performance of Shakespeare's Twelfth Night by our talented young thespians, who recently took part in the Shakespeare Festival. I was able to join them for part of the performance and was so impressed by what I saw. They brought Shakespeare to life wonderfully and had me completely engrossed. I hope Year 7 enjoyed it as much as I did.





Mr Chadwick, Deputy Headteacher, led Worship this week, focusing on part of our mission statement: Pursue Excellence. He spoke about how we can sometimes confuse excellence with "being the best" or "getting the top grades", when true excellence is about recognising and developing the gifts that God has given us. Referencing the story of Joseph in the Old Testament, he reflected on how Joseph continued to grow and use his gifts, eventually becoming one of the most influential leaders in the land. He finished by reminding us of the power of marginal gains and ended with the words of Galatians 6:9:

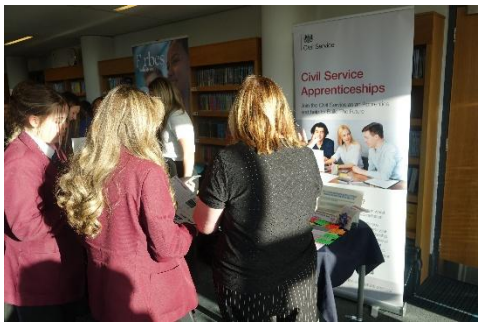
"Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up."

How timely those words felt in such a busy week.

Year 11 have begun their mock examinations this week, and we are incredibly proud of them all. They remain in our thoughts and prayers as they approach their final months at St Michael's.

And as we think of life beyond school, today, some of our Year 10 pupils are attending a 'My Futures' event at Runshaw today. I look forward to sharing more about their experiences next week.

Finally, this week I had the pleasure of awarding Gold Stamps to a group of Year 7 pupils for their fabulous textile creations. Well done to them all.



Looking ahead, our annual Careers Fair will take place on Wednesday 2 December, providing an exciting opportunity for pupils in Years 10 and 11 to explore the wide range of pathways available to them after their time at St Michael's. Throughout the day, pupils will have the chance to meet and speak with employers, apprenticeship providers, colleges and universities, gaining valuable insight into future education, training and career opportunities.

We are also delighted to invite parents and carers of pupils in Years 9, 10 and 11 to attend with their child after school, from 3.25pm until 5.00pm. This is a fantastic opportunity for families to gather information, ask questions and explore the many routes available to young people as they begin planning their next steps. We look forward to welcoming you to what promises to be an informative and inspiring event.



As we reflect on a busy and rewarding week, I am reminded of the words of Robert Collier:

"Success is the sum of small efforts, repeated day in and day out."

Whether in the classroom, on the sports field, in examinations, or in the countless unseen acts of kindness and service that take place every day, it is those small acts of commitment and perseverance that shape who we become.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support, and I wish you all a restful and blessed weekend.

With kind regards,

R. Rongong

Mrs Rachel Rongong
Headteacher

Important Dates

Friday 27 November	Year 11 mock exams end
Wednesday 2 December	Careers Fair
Thursday 3 December	Awards Evening – presentation of last year's Year 11 GCSE certificates
Thursday 10 December	Christmas carol service at St Laurence's Church 6.30pm – all welcome

Tuesday 15 December	Community Christmas Party 12noon-1.15pm – contact the school office to book a place
Friday 18 December	End of term

EVENTS



Congratulations to Layla, Isla, Millie and Holly in Year 9 Master Chef Club who this week made some tasty tomato soup with croutons. Perfect for the colder winter weather! We look forward to seeing what they make next week.

On Wednesday, Mrs Cardy and a group of Year 10 pupils attended the Runshaw Mega Day, where they took part in an inter-school digital technology competition focused on AI and cyber security. Working alongside pupils from other local schools, our team demonstrated excellent teamwork, problem-solving and technical skills, achieving an outstanding 1st place finish. Pupils also explored career opportunities within the cybersecurity industry, making it a rewarding and inspiring day for everyone involved. Congratulations to all who took part!