

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 Trinity 2

Mon 3 June
Start of new academic year

Thur 13 June
Y10 Information Evening

Mon 17 June
Christian Values Enrichment Day

Wed 19 June
District Athletics

Thur 27 June
Summer Arts Art / Technology Display

Wed 3 July
Y6 Sampling Day

Thurs 11 July
Y11 Prom

Mon 15—Fri 19 July
Y10 Work Experience week

Thur 18 and Fri 19 July
Christian Values Enrichment Days / DofE expedition 1

Sat 20 July—Sun 4 Aug
Zambia visit

Wed 24 July
Presentations

Thur 25 July
End of year services
School finishes 1pm

St Michael's Newsletter: Trinity 1 - May 2024

Message from the Headteacher

Dear Parents / Carers

Much has happened since the Easter holiday, including many successful sporting events, dance competition success and charitable fundraising, as seen on the final page of this newsletter. I wrote to you at the start of term to highlight our successful re-accreditation as a Holocaust Beacon School. I really do encourage you to read our uplifting report which truly recognises what is at the heart of Christian education. The link to the wonderful summary is available [here](#). It really does epitomise all that can be achieved when we work together as 'Team St Michael's'. The Director of Education for Blackburn Diocese, Mr Iain Parks commented: "I can only imagine the immense pride resonating throughout your



entire school community upon reading this article. It is a shining example of the transformative power of education and a true labour of love. Please extend my sincerest gratitude and admiration to your exceptional team for their unwavering commitment to this vital cause. Their efforts are a beacon of hope, illuminating the path towards a more compassionate and just world. Thank you for sharing this incredible work and for being agents of positive change."

We were delighted to welcome the Bishop of Blackburn, Bishop Philip to school earlier in the month to present our Archbishop Young Leaders Awards. We are very blessed to have a Bishop who gives his time and energy so freely to young people and his support for St Michael's is simply immense.

Last week, our Year 8 pupils also hosted another successful summer party for members of local residential homes and our community. We know that our visitors are always in awe of the welcome they receive from our young people. Equally, we are grateful for the impact they have on our young people. Such events are a real reminder of the importance of servant hearted leadership and of the joy that can be experienced through effective relationships and partnerships with all members of the community.

After the half term break, our new term is already action-packed and includes Sports Finals Day, Chorley and District Athletics Competition, the Year 11 Prom, Summer Arts, Year 6 Induction Day, Christian Values Enrichment Days, Work Experience and the Duke of Edinburgh's expedition, to name but a few of the scheduled activities! Additionally, the Governors will be leading the recruitment process for the future Headteacher of St Michael's. I know that your thoughts and prayers will be with them.

Year 11

We are so proud of the way in which Year 11 have responded to the challenge of their GCSE's. We were sad to say goodbye to Year 11 at the Leavers' Service, although there continues to be an extensive programme of revision classes after half term for subjects with remaining examinations.

Year 11 have been an amazing group of young people who coped admirably in spite of the interruptions to normal routines during the pandemic and have made many memorable contributions to the life of St Michael's over their five years with us. We wish them every success in their examinations and fulfilment and

happiness in the future.

I would like to thank parents and carers for attending our Leaver's Service and for your kind and encouraging words to staff, together with your continued support of school and these exceptional young people. I know that you, like us, want only the very best for them. Thank you for helping them keep to good routines, to attend the compulsory revision sessions and maintain a healthy perspective on all that they do.

The new academic year

Today pupils have received their new timetables and following the half term break, will move into the next academic year. Year 10 pupils will begin to start their new GCSE courses and we would like to invite all their parents / carers to attend the Year 10 Information Evening on Thursday 13 June where vital information will be shared about study skills, GCSE courses and wellbeing. As stated in a previous letter, there is more flexibility of teaching groups, particularly for Year 7 and 8 and we do ask for your support and encouragement at this time should your child have changed group. We hope that all pupils will embrace the new opportunities that come with the change of year and invite them at this time to try a new club or wider curricular activity. Please remember that if you have any queries, your child's tutor is the first port of call and then beyond this you should contact the Curriculum Leader for the relevant subject or the Pupil Manager (Year 7 Mr Neville, Year 8 Mrs McCaffrey, Year 9 Mr Gow, Year 10 Mr Kirkpatrick, Year 11 Mrs Rackstraw).

Pupil Leadership

Following a rigorous selection process from many exceptional applicants, we have appointed our senior leaders for the academic year 2024-25. I am delighted to announce that Ewan Dawson will be our Head Boy and Bronnie Allcock will be our Head Girl. Assisting them will be Deputy Head Boys – Alex Ainscough, Daniel McElhinney, Alfie Peach, Jack Millar and Joshua Gardner along with Deputy Head Girls – Anna Williams, Phoebe Thorpe, Grace Sherry, Sofia O'Reilly and Sarah Brown. I am certain that this team will do a fantastic job in their new roles.

Charitable Giving and Courageous Advocacy

Thank you to all pupils, parents and carers who have continued to support the St Michael's Zambia Appeal. We encourage all our pupils to be courageous advocates and have been delighted with the response from 'Team St Michael's' in this mission. During Christian Aid week pupils used various practical activities to help them reflect on the needs of others and how they might proactively challenge the inhumanity of poverty.

Uniform

Thank you for your continued support in upholding our high standards in relation to uniform and appearance. A reminder that our Year 9 pupils moving into Year 10 can begin to wear black ties (and jumpers) as they transition into their GCSE years. We are grateful for any items of St Michael's school uniform from our Year 11 pupils which is in good condition and might be used to support other pupils. Pupils and/or parents/carers can drop washed items off at the front office.

Mental Health and Wellbeing - Kooth

We would just like to share some information from Kooth. Kooth is a digital mental health support service that offers free, safe, and anonymous online emotional wellbeing support. It's accessible 24/7 and provides chat sessions with accredited counsellors, along with an online community for children and young people. They will be offering some webinars specifically for parents. These can be found on the Kooth website or app and the upcoming dates are;

19th June 6.30 - 7.00pm

17th July 6:30 - 7.00pm

Here are some resources taken from the Kooth hub that parents and carers may find helpful;

Parents/Carers resource pack

Printable Kooth Summer posters

Kooth Activity sheets

Kooth QR code

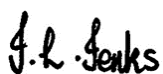
Exam result resources

CYP short info film

We wish 'bon voyage' to the pupils and staff who are involved in our educational visits to France and Germany and hope that all our pupils and their families have a happy and enjoyable half term break.

Thank you for your continued support and prayers for our school and the vital role you play in 'Team St Michael's'.

Yours sincerely



Headteacher



Trinity 1
X (Twitter) news

Marathon Millie

Congratulations to Millie in Yr 8 who was invited to compete in the mini-London Marathon. She completed 2.6km in 9.22 mins coming 16th overall. Fabulous work!



Year 7 Hospital Cup Winners!

Well done to our Year 7 football team who won the Hospital Cup this half term at Victory Park, home of Chorley FC. In an entertaining final, St Michael's ran out 3-1 winners thanks to a brilliant team performance.



Pupil leaders

Congratulations to our newly appointed Head Boy, Ewan Dawson, Head Girl, Bronnie Allcock and all the Deputies. Congratulations too, go to our new Prefect Team and Bridge Buddies. Thank you for your commitment and dedication to St Michael's!



Archbishop Young Leaders' Award

Congratulations to our pupils who have been awarded with the Archbishop's Young Leaders Award this half term. They have taken part in social action projects both in and out of school and have been fantastic courageous advocates!

They were presented with their certificates by Rt. Rev Philip North, Bishop of Blackburn. He also led our morning Eucharist, met with our Zambia '24 team, and visited pupils in lessons.



Gladiator visit

We were excited to welcome original Gladiator 'Ace' aka Warren Furman, to our school last week. Warren is in Chorley as part of the deanery 'Come and See' weekend. It was lovely to hear his story and for the pupils to be able to ask questions. We really appreciate him spending time with us!



Zambia Appeal

We are delighted to say we have now reached our total of raising £60,000 for our Zambia Appeal. Our pupils are now getting ready to visit Lusaka in July where they will work alongside charity workers from Mission Direct to help build a toilet block for children at the Good Samaritan School.



Easy Fundraising

Pupils have continued to show stewardship in the community during Curriculum Enrichment time. Here they are cleaning up Cuerden Valley Park!



We are now asking pupils to once again bring in clothes which can be taken to the pupils in Zambia. If you have any clothes that are in good condition which are suitable for a warm climate we would love it if pupils could bring these to Simon prior to our departure for Zambia on July 20. Pupils are also particularly encouraged to bring in any football kit as the young people in this country love their football, particularly English clubs!



In the coming months we are hoping to continue to raise money as we intend this link to be sustained in the future and are looking to sponsor teachers at the school.