

St Michael's Church of England High School

A Church of England Academy

Headteacher: Mrs Rachel Rongong BA (Hons) PGCE NPQH

Growing in Body, Mind and Spirit



Friday 27th June 2025

Dear Parents/Carers,

As we near the end of June, I continue to be amazed by the energy, creativity and commitment of our school community. This week has been another incredible time of celebration and learning, with every day offering another reminder of the amazing young people and staff that make up Team St Michael's.

On Monday we had a visitor from Global Neighbours. This is a partnership between Christian Aid and the Church of England's Education Office and aims to encourage a deeper understanding of global injustice and equipping pupils to become courageous advocates for change. The visit on Monday was an assessment to see what we are doing in school to work towards this vision. After meeting a variety of staff, members of the community, governors and numerous pupils, we now await the outcome and whether we have been successful in gaining the Global Neighbours Award.

Despite GCSEs now being finished, things haven't slowed down on the exam front, as throughout the week, our new Year 11 pupils have been sitting their mock French and German speaking tests. These assessments can be daunting, but we have been so impressed by the resilience and determination that pupils have shown. Their willingness to rise to the challenge is a testament to their maturity and commitment. Bravo!

It's been a busy week for making community connections too. On Monday, Mr Cree and two of our Year 11 pupils represented St Michael's at the Armed Forces Day flag-raising ceremony in Chorley. It was a moving occasion which takes place across the UK and offers a moment to pause and recognise the men and women who make up the Armed Forces community, from currently serving troops to veterans, reservists and their families. It was great that we were able to be part of this important act of remembrance and respect.



Then, on Tuesday Mrs Hooley and a group of pupils braved the rain to support the judging for Chorley's Britain in Bloom competition entry. They visited the town community garden explaining how they had helped there during Year 9 enrichment. Their enthusiasm, despite the adverse conditions, was a real credit to the school, and we're so grateful for their efforts in helping us to shine in the community.



Worship this week was led by Mrs Magdi, our head of English, who explored the Sermon on the Mount and the teaching of "an eye for an eye." We watched clips from

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'To Kill a Mockingbird' and 'Les Misérables', giving examples of how forgiveness, rather than retaliation shows great strength rather than weakness. It was a powerful reminder of the radical love and forgiveness we are called to show, even when it's difficult. As always, pupils engaged respectfully with the thought-provoking message, it is such a privilege to share these moments with them.



How do I even begin to describe our Summer Arts Evening on Thursday? It was my first experience of one of these events and, having seen some of the groups rehearsing, I was expecting something spectacular, however the whole evening far surpassed my high expectations. After admiring the incredible creativity of the arts display, we were treated to a wide range of drama, dance and music; there really was something for everyone, from classical to rock! As I said on the night, it wasn't just the calibre of the performances we experienced that resonated with me, it was the very visible impact that the arts have on young



people. Their joy was so evident, and their confidence shone through. It was a really special time. I assured guests on the night, and I echo that again now, that we will continue to promote and value the arts at St Michael's, they contribute so much to that growth in body, mind and spirit which is so important to us. Huge thanks to Mr White for overseeing the event, along with the rest of the staff who worked so hard to make it happen, we are so blessed to have such a wonderful team.

This morning, a number of pupils gathered for Eucharist in Period 1, led by Fr Paul. He spoke about the gift of the Eucharist and the importance of making the most of our time during this to receive not just bread and wine but Christ Himself. These moments of stillness and reflection are so valuable in our busy lives, and it was a beautiful way to begin the day.



Meanwhile, Mr Gladders accompanied Aidan, Alfie and Tom from Year 10 to BAE Systems for an award ceremony. The pupils had been shortlisted for a specific aspect of their 3-D printed bird feeder project - we're incredibly proud of their achievements and look forward to hearing more about their experience.

Our cricket teams have also been in action over the last ten days and Mr Holden has provided the following report on the under 15s progress:

On Thursday 19th June, St Michael's hosted Liverpool Blue Coat in the Under 15s Lancashire Cup Quarter Final. On a sun drenched afternoon at Chorley Cricket Club, St Michael's secured a brilliant five wicket win to move into Lancashire Cup Finals Day.

Liverpool Blue Coat won the toss and elected to bat first under clear skies. Despite the favourable conditions, their innings got off to a slow start due to a disciplined bowling and fielding performance by St Michael's. Momentum began to build from the half way point of their innings and they ended up posting a very competitive 128/6 from their 20 overs.

In reply, St Michael's paced their run chase superbly, reaching their target in 17.4 overs for the loss of 5 wickets with Will (36), Ed (25) and Oliver (21) making key contributions.

Finals Day was the following day at Manchester Grammar and we met the hosts in the Semi Final. Manchester Grammar posted 170/3 in their 20 overs and St Michael's fell 70 runs short in reply. Manchester Grammar went on to win the competition.

It has been a brilliant season for the Under 15s team and it was fantastic achievement for the team to reach Finals Day and compete as part of the best four school teams in Lancashire.

Thanks again to Chorley CC for allowing us to use their ground.

The under 13s cricket team played on Wednesday this week at Fleetwood Hesketh, and the under 12s are taking to the field today at Scarisbrick Hall. We're always proud of the way our pupils represent the school—on and off the pitch—and we thank the PE team for their continued dedication.

Of course there were Gold Stamps awarded too this week. I saw some phenomenal RE responses to the question 'why did Jesus die' and was able to admire another model dragon crafted out of card. I love the fact that our pupils are finding delight in activities such as these.

As we head into the weekend, I hope you find time for rest and joy with your families. Thank you, as always, for your continued support.

With kind regards,



Mrs Rachel Rongong
Headteacher

Events Next Week

Throughout the week	Worship led by Mrs Yates – Sermon on the Mount
Tuesday 1 July	New Year 11 geography field trip to Liverpool One
Wednesday 2 July	New Year 11 geography field trip to Liverpool One
Wednesday 2 July	Year 6 Sampling Day
Thursday 3 July	Year 11 Leavers' Prom at Kilhey Court