

Autumn Term Newsletter 1  
11 September 2017



## Welcome!

It is lovely to see the children back in school after summer break, and our new YR children had a lovely time on Friday. We look forward to seeing the children settling into their new classes over the next few weeks.



## Meet the Teacher Y1 and Y2

As mentioned in the final newsletter last term we would like to invite parents of children now in Y1 and Y2 to a 'Meet The Teacher' evening this **Wednesday 13th September**. This event is for adults only and isn't suitable for children.

### Year One

Please will parents go initially to their child's classroom for **6pm**, where the teacher will explain the class routines with a focus on what is different for parents and children from the previous year. At **6.20** parents will be asked to go into the school hall where Mrs Mathias will give a short talk.

### Year Two

Please will parents go initially to their child's classroom for **6.30pm**, where the teacher will explain the class routines with a focus on what is different for parents and children from the previous year. At **6.50** parents will be asked to go into the school hall where Mrs Mathias will give a short talk.

## School Organisation



As most parents are already aware, Mrs Ma-



thias the Headteacher is sharing the interim headship at St. Michael's Junior school until a new Headteacher is appointed. Mrs Mathias will be here on Mondays and Tuesdays. In her absence, Mrs Karen Barnett our SENCo will be available on Wednesdays and Mrs Miriam Thorley, Early Years leader and Assistant Headteacher on Thursdays and Fridays. In addition to this, Mrs Fiona Bell, our school Finance Officer has kindly offered to take over the Finances at St. Michael's Junior school in addition to her role here, pending the appointment of a new Finance Officer there. Mrs Bell will be here every morning and at the Junior school in the afternoon. Mrs Kate Robinson, who works in our school office in the mornings will work afternoons as well so that we have sufficient staff to cover office duties here.

## Learning Support Assistant Vacancy

We have a vacancy for a Learning Support Assistant to start as soon as possible, working term time only for 15 hours per week during the morning in YR. For more information, please log on to [www3.hants.gov.uk/education/educationjobshampshire](http://www3.hants.gov.uk/education/educationjobshampshire) or email the school office for an application pack. The closing date for applications is 12.00 noon this Friday 15 September.

## Important Dates

### AUTUMN TERM 2017

**Weds 13 Sept:** Meet the Teacher

**Fri 6 Oct:** 9.00-11.00 FoSM & MacMillan Coffee Morning

**Thurs 12 Oct:** Year 2 trip to Wisley. More information to follow.

**Fri 13 Oct:** Individual school photographs

**Tues 17 Oct: 9.15** Y1 Harvest Assembly

**Tues 17 Oct: 6.30** YR Reading Meeting

**Weds 18 Oct:9.15** Y2 Harvest Assembly

**Mon 23 Oct - Fri 27 Oct:** Half term

**Mon 13 Nov & Weds 15 Nov:** Parent/teacher meetings (all year groups)

**Weds 15 Nov:** 'Flu vaccinations whole school. More information to follow.

**Monday 20 Nov:** Reading awards assembly. More information to follow

**Tues 21 Nov: 9.00** } phonics for parents

**Weds 22 Nov: 6.00** } more info to follow

**Thurs 23 Nov:** Y2 Visit from Fire Service

**Fri 24 Nov:** FoSM Art Evening

**Tues 12 Dec:** 9.30 YR Nativity play

**Weds 13 Dec:** 9.30 Y1 Nativity play  
2.00 Y2 Nativity play

**Thurs 14 Dec:** 9.30 YR Nativity play  
2.00 Y1 Nativity play

**Fri 15 Dec:** 9.30 Y2 Nativity play

Please be aware that babies and pre-school children will not be admitted to the Christmas performances. They are strictly for adults only.

**Mon 18 Dec:** School Christmas Lunch

**Tues 19 Dec:**9.00 Reading awards assembly

**Tues 19 Dec:** 2.00 Church service

**Weds 20 Dec:** Party day

**Thurs 21 Dec:** Last day of term

## Communication with Parents

Our main method of communication with parents is via our website [www.st-michaels-inf.hants.sch.uk](http://www.st-michaels-inf.hants.sch.uk), where notifications about everything happening in school will be posted. In response to parental requests following last term's parent questionnaire, we will send occasional newsletters such as this. Every Monday the school office will send parents a 'Message Monday' email, with reminders of deadlines and events, including notifications to check the website for details of specific activities. If you are not receiving your 'Message Monday' email for any reason, please let the school office know as soon as possible, so that you don't miss out!



## Reading Meeting for YR Parents



There will be a presentation for YR parents on teaching children to read, at 6.30 on Tuesday 17th October in the school hall. A more detailed letter will be sent out, but this is just to give advance notice. This meeting is for adults only and not suitable for children. We look forward to seeing lots of you there.

## Birthday Assembly

For children in Y1 and Y2 (and later in the term for YR), Birthday Assembly will now be on a Friday. Children are invited to bring a couple of birthday cards to this assembly if they have recently had a birthday.



## Scooters and Playground Equipment



Please don't allow children to ride scooters in any part of the school grounds, including down the windy path. There are too many people in a small area for this to be safe. Unfortunately there have been accidents in the past when very young children have been 'driven into' by other children on scooters. Playground facilities (such as the boat and the climbing apparatus) must only be used during school hours and when supervised by school staff for safety reasons. Thank you.

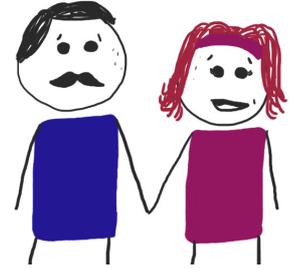
## Windy Path



The contractors, Rocon, have been busy during the Summer break building a new retaining wall for our windy path, and re-doing the planting areas and knee rails as well as re-surfacing the path. They have also installed new underground drainage and we are very much hoping that when it rains heavily we won't have the flooding in the lower playground that we have experienced over the past few years. We're really pleased with the look of the path and the planted wall, and we hope that you are too.

## Parents' Forum

We have a Parents' Forum who meet with the headteacher once a term on a Tuesday afternoon before school pick-up. The aim is to have two parent representatives from each class who can attend the meetings to discuss school issues with the headteacher. We need volunteers from **all classes except Foxes and Hedgehogs** where we already have two, and we need one other parent from Badgers. Please either email the school or speak to the class teacher if you are willing to be part of this very valuable group. Thank you.



## Reading Awards

Some parents have asked if we are continuing the reading awards scheme that we started last year, where children colour in a picture for each day they read at home. We then invite parents to special assemblies where children receive a headteacher's certificate depending on how many days they have read at home. We will be continuing this, but we won't start until after half term when the new YR children are all established so that they can participate too.

