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St Michael's Catholic Academy

11 July 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

I wanted to take this opportunity to share some updates with you all as we rush towards the end of another busy and successful academic year.

On Monday 15 July 2024, initial work starts on our new All Weather floodlit pitch which will be ready for students by the end of October 2024. The contractors will be working throughout the summer holidays, and we hope the weather remains dry to allow them to keep on track. We will put regular updates on our socials so that you can see how work is progressing when we return in September.

Also, on Monday 15 July we will be having our final fundraising event of the year. We are having a 'Carry your blazer' day to raise funds to buy two special memorial plaques for our Remembrance Garden. There will also be a cake sale on the day, and it would be great if students could bring in a little bit of spare change for the day to support this cause. Any funds left over would be split between the Young Minds and 4Louis charities.

Recently our students have had great success in many areas, and we are very proud of all the students involved in these successes. Congratulations to our Year 8 boys' Athletics team who won the Year 8 BHCET Athletics trophy at the recent Trust competition between the five secondary schools. Overall, the St. Michael's team finished third and we are incredibly proud of all the competitors who represented our school so well.

Congratulations to the Year 9 girls (plus Emily) who are Stockton District U14 Football champions after winning the recent competition. Our Year 9 girls' team have built up a formidable reputation in the local area for their footballing excellence – well done ladies!

The Year 7 & 8 boys' cricket team are now the Stockton District Cricket champions after a series of excellent matches showing skill, patience and determination to overcome all competition.

Congratulations to the Year 8 and Year 10 students who represented St. Michael's in the inaugural BHCET debating competition and were Runners Up. The competition involved our students debating with students from the other four secondary schools, three of which have Sixth Forms, and so they were up against stiff competition from older students too. To be Runners Up in our first debating competition is amazing. Well done everyone!

This academic year saw the launch of the first BHCET Social Innovation Project. A small team of students from Years 7 - 10 have been working with Mr. Macaulay on two projects, one around traffic safety at the front of school and the other on growing our own vegetables and fruit to support our local food bank. The team had to present to a panel of judges outlining their projects and won commendations for 'Community mindedness' and 'Being environmental change makers'. We are very proud of all the students involved.

Congratulations to our Year 8 students who won prizes in the Trust Camino Project writing competition set up by the Modern Foreign Languages and History departments across the Trust. The overall winner, Layla, was commended by the judges for her creativity and eloquence. It goes without saying that we are very proud of these winners too.

As there is so much to report, we are making a short video that we will upload on the school website, where you will be able to see all the wonderful achievements of our students over the last year. We will send out a message when this video has been uploaded so that you can see for yourselves just how great your children are.

Please keep an eye on the webpage and our socials as we will be putting a full breakdown of events for students for next week on there.

Finally, I want to take this opportunity to wish you all a great summer where you will be able to enjoy some wonderful family time together. I would like to thank you all for your continued support throughout this academic year and I very much look forward to working with you all as we start an exciting new academic year in September.

Yours sincerely

Mrs. Clare Humble Headteacher

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