



### Forthcoming events

#### Lent 1

**Monday 9 Jan**  
Lent term begins

**Thursday 12 Jan**  
Y10 Consultation  
Evening

**Thursday 26 Jan**  
Wellbeing Evening—  
parents of all years

**Thursday 2 Feb**  
Y9 Options Evening  
6.30pm

**Tuesday 7 February**  
Y11 reports home

**Wednesday 8**  
**February**  
Y9 tracking home

**Thursday 9 + Friday**  
**10 February**  
Y11 Runshaw Inter-  
views

**Thursday 9 February**  
Y7 Consultation  
Evening

## St Michael's Newsletter: Michaelmas 2

### *Message from the Headteacher*

Dear Parents / Carers

As we approach the end of term, I would like to take the opportunity to share with you our news at St Michael's.

Thank you to those parents/ carers who supported our Carol Service at St Laurence's Church last week. The choirs provided a beautiful musical accompaniment to an incredibly moving service, led mainly by our senior pupil leaders in Year 11. Collective Worship and our lunchtime Eucharists throughout Advent have considered the Hope of Jesus' birth and helped us all to reflect on the true meaning of Christmas. Although our usual 'Carols in the Quad' was disrupted by the weather for some year groups, the pupils impressed us with their singing in the hall at lunchtime when we were all confined indoors.

Similarly, it was a joy to be able to welcome members of the local community into school for our Christmas Community Party. We have missed this opportunity so much in the past two years and our Year 9 pupils relished the chance to organise and bake gifts for our visitors as part of their Duke of Edinburgh programme.

This half term has seen pupils and staff engaged in a wide variety of activities helping our pupils to 'grow in body, mind and spirit,' including Year 9 pupils visiting the Houses of Parliament, numerous theatre visits and wider curricular clubs and activities. Please do follow us on Twitter to keep up to date with all that is happening in school. A snapshot of some of the highlights of the half term is attached. Thank you for all that you do to encourage your son/ daughter to really embrace all of the life enriching opportunities available to them in school.

#### **Year 11 GCSEs 2022**

Year 11 have been working diligently during their mock examination period. We have been impressed by their maturity and determination to succeed and hope they take some time to relax and recharge their batteries over the Christmas period! The revision/information evening for Year 11 parents and pupils will be on **Thursday 9 March at 6.30pm.**

#### **Wellbeing Evening**

We encourage all parents/carers to attend our Wellbeing Evening on Thursday 26 January at 6.30pm in school. This evening is arranged to provide parents with further information about some of the pressures which teenagers face and how they can manage these, staying mentally and physically healthy. Parents have always found this evening beneficial and informative and we do encourage you to attend if at all possible, even if you have attended previously. Information will be shared about mental health, wellbeing and how young people can stay safe online. To help us plan the content of the evening to best suit your needs, please can we



ask if you would be kind enough to complete this brief form, which will show us the topics/ content that you would like to be addressed on the evening.

[Wellbeing form—click here](#)

### **Staff**

We are delighted that Mrs Melissa Magdi has given birth to a baby boy and Mrs Lisa Vivash to a baby girl this half term. The whole of school wishes them and their families well!

We are also saying a fond farewell at the end of this term to Miss Stacey Evans who is taking up a post as SENDCO at another school. We wish her every success in this post.

We have also welcomed a number of support staff to 'Team St Michael's' this half term. Natalia Halton who has taken up the role of Finance and Business Support Officer, Niamh Eaton, Business and Administration Support Officer, Jason Hurley who is our new Technology Technician, Teaching Assistant, Charlotte Kimble, and Jo Wilde who is our new Attendance Officer.

### **Charitable Giving**

As a Christian school where 'love thy neighbour' and the Christian values of compassion, service and thankfulness are part of our daily life, I continue to be humbled that our pupils shine in their charitable giving. Thank you to all parents/ carers for your support with our 2022-24 Zambia Appeal and to all the pupils for their fantastic fund raising ideas in their tutorials for our Advent Appeal, 'Buy-a-Brick for Zambia.' Tutorials have decided which items they are hoping to 'buy' for the Zambian community and representatives will present their brick, containing prayers and messages of hope during the end of term services. If you have not yet done so, and are able to donate, you may do so here:

<https://login.schoolgateway.com/0/auth/login>

### **Uniform and Appearance**

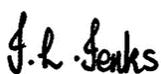
Thank you to parents for helping to ensure that your son/ daughter does wear a coat to school. Please may we remind you that these should be plain black coats without logos, (reflector strips are allowed). As pupils are expected to be outside at break and lunch times it also helps if they wear a school jumper. We are working hard to maintain our high standards of dress and appearance and thank you for your continued support with this. We will be having a particular focus in January in ensuring that the length of girls' skirts is correct (no more than 3 inches from the knee) and would ask for your full cooperation in this. If you do wish to purchase new items of uniform, please remember that in addition to JADA, St Michael's uniform can also be purchased at Nu:uniforms.

### **End of Term**

Term ends on Thursday 22 December. Buses have been ordered at 13.00, following the morning Christmas Services.

As always, thank you for your continued support and prayers, I wish you all a peaceful Christmas and a happy New Year.

Yours sincerely



Headteacher



**Michaelmas 2  
Twitter news**

## November 2022

### Youth Speaks

Congratulations to our Senior Rotary Youth Speaks team who placed 2nd in the competition and to Ted, who received 'Best Speech' overall for his age. The three pupils (Archie, Ted and Lauren) all performed magnificently!



### Anna's MBE

Huge congratulations to our former pupil Olympic swimmer Anna Hopkin on being awarded with an MBE.



### Westminster Visit

About 30 pupils had a fabulous day visiting the Houses of Parliament as part of Speaker's Day.

### Y11 Awards Evening

We were delighted to welcome Rev Richard Coles to present GCSE certificates and awards to our Y11 leavers.

### Careers Fair

A range of providers and employers came to St Michael's to share information and expertise with our Y11 pupils.



Thank you to everyone for giving of your time.



### Dance Showcase

Pupils enjoyed a lunchtime of dance, showcasing the finest talent we have at St Michael's. Pupils in all years performed excellently and the show culminated in the staff also strutting their stuff and demonstrating their hidden dance talents!



## December 2022

### Zambia Appeal—clothes and school equipment

Thank you for all you have done so far to support our Zambia Appeal. If you are having a clear-out over the Christmas period, we would be very grateful for donations of clothes. Charity organisers Mission Direct have said Zambian communities are particularly in need of items of clothing, but would be particularly grateful for any new or nearly new trousers. Any donations of school equipment; pens, pencils, rubbers would also be gratefully appreciated. Two members of staff are travelling to Zambia during February half term to make first contact with the communities there and will be taking these donations then. Please could pupils bring any donated items to Simon's office.

### Appeal for a minibus driver

We would be really grateful to hear from any parents or friends who might be able to volunteer to drive pupils in the school minibus to Preston College on either a Tuesday or Wednesday afternoon (or both). Anyone who might be able to help us should telephone the front office and ask for Mrs Baxendale.

### Adapting to circumstance! Carols in the hall!

We have enjoyed singing carols 'in the hall' as well as 'in the quad' this year—a huge thank you to the choir and instrumentalists for leading our carols!



### Christmas Community Party

We were delighted to welcome members of the community to St Michael's on Tuesday this week to celebrate Christmas with us! Y9 pupils prepared gifts, a quiz and bingo games, as well as serving cakes made by Y7 pupils to our guests. Visitors also enjoyed a Christmas carol singalong!

