# St Michael's Church of England High School A Church of England Academy

Headteacher: Mrs J Jenks BSocSci Hons PGCE

Deputy Headteachers: Mr J Chadwick BEd Hons, Mrs C Hooley BA Hons PGCE

Growing in Body, Mind and Spirit



Therefore, choose

ISSUE 2

EASTER 2020



#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

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### Message from the Headteacher

Dear Parents/Carers

I have written separately to parents in relation to the current situation. However, we felt that it was appropriate to share with you some of the events of this term as usual in our half termly newsletter.

#### **Charitable Giving**

Thank you to all pupils for vour continued support for others. Our non-uniform day this term has helped to support Sport Relief, raising over £1,400 for this charity. We have held another of our Fairtrade Cafés this half term and pupil and staff enthusiasm for World Book Day was incredible. We were overwhelmed by support from parents, carers and friends sponsoring our Year 7s who have raised more than £2,000 for the Readathon! Thank you for the wonderful support you give your sons and daughters, your generosity and for your encouragement for their fund raising, so vital in enabling them to demonstrate Christian love in action and service to others.

#### **Student Leadership**

Thank you to Year 10 pupils who have been motivated to apply to represent the school in the role of prefect next year and those pupils who have applied to be Head Boy or Head Girl. It is a great privilege to be able to read so many wonderful letters of application expressing what St Michael's means to so many of our

young people. Further information about the selection and interview process together with that of our other Senior Leader positions will be available when we return to school.

#### **Staff**

We are delighted to announce our Data Manager, Mrs Elisabeth Lever, has given birth to a baby boy, Benjamin James. We wish her and husband Mark all the best in their family life together. We look forward to the return of Mrs Jessica Smith following her maternity leave and welcome her back to the English department.

#### Year 11

We were extremely sorry to say such an abrupt farewell to our Year 11 pupils. They have been an outstanding group of young people who have shown nothing but commitment and dedication to life at school. We do intend, as mentioned in my previous letter to Year 11, to do all we can to properly recognise their achievements. Although we are, as yet, unable to make firm plans for the future, we will strive to provide them with the same opportunities to celebrate as previous years.

Although we find ourselves in unusual times, we still have so much to be thankful for. In spite of closing school two weeks prematurely there have been many varied and exciting events highlighted in the



newsletter, with our pupils showing their amazing talents and commitment to the wider life of school. Involvement really does help to enrich the whole learning experience at St Michael's, promoting growth in body, mind and spirit. Please do continue to keep in touch with events and news updates via our website and Twitter feed.

May I wish you all a happy and blessed Easter and ask for your continued prayers, not just for the health and ultimately safe return of our St Michael's community, but for all those throughout the world who have been affected by Coronavirus, for the medical profession, and the leaders of our nations.

Yours sincerely

J. L. Senks

Mrs Jayne Jenks Headteacher

## Stay healthy!



ALL PUPILS are encouraged to stay healthy in body, mind and spirit during these challenging times.

Don't forget to use Digital Healthy Schools to find apps that can help to keep you healthy, both physically and mentally.

Through Digital Healthy Schools you can:

- Find safe and appropriate apps to meet your health needs.
- Offload your worries to a non-judgemental and supportive companion.
- Access quick, easy and discreet information and help for general health and more specific health needs.
- Have the tools to combat problems such as stress and anxiety.
- Make better choices about your eating, exercise and health habits.

Digital Healthy Schools can recommend apps to support you with all of these aspects of health. You can access the Digital Healthy Schools website by clicking the banner on the homepage of St Michael's website or by typing in <a href="mailto:stmichaelscehigh.lancs.digitalhealthyschools.co.uk">stmichaelscehigh.lancs.digitalhealthyschools.co.uk</a>

If visiting the site on your laptop/pc you can download an app by scanning the QR code with your mobile phone camera.

If you have accessed the website on your mobile, to download an app simply click "Download App." Make sure you log in so that you can track and rate the apps you use.

AFTER winning the Chorley and District sports hall athletics, both the Year 7 and Year 8 Girls' teams qualified for the Lancashire Finals which were held at Blackpool on March 10<sup>th</sup>.

## **Athletics success**

The competition was fierce and hotly contested in both age groups with thirteen schools competing in each age group. The Year 7 team finished 5<sup>th</sup> and the Year 8 team were outright winners.

Well done girls!

Our Christian Youth Worker, Simon, writes:

## Look after yourselves!

IN THESE challenging times it is really important that we both look after ourselves and support each other.

Mrs Monaghan, Simon and Mrs Brotherton have created a page on Moodle entitled 'Wellbeing' and it is full of little tips and activities for you do to.

Even if you feel fine yourself—other people around you may need your helping hand and there are some tasks which help you reach out to your family, friends and wider community at this time.



Log into Moodle and then click on 'wellbeing' and then have a click around on this symbol. You will find links to youtube videos that are really helpful and interesting to watch.

Underneath this are daily tasks—for example, mindfulness pictures to colour, links to helpful websites with activities and suggestions for new things to try and learn.

Go on—have a good look— and take care of ourselves!

CAKES, poems, art work, posters .... Year 9 have been creative in RE!

Pupils could choose a Christian belief to research eg

life after death, salvation, creation, incarnation, original sin.

When they had researched and reflected on their chosen concept pupils chose how to show their findings.

The results were extremely impressive – Well done Year 9!



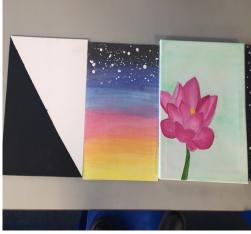






#### **Creative RE**





### Help reach out to our community

visit Highgrove House Residential Home twice ulum Enrichment

YEAR 9 pupils



**Performing at Highgrove House** 

every five weeks as part of the Year 9 Curriculum Enrichment programme, producing sketches, choreographing dances and singing for the residents.

Unfortunately due to the Coronavirus outbreak this has had to stop but our pupils have been asked if they can still help to

cheer up the residents by writing them messages, letters and cards which can be read to them.

We have re-

ceived just a small number of these from Year 9 so far, and are encouraging all pupils in all years to join in with this!

A big thank you to Niamh Horne and Alice Colling who, separately in their own homes, produced a version of 'All of Me' by John Legend, with Niamh playing the piano and them both singing which was sent to Highgrove.

What a fantastic idea showing such community spirit!



Year 9 are writing stories as part of their new Curriculum Enrichment programme. Here are two stories they have researched and written themselves. Researching and writing stories and learning about photography is contributing to their Duke of Edinburgh's Award 'skill' section.

## Oscar is voted in!

YEAR 10

By James Critchley and Sam Whittaker

pupil of St Michael's, Oscar, was elected for

the National Youth Parliament representing Chorley and West Lanca-

Oscar has been working very hard and his effort has been commended by many.

St Michael's pupils and staff have expressed how thrilled they are with his achievement.

He will now be attending meetings of the Youth Parliament at Westminster in London.

Mrs Brotherton said: 'We are all so very proud of Oscar's achievement in being elected to this important position.'

This displays how happy everyone is with him.

Hopefully Oscar will carry on and get re-elected next year and carry on his dream until eventually attending the main parliament meetings when he is older.



## Cookery Club

By Annie Hitchen

On a Wednesday night after school in T4 Mrs Faulkner has set up a Year 8 Master Chef

Cooking Club. She hopes this will improve Year 8's cooking skills.

In this club they will cook many wonderful things eg fruit Pavlova, creamy Leon tagliatelle, French apple tart and chicken curry. Then they will learn many new skills like slicing, whipping, boiling and many

Pupils will be able to take delicious home-made food to their families.



Mrs Faulkner, said: 'Everyone enjoyed the first week, we made some lovely Pavlova, and we are looking forward to making some main courses in the near future.'

Although school is closing for the foreseeable future, Mrs Faulkner and the rest of the club hopes to see you there when we all get back to school safely.



Parents are welcome to browse the school's Moodle at <a href="http://">http://</a> moodle.saint-michaels.lanc.sch.uk

Click on Parent Zone > Log in as Guest User > Agree Site Policy > and there you are! Parents do not need a username for the public areas of Moodle.

The areas accessible to parents include weekly prayers, worship, weekly listings of clubs, revision advice, technical support and occasional questionnaires to give feedback on events.

Do direct any enquiries about moodle to moodle@saint-michaels.lancs.sch.uk

OUR INCREDIBLE readers in Year 7 have been raising amazing funds at St Michael's for this year's Readathon.

The sponsorship money brought in by pupils will ensure that young people in hospital have reading resources to

make the demands of their day a little more manageable through the escapism of reading.

Organiser, English teacher Mrs Whiteley, said: 'I am immensely proud of how our Year 7s have embraced this initiative and would like to take this opportunity to thank the children and their generous

sponsors.

'The teaching group that raised the most funds are 7A and a prize will be given to this group as soon as we are back up and running as a fully functioning school.'

All other teaching groups were also instrumental in adding to the cash funds with the best readers for each group as listed below:

7M - Grace Owen 7C - Sam Greenway 7H - Dominc Evans 7E - Aidan Hart 7S - Eithne Helm 7A - Mia Hibbert

7I - Cam Lloyd

7N - Caitlin Lilley

Well done also to all pupils who dressed up for World Book Day!

Year 9 pupil Amy Lambert also writes about World Book Day

Amazing readers

On 6<sup>th</sup> March St Michael's Year 7 students and staff contributed in dressing up for World Book Day, together they managed to raise an amazing amount of money surpassing last year's total.

The money that was raised this day all goes towards providing books for children in hospital and since 1995 our pupils have raised an impeccable £27,842 for this charity.

The science department staff were dressed up as the 101 Dalmatians whilst the maths department staff also dressed up!

Year 7 came in a wide variation of costumes and received vouchers to buy new books with.

Mrs Whiteley said: "I am incredibly proud of our Year 7s who embraced the opportunity to raise money for children who are in need of reading resources during their stay in hospital. It's a wonderful way to celebrate being part of our community - I am immensely grateful for all of their contributions; it really has made someone's day that little more bearable.'

We hope that as a school we can raise even more next year for this wonderful charity and can't wait to see more creativity shine through in next year's pupils.



## Erupting with creativity

YEAR 8 pupils have been designing and developing fantastic volcanoes in Geography this half term.

Pupils even poured coke into their creations to produce an actual erupting volcano!

Well done Year 8!







MFL FILM Club is a perfect place for Years 7-8 pupils to spend their Monday lunchtimes.

#### Languages, camera action:

They watch great films, make new friends, learn about French/German cinema and improve their language skills.

This year the focus has been on French films:

We have shown the following films in French with English subtitles.

- -Ratatouille,
- -Phantom Boy,
- -Astérix aux Jeux Olympiques (Astérix at the Olympic Games)
- -Boule et Bill.

The pupils have enjoyed all the films and there have been sighs from the audience when the lunch-time bell has sig-

nalled the end of Film-Club.

Firm favourites this year have been Boule et Bill and Ratatouille as they have definitely got the most laughs!

Did you know that you can watch episodes of Boule et Bill on You-Tube and practise your French daily?

<u>COMING SOON:</u> Our next screenings will be German <u>films</u>:

- -Der ganz große Traum, (Lessons of a Dream)
- -Mondscheinkinder, (Children of the Moon)
- -Rico, Oskar und die Tieferschatten. (The Pasta Detectives)

#### SYNOPSIS OF THE FILM `DER GANZ GROBE TRAUM`

Based on the true story of the teacher and football pioneer Konrad Koch, played by Daniel Brühl, 'Lessons of a Dream' relates the story of the beginnings of football in Germany, and of a school class that develops into a real team when they are infected with their new teacher's football fever. It is the Year 1864. Football is still completely unknown in Germany at this point in time, and the educational methods in the still young German empire are authoritarian, almost even military.

This is all set to change with the arrival of the new English teacher, Konrad Koch. who teaches the pupils the English vocabulary they need to play football. Using film to inspire our pupils. Mrs Cattell writes about German and French Film Club



SYNOPSIS OF THE FILM BOULE ET BILL (This film is based on a popular comic book series) Buddy is an abandoned young cocker spaniel waiting dejectedly in his cage for a kind, new owner to adopt him. Suddenly, Bill, a little boy whose hair is as red as Buddy's, appears. It's love at first sight and the beginning of a great friendship. Not so much for Billy's parents, however... This is where the trouble begins!! especially when dad tries to leave Bill behind because the family are moving to a flat in Paris.



Watching films is a perfect way to learn a foreign language in context and be exposed to real life conversation and new day-to-day phrases and vocabulary. Foreign language films also provide a diverse cultural experience.

However, above all, FILM IS A FANTASTIC WAY of providing ENJOYMENT and FUN while learning a new language.

#### <u>DID YOU KNOW THAT YOU CAN WATCH FILMS/SERIES ON NETFLIX IN THE LANGUAGE</u> YOU ARE STUDYING?

Language Learning with Netflix: or LLN for short, is a Chrome extension that allows you to watch your favourite movies/series and learn new vocabulary at the same time. After installation, you will have additional features for language learning when you watch movies/series on the Netflix site.

These additional features include:

- -Subtitles are shown in two languages, allowing you to compare the original audio and text with a translation in your language.
- -The extension allows you to listen to subtitles one at a time, and to change the playback speed.
- -There's a pop-up dictionary and the extension suggest the most important words for you to learn.

HERE at St Michael's, our Year 11 pupil, Jenson

### A dancer's dream comes true

Birchall, has recently been accepted into Preston's College to take a professional dance course for three years for a teaching degree. Year 9 pupil Charlotte Redfern writes about Jenson Birchall

He had an auditions day where he completed courses in dancing styles such as ballet, modern, contemporary and commercial. He also has to prepare a solo in a style of his own choice for one minute.

The course he takes will include classes in the wide range of dance styles, observation classes and teaching classes. This will give him a teaching qualification.

Mrs Burgess stated: 'Jenson has been an asset to the performing arts department giving so much of his

time to rehearse, perform and help others, particularly in leading our ABDC. He has been a fabulous dance captain alongside the rest of the Para11el academy and we wish him every success in his future career.

'Hopefully, he'll be back to visit us... and maybe teach a class or two!'

We all wish him well in his future with his dancing career!

Performing at the Dance Showcase in December.



## Mosque visit

They learnt about Islam, to complement the learning they have been doing in their lessons.



SOME pupils in Year 8 visited the Jamia Ghosia Mosque this half term.





YEAR 7 enjoyed a fantastic

spiritu-

Blackburn Cathedral

ality day at Blackburn Cathedral this half term.

Bishop Philip taught about the Eucharist and we reflected on "growing in body, mind and spirit."





DURING January 2020 we remembered the 75 years since the liberation of Auschwitz.

### Memories of the Holocaust

Year 9 pupils Simon Upton, Ella Hodgson and Anna Whalley write about an event in January not covered by last half term's newsletter.

On Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> January Mr Egelnick, Head Girl Lauren Prince and Deputy Head Girl Kay Taylor represented St Michael's at a local Holocaust memorial service in Astley Park by the Chorley War Memorial.

Readings and prayers were given to commemorate 75 years since the liberation of Auschwitz and to remember the 6 million Jewish people murdered in the Holocaust.

After the service Lauren and Kay joined pupils from other local schools at the town hall in a reception to

light candles of remembrance and to hear local community leaders talk about the importance of commemorations like these today.



Worship reflected on the 75 year anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz, the 25<sup>th</sup> year anniversary of the genocide at Srebrenica in Bosnia as well as the examples of Sir Nicholas Winton and Szmul Zygielbojm.

Marvellous Max

Year 7 pupil Max is playing football with Rochdale FC. Mr Kohler writes about our star player....



YEAR 7 Max has recently signed academy

papers with AFC Rochdale.

Max has showed tremendous strength of character recently

which is outstanding for a 12 year old athlete.

His mental strength at such a young age is so positive to see.

Max is mentored by a Blackburn Rovers legend and explained to Mr Kohler how he continues to work on his game day in, day out.

'I always give 100% in every training session, as it gives me the edge and helps me be competitive in matches,' he explained.

Max's debut for Rochdale came when the squad travelled to Wales to play Wrexham. Starting in midfield at Collier Park, Max distributed play excellently in an emphatic 5-0 victory.

Max has been on top form in 2019 - 2020 playing a key role in midfield with partner Sam Greenway. The Year 7 Football team have fitted in around 12 games since Year 7 starting in September with Max and Sam partnering the midfield in most of those fixtures.

The Year 7 squad is strong with so many talented boys competing for places but as they move into Year 8, the squad enters into 11 a side games requiring a bigger squad – we're all excited to see how the year group progress next year.

We hope in this time at home Max and all the footballers in Year 7 will have a ball at their feet everyday fine tuning their skills for their return to Astley Road.

Well done Max on a great start to 2020 and good luck with Rochdale and St Michael's when football returns.

Year 9 pupil Megan is now playing international matches for England. Here Mr Kohler writes about her latest matches and experiences...

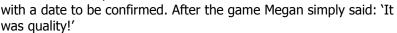
## Magnificent Megan

FEBRUARY and March were incredibly busy for Year 9 Megan. Travel to Eindhoven and Dublin with England, and a semi-final win down in Oxford saw Megan rack up plenty of miles.

Megan, who also plays for Lancashire Schools FA, started 2020 with a win over



Middlesex on a sunny day down south as Lancashire scored three goals with no reply. A noisy away support motivated all the girls throughout the match but there was a huge celebration when St Michael's centre forward Megan scored the first inside three minutes. An edge of the box strike nestled into the corner which relaxed many nerves at Oxford City Football Stadium. Two more strikes in each half sealed the victory which sees the squad reach the National final



After the return to school, Megan was required to quickly switch to international duties. A half term visit to Eindhoven, Netherlands, with England Schoolgirls was on the cards.

A very early start time was followed by a bumpy ferry trip. After some sightseeing, it was down to business with a goal in a 2-0 victory in their first game. Megan scored the second goal against Dutch opposition opening her international account.

More sightseeing and training at the headquarters of the Dutch National Team developed the squad's skills and attributes.

A second game followed, but this time it was a draw against a very strong Feyenoord Girls squad.

A bumpy trip back home followed this, but what an incredible experience for young Megan as she develops her physical and mental strength with some of the best Under 15 girls in England!

Commenting on the trip Megan said to us: 'It was the best experience. I can't wait for Dublin now.'

And there was no rest! It was a flight to Dublin next for England competing against the Republic of Ireland Under 15s Girls with the 'John Read Trophy' up for grabs.

The girls came away with a 2-1 victory. Of course Megan was disappointed with no goal, however, she was outstanding up front creating chances for others.

Once football returns we look forward to hearing about what is next for Year 9 Megan outside of school but we are mostly looking forward to when she can lace her boots up for St Michael's.

With weather hampering a lot of fixtures in 2020 we hope when football returns, she can bring her international form to Astley Road.

## Sport relief

Year 9 pupil Grace Lyon writes...

ON THE 13<sup>th</sup> of March non-

uniform day took place in school to raise money for

sport relief charities.

An account states: 'Thanks to all pupils for coming to school sensibly dressed on this day and kindly donating for this worthy cause!'  $\frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{1}{2} \right)^{2} \left( \frac{1}{2}$ 



#### Year 9 pupil Evie Noblett and Hannah Watson write about netball victories

## Netting the goals

AFTER coming away with the title of Lancashire champions (the first time ever done on the same day by both the under 14s and under 16s), on the 25<sup>th</sup> of January, St Michaels under 14s and under 16s netball team travelled to Manchester to represent Lancashire at the North West English schools netball tournament.

It was a brilliant experience and some amazing netball was played, however, the win was taken home by different schools.

At 8:20 on the Sunday, Mrs Dempster was greeted by tired eyes and beaming smiles as the two netball teams showed up. Although their tired faces didn't show it clear-

ly, each girl was filled with excitement and determination ready for the day ahead.



When they arrived, the girls had woken up and their loud, happy voices filled the air. It was at this point it became apparent that the netball teams were in for a great day.

When both teams first stepped onto court the matches started off slow, but after a couple of minutes both teams were showing the talent that St Michaels holds.

After the first match, and securing their first wins, the netballers were now keener for the win than ever before. Once all their games had been played the air was filled with apprehension. What was coming next?

Unfortunately the under 14s missed getting their place in the semi-finals by one point! However the under 16s did win their place.

Having said that, a drastic turn took place and the under 16s missed their chance to play in the semis due to a series of unfortunate events.

They didn't let that ruin their team spirit though and went into the match for 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> place with more determination than ever. The match they played was truly magnificent although wasn't quite enough to earn them 3<sup>rd</sup> place, but 4<sup>th</sup> in the North West is still an outstanding achievement!

Once the day had finished Mrs Dempster said: 'It was a brilliant day where the girls played outstanding netball and could not have tried harder. I am so proud.

And all the girls were happy to say "they put their all out on court, the team spirt shown helped them all be the best they could be and they would do it all again.'

Fortunately the under 14s may have another chance in two years when they become under 16s, but sadly this is the last time the under 16s will have a chance to represent Team St Michael's in a netball tournament this big.

### More netball news YEAR 11 netballers played in their final ever

#### Mrs Tait writes...

YEAR 11 netballers played in their final ever tournament at Albany on 3 April. The girls were magnificent and finished as runners-

up. The Year 10 team won their tournament convincingly. Up until the close of play, teams from Years 7–11 continued to play on Thursday evenings at Leyland and there's been some thrilling encounters!

Niamh O'Leary and Jess Williams (Year 10) have both represented Lancashire this year and were invited to train with Northern Thunder – a superb accomplishment

Twenty five Year 7 girls have regularly turned up to train and we have had games against Southlands, Bolton School and Holy Cross.

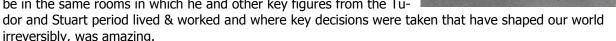
**Subject Leader** for History, Mr Egelnick, writes....

## History at Hampton Court

IT WAS an absolute pleasure to take a select group of Year 11 GCSE history pupils down to London for a day trip.

Despite a very early start at Preston train station, the group were high in spirits from the beginning. After a smooth journey we arrived at Hampton Court Palace.

Henry VIII is one our most (in)famous monarchs but to visit his favourite palace where he spent so much time, walk the corridors and be in the same rooms in which he and other key figures from the Tu-



The palace grounds and gardens were beautiful to walk around and explore. The maze and live Tudor cookery demonstrations were a particular highlight.

After leaving Hampton Court we travelled back towards Euston station to visit the Wellcome Collection. This is a museum and art gallery set up by Victorian businessman Sir Henry Wellcome, who had an interest in collecting medical curiosities from around the world.

There were lots of memorable exhibits, from Napoleon's toothbrush, a 4,000 year old trepanned skull and various pieces of medical equipment.

After viewing two of the exhibitions it was time for the tired group to catch the train home. Thank you for all whose who came along, it was a really enjoyable day!



THE Year 9 Girls' Handball team was victorious in the Handball news Chorley and District final in February beating Holy Cross, 11 – 3.

The girls demonstrated great skill, athleticism, enthusiasm, team spirit and determination. Team members were: Amy Loughlin, Ella Coles, Orlaith Maher, Hannah Watson, Megan Leigh (Captain), Megan Sofield, Lauren Waddington, Josie McCann, Molly Yarker, Abbey Riley

## Signing Saltwater

MEMBERS of Adams tutorial have been trading their skills and learning sign language

this half term helping to show compassion and understanding in their communi-

The tutorial led a collective worship about their tutorial patron Richard John Adams, who is a British businessman who founded the UK Fairtrade organisations Traidcraft and Tearcraft and other businesses which promote environmentally responsible and ethical business.

Growing in mind and spirit

The pupils looked at the message behind Fairtrade: to trade skills fairly. Their tutor, Mrs Whiteley, volunteers at One Vision Media in Wigan. This is a learning centre for people of all ages who have a range of learning preferences.

Mrs Whiteley works with a 24 year old called Ethan. She writes: 'Ethan is 24 years old and his ambition is to write a book. He is intelligent, funny and enthused by creativity. He is incredibly inspiring and was willing to help us with our project for worship.'

She organised for One Vision Media to come into school to teach our pupils sign language and in return they traded their skills, by sharing their knowledge about climate change with others.

This resulted in both our pupils and students attending One Vision producing a video where all signed

### More then ever tackle the maths

WE had a huge amount of interest in this year's Maths Challenge with Maths teacher, Mr Neville, writes... over 120 pupils in Years 9, 10 and 11 volunteering to take part - a school record!

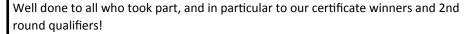
We also had huge success when it came to certificate winners too, despite the sizeable increase in the qualifying threshold this year.

In total 30 pupils achieved bronze certificates putting them in the top 40% nationally, 16 pupils achieved silver certificates putting them in the top 20% nationally, and 10 pupils achieved gold certificates putting them in the top 6% nationally.

Although our overall total of 56 winners was just short of our best ever haul we had comfortably our best ever results in terms of numbers of golds and silvers, and in terms of second round qualifiers too.

Congratulations to Niamh (Year 9), Paige, Ben, Alex and Jude (Year 10), and Jess, Joe, Lydia and Alicia (Year 11) who qualified for Kangaroo follow-on rounds; extra congratulations to Oliver and Douglas whose scores of 120 and 123 respectively meant that they qualified for an Olympiad follow-on round.

(An example of a question from this round is included below!)





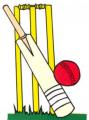
3. Two numbers are such that the sum of their reciprocals is equal to 1. Each of these numbers is then reduced by 1 to give two new numbers.

Prove that these two new numbers are reciprocals of each other.

[The reciprocal of a non-zero number x is the number  $\frac{1}{x}$ .]

## Girls' cricket takes off

Year 9 pupils Maia Dunstan and Dayna McMullan write about Girls' Cricket at St Michael's



St Michael's' Year 7 and 8 girls won an astonishing victory over Parklands High school whilst playing in the Chorley and district cricket final at Southlands High school. They won 49.2 to 28 all out.

On Monday 3 February, the under 13s girls' cricket team played their first ever indoor cricket competition and secured the win with flying colours.

They excelled in bowling and batting as well as being strong fielders. In addition, their teamwork, determination and work ethic proved the team was worthy of achieving the gold.

A PE teacher said: 'The girls involved were outstanding and demonstrated fantastic skill level and teamwork. Their commitment and hard work at practices has been excellent and they showed great sportsmanship throughout.'

Cricket has proved a new and popular sport amongst the ladies at St Michael's and their fantastic achievement means they are now district champions and will compete in the county round next half

The school is incredibly proud of everything they have achieved and highly impressed with how hard they have worked as a team.

## Fundraising and Fairtrade

Year 9 pupil Josie **McCann writes about** fundraising at St Michael's

HERE at St. Michaels, we take pride in all of the fundraising that we carry out during the school year and throughout this month, the school has taken part in several fundraising events such as the Fairtrade Café, world

book day and own clothes day for Sports Relief.



St Michael's is constantly finding new and exciting ways for young people to get involved in raising money for less privileged people a we have seen a great response from all of the children and their families.



The Fairtrade Café raised more than £100 for the Fairtrade foundation. The staff made cakes from Fairtrade ingredients and pupils were welcome to come along to have a slice and a drink.



OUR young engineers have had incredible success this half term winning the regional Tomorrow's Engineers Robotics Challenge!

#### Winning engineers

The members of STEM club had to program a robot to complete a series of Eco related challenges. This included a speed challenge, presentation about sustainable plastic and a teamwork challenge.

The team came away with an outstanding three trophies and were due to take part in the final at the Big Bang Fair in Birmingham. Unfortunately the final was can-

celled, but we are still immensely proud of what they achieved!!

#### Hockey news

GIRLS and boys from Years 7 and 8 have been progressing well in hockey.

Mrs Tait writes..

Their skills, tactics and knowledge of the game are improving from week to week. We had one development fixture with Holy Cross which was great fun and further fixtures were arranged with Bolton School and Fylde Hockey Club.

WE ARE delighted to have been presented with two environmental award by Chorley Council's Chorley in Bloom group.

#### **Environmental Awards**

Year 9 pupils have been helping at the council edible gardens in town as part of the Curriculum Enrichment programme.

They were invited to a special presentations ceremony at Chorley Town Hall where two of our pupils represented their year group

and collected the awards.



We are absolutely thrilled to have received these but feel that thanks really go to all the kind helpers at Chorley in Bloom who organise a programme for our Year 9s to help and meet us at the gardens each week.

Growing in mind and spirit