

St Michael's Church of England High

A Church of England Academy

Headteacher: Mrs J Jenks BSocSci Hons PGCE

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

Growing in Body, Mind and Spirit



Therefore, choose

Forthcoming events Lent 2

Monday 20 Feb
Y11 photographs

Tues 21-Fri 24 Feb
Y10 Exams

Thursday 23 Feb
Y9 Consultation
Evening

Monday 27 Feb
Y9 Options form
return

Wednesday 1 March
Y8 reports

Thursday 2 March
World Book Day

Monday 6 March
Shakespeare
Festival

Thursday 9 March
Y8 Consultation
Evening

Friday 10 March
Non uniform day

Tuesday 14 March
Y11 tracking

Thursday 16 March
Y11 Revision
Evening

Fri 17—Tues 21
March
Y7 Exams

Monday 20 March
Y8 MFL option form
return

Thursday 30 March
Charity Dance Show

Saturday 1 April
Germany Holiday

St Michael's Newsletter: Lent 1 - February 2023

Message from the Headteacher

Dear Parents / Carers

I hope the contents of this Newsletter will give you a flavour of life at St Michael's in what has been an exceptionally busy half term.

Year 11

This is a crucial time for our Year 11 pupils. These young people are a very special year group who add so much to the life of St Michael's. Following the mock examinations and their reports, pupils have a clear idea of their strengths and areas for improvement. Pupils have received a detailed revision planner and examination timetable in assembly this week and are also aware of the support available to them in the remaining ten school weeks before the written examinations commence. There is no substitute for hard work and I

thank parents and carers for their fantastic support in ensuring full attendance, that deadlines are met and that pupils attend the many and varied after school activities designed to support learning and revision. It is quite possible for pupils to improve by one or two grades from this stage through sustained effort and commitment. If you have any concerns about your child, please do contact Mr Kirkpatrick. Parents of those pupils whom we feel would benefit from some additional support or perhaps a more focused and concerted effort in the remaining weeks at St Michael's will be invited into school in the first week after half term. It is in working in close partnership with parents/carers that we can help to support our young people to achieve the success which they deserve in summer.

Worship

Collective Worship is central to life at St Michael's and the Diocese regularly invites leaders from other schools to join us to what we hope is an invitational, inclusive and inspirational experience for all. Last week our senior pupils once again excelled in leading Worship on their tutorial patron, Eareckson Tada. Everyone is welcome to join us for this time of Worship. If any parents do wish to attend (8.50am) please contact Simon (our Christian Youth Worker) via the school office no less than 48 hours in advance.

Charitable Giving

As a Christian school where the Christian values of compassion, service and thankfulness are part of our daily life, I continue to be humbled by the generosity of our pupils in their charitable giving. As you are aware, all of our fund raising activities this year are to support our Zambia appeal. Thank you to pupils and parents/carers for your recent donations of clothes and equipment which will be making their way to Zambia this week. The support and time from our Charities Committee and Senior Pupils has been fantastic.

Parental Support

Thank you to all parents for the vital role you play in 'Team St Michael's' and in supporting your child's education. Attendance at our consultation evenings continues to be excellent. Thank you too for always taking the time to complete our questionnaire surveys. Your responses form a vital part of ongoing school improvement. The main query raised through the questionnaires is focussed on what pupils are learning. Please may we remind you that the curriculum plans are sent home annually for parents at the start of the year, at the time of consultation evening and are always available on the website <https://www.saint-michaels.com/curriculum>

St Michael's Trust

Thank you to parents/carers for the support that you give to St Michael's Trust. It is through your support and generosity that the school is able to undertake various projects which really do help to enhance the learning environment and facilities of our young people. The magnificent Armstrong Centre, the glasshouse, developments to the front of school, creation of additional meeting rooms for pupils working with outside agencies, the



unisex toilets and first aid room are all examples of this. This year we will commence our upgrade and refurbishment of the school hall and will keep you informed of these developments. If any parents/carers who haven't previously supported The St Michael's Trust, feel that they are now able to do so, the link to the form for your donation is available [St Michael's Trust Donation Form](#) and all contributions, no matter the value are most gratefully received (there is no minimum amount). As a charity, the gift aid contributions that the Trust claims also help to boost the giving of parents/carers. School do appreciate that these are challenging times for all.

Staffing

We look forward to welcoming Mrs Jennings back to school after half term following her absence on maternity leave. We are extremely grateful to Mr Thorpe for once again returning to St Michael's to cover this period and wish him well.

Attendance

Thank you to all parents and carers who are supporting their child's education by ensuring regular attendance and not taking their children out of school during term time for family holidays. Attendance really does matter and there is a clear correlation between time spent in school and attainment. In 2022 94% of pupils at St Michael's with an attendance of 96% or above achieved 5 passes including English and Maths compared to 58% of pupils with an attendance at 85%.

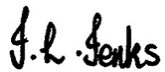
I remind parents that I am unable to authorise holiday requests and that leave of absence can only be authorised in exceptional circumstances. I thank you once again for your support in this matter.

Uniform

Thank you for your continued support in helping to meet our high expectations and standards of uniform. Girls' skirts should be no more than three inches from the knee, hair should be of a naturally occurring shade and not shorter than a number 2.

The success of our pupils is to a great extent dependent on the strong relationships, mutual respect and trust developed between school, parents and carers. Thank you for your continued support. I hope that you have a good half term break.

Yours sincerely



Headteacher



Lent 1 Twitter news

January 2023

Thank you to all parents / carers for your interest and attendance at the Wellbeing Evening. We hope it provided you with helpful information and insights into your child's wellbeing and mental health as well as providing you with top tips on how young people can stay safe online.



Handball Winners



Congratulations to the Under 15s girls' handball team on becoming District Champions! They will be taking part in the county competition in March.

Well done girls!



Crispy blankets!

We have started to make warm and waterproof survival sheets out of recycled crisp packets during Year 9 Enrichment. These will be donated to a homeless charity when complete.

February 2023

Zambia Appeal

Thank you to all pupils, parents and carers for the kind donations of clothes and school equipment for our Zambia Appeal. These are being taken to Zambia over the half term.



Appeal for a minibus driver

We would still 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.

Swimming Gala

The annual swimming gala took place on 1st February and we entered a strong team of 37 pupils across all year groups. In the Aq-uasplash events the Year 7 team and Year 8 team were both victorious receiving gold medals for first place. In the elite squad a magnificent turn out allowed us to return our best ever medal haul of 1 bronze, 13 silver and 13 gold medal placing. This all combined to ensure St Michael's were overall winners on the night beating the second placed team by 1 point. A fantastic result some outstanding swimmers. Well done to all swimmers!

District Cricket Winners!

Congratulations to the Y7 & Y8 girls cricket team who won the District indoor cricket comp. The girls move on to represent Chorley in the Lancashire round.



A Level taster sessions

On Thursday 2nd Feb, Sally, Head of Languages from Newman College and a past pupil Amabel Smith came into school to talk to a group of our French and German students about Languages at college level and college life. Pupils also took part in a short 'taster' lesson of A Level German. Both Sally and Miss Nicholson were really impressed with their participation and their language skills!