



### Forthcoming events Trinity 1

**Monday 24 Apr**  
France holiday  
meeting 6pm

**Mon 1 and Mon 8  
May**  
Bank Holidays

**Tues 27 Apr and  
Thurs 4 May**  
Year 6 Introduction  
Evenings 6.30pm

**Tues 9 May**  
Year 8 tracking

**Thurs 11 May**  
Year 9 DofE expedi-  
tion parents / pupil  
meeting 6.30pm

**Mon 15 May**  
Year 11 written  
exams begin

**Wed 17 May**  
Year 9 tracking  
Year 7 reports

**Wed 24 May**  
Sports Heats

**Fri 26 May**  
Year 11 Leavers'  
service 11.15am

## St Michael's Newsletter: Lent 2

### *Message from the Headteacher*

Dear Parents / Carers

As the Lent term draws to a close and we prepare for Easter, I wish to mention a few highlights of this term and also look forward to the Trinity term.

The pupils continue to embrace the myriad of opportunities available at St Michael's. It is our hope that every young person engages with the extensive wider curriculum provision in school. If your son/ daughter does not currently attend a club or activity outside the classroom, please encourage them to do so.

There is so much on offer and so many opportunities to try new things! This provision is very much part of our vision to enable all our young people to grow in body, in mind and in spirit and to flourish during their time with us. We believe that these opportunities really do enrich the lives of our pupils and help to build resilience and character.

#### **Year 11**

We are so impressed with Year 11 and their positive attitude to learning. It was fantastic to see such high levels of attendance and support from parents/ carers at Revision Evening. There are a limited number of classes being held during the Easter holidays and if these apply to your son/ daughter you will have already received information about this. I know that our pupils, with your support, will strike the right balance between their studies and having some time for rest and enjoyment in the holiday period. We look forward to welcoming parents and carers of Year 11 to school on Friday 26 May at 11.15am for our Leavers' Service.

#### **Uniform**

Thank you to all parents/ carers who support our drive for the highest standards of uniform amongst our pupils. We continue to work hard to ensure that the length of girls' skirts is correct (within three inches of the knee). The changes to the design of the waistbands is helping to support this and we ask for parents/ carers support too. Please may we also ask parents/ carers to ensure that any treatments your child may be receiving (e.g. nails, hair, beauty) around the holiday period do not impact school in any way. Our uniform and appearance policy is applied consistently and on every day that school is open. Having to undo/ remove costly treatments and the potential tension this creates between home and school is so unnecessary and a significant waste of school resource and time that could be spent supporting learning and teaching. Please can we ask for the full support of all parents/ carers in this as we will not allow the actions of a small minority to affect the majority of our pupils who consistently show the highest standards of uniform and appearance.



## **Leadership Roles**

We are currently in the midst of our rigorous selection process for the most senior pupil leadership roles in school, with interviews due to take place straight after the Easter break. It is a huge honour to read so many wonderful letters of application expressing what St Michael's means to our pupils.

## **Charitable Giving**

In encouraging all our pupils to be courageous advocates we are uplifted by the response to our Zambia 2024 Appeal. Thank you so much for all your donations of clothes and school equipment. Mrs Hooley and Miss Forrest visited Zambia at half term to look at the projects that St Michael's will be supporting. This fundraising has been the focus of our Lent Appeal this term and we look forward to the Dance Showcase tomorrow evening, again in aid of the Zambia project.

## **Attendance and Punctuality**

Thank you to parents/ carers for your support in helping us to improve attendance and punctuality. As previously mentioned in newsletters, attendance really does matter and there is a clear correlation between time spent in school and attainment. Similarly punctuality and attending school on time encourages young people to form good habits for later life. Attendance and punctuality form part of references passed onto employers and colleges.

## **Outdoor Worship Space**

We were delighted to welcome Bishop Philip North to school last week to lead a Eucharist service and bless our outdoor worship space. This has been a long-standing pupil project, delayed by the pandemic, but originally designed by former pupils Morgan Kinloch and Kate Hiller. Current Year 11 pupils have focused on 'Showing Stewardship' as part of their school improvement planning and through consultation with the School Council, members of each tutorial have planted bulbs. It is hoped that as well as being used for worship that this space will also be an area where pupils can enjoy the opportunity for quiet reflection. This project really highlights what can be achieved through pupils working together and sharing their ideas. We are grateful to Armlee Nurseries for their generous donation of plants.

## **Archbishop's Young Leaders Award**

Bishop Philip was also able to present the Archbishop's Young Leaders Award to our young people now in Year 9 for their exceptional contribution to the community. It was a joy to welcome parents into school for this special ceremony.

## **A visit from Bishop Joseph Aba**

Following the visit of Bishop Philip, we were delighted to welcome Bishop Joseph Aba from South Sudan to school. Bishop Joseph was visiting school as part of a week-long event organised by Blackburn Diocese. This inspirational Christian leader toured school with pupils, spoke to pupils in RE lessons and met our pupil Courageous Advocacy representatives.

## **Staffing**

We have said farewell to our Pastoral Support officer Mrs Whiteley this half term and wish her well in her new role. Best wishes to Mrs Brunsdon who commences her maternity leave next term. We are delighted to welcome Ms Tait back to St Michael's to cover this period in PE.

## **Duke of Edinburgh's Award**

We are looking forward to the first 'off-site' Bronze Duke of Edinburgh's Award expedition in Year 9 in July. Since starting the Curriculum Enrichment programme in 2019 there have been more than 600 pupils achieving this valuable, accredited Award but the pandemic has prevented us from holding the expedition as we planned.

Congratulations and thank you to the 11 members of staff who volunteered to complete training and have passed their Lowland Leader qualifications to facilitate this award. We are excited at the prospect of our first 'real' camping experience with our young people. We hope all who have registered for the Award will take part, learn new skills, practise resilience, embrace the challenges this will bring and have fun!

### **Work Experience**

Year 10 pupils are presently approaching employers for work experience placements ready for our first reinstated 'Work Experience Week' in July. We would be delighted to hear from any employers who could offer a placement to one of our pupils for the week beginning Monday 10 July. Please do contact school if you can assist in this way.

### **Continual Professional Development**

We are delighted to have been approached by the Church of England to run a programme of training within school which will lead to National Professional Qualifications for staff. Lifelong Learning is an important aspect of school life and we are thrilled that so many staff are engaging with these programmes which helps to keep the latest educational research at the forefront of all our practices in school.

### **Easter Services**

As you are aware, school closes for Easter on Friday with our Easter services held for all years at St George's Church in Chorley. Pupils will be walking to and from Church on this day returning to school in time for the buses at 2.40pm.

### **Germany Visit**

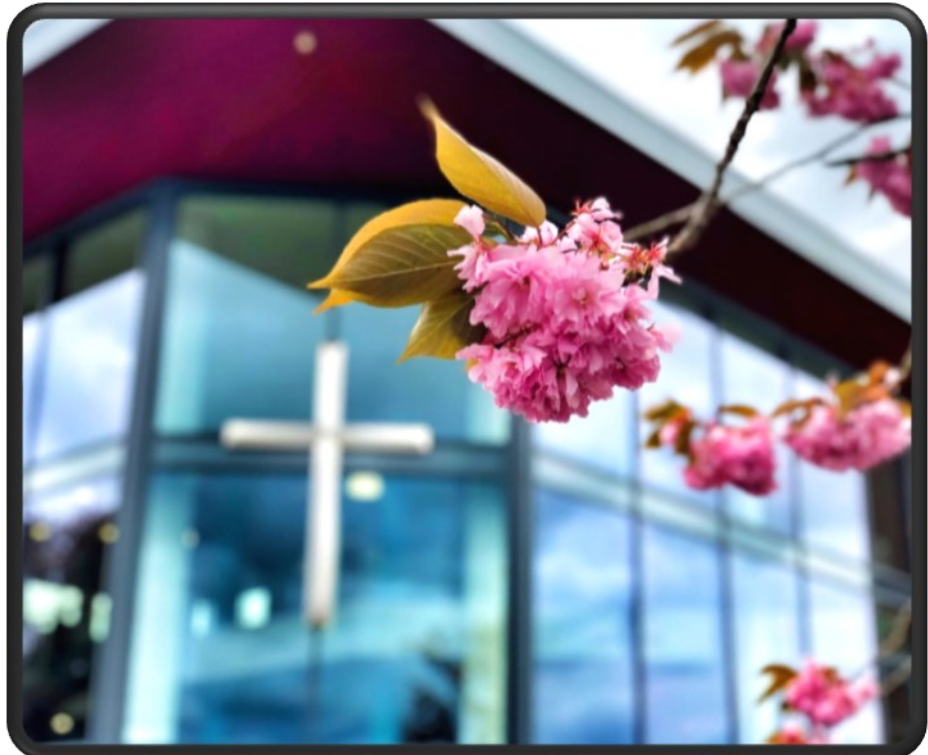
We are delighted that, following the pandemic, pupils and staff will once again be travelling on the educational visit to Germany during the Easter holidays and hope they have a fabulous time and travel safely.

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

Yours sincerely

*J. L. Jenks*

Headteacher





Lent 2 Twitter news

### February 2023 St Michael's Zambia Appeal



Thank you so much for all your kind donations of clothes and school equipment for our Zambia Appeal. These were distributed at a variety of schools and with charities for young people during February half term and were very gratefully received.



### Shakespeare for Schools festival

Well done to everyone who performed in the Shakespeare for Schools festival. What a vibrant, entertaining show!



### Bishop Philip

It was a pleasure to welcome Bishop Philip North to school this half term.

He led a morning Eucharist and then commissioned our new Outdoor Worship Space, originally designed in 2019 by former pupils

Morgan Kinloch and Kate Hiller. The current Year 11 pupils have made this the focus of their improvement ideas, working through the school council with each tutorial planting bulbs. It is hoped that as well as being used for worship that this space will also be an area where pupils can enjoy the opportunity for quiet reflection. The area reflects the Christian Values of stewardship and caring for our school environment as well as providing a place for reflection and worship.



### March 2023



### World Book Day

Fabulous costumes were worn by Year 7 pupils and teachers alike on World Book Day. Pupils enjoyed competitions in the library and decorated their tutorial doors with a full length poster of their favourite books!



### Archbishop Award presentations

Well done to all pupils, now in Year 9, who have completed their Archbishop's Young Leaders Award. They were presented with their certificates by Bishop Philip. The Award aims to equip young people with leadership skills and provide opportunities for them to engage with their community and serve others.



### Bishop Joseph visits

It was wonderful to welcome Bishop Joseph to St Michael's last week. He is from South Sudan but his Diocese have been displaced by war and they are all currently living in refugee camps in Uganda.

He is an inspiring evangelist who has an unflinching trust in Jesus Christ.

### Fabulous cricketers!

Congratulations to U13 girls indoor cricket team, who competed in the Lancashire finals this month. They made it all the way to the final where they narrowly lost to a Stonyhurst. We are so proud of your attitude and determination. A fantastic team effort!

