

St. Michael's C of E Infant School

Newsletter



Newsletter 4 Autumn 2026

9th October 2026

St. MICHAEL'S
CE (CONTROLLED) INFANT SCHOOL

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been a great first half term, and the children are thriving! It has been wonderful to see them settle so happily into their new classes, growing in confidence each day and approaching their learning with curiosity and enthusiasm. It was also lovely to welcome so many of you to Parents' Evening and to share in the children's successes so far this term. Thank you for your continued support and partnership - it makes such a difference.

Being Part of Our Community

It has been a real joy to be part of the St Michael's Infant School community this half term. I have been made to feel so welcome by the children, staff and families, and it has been lovely to get to know you all. Building strong links between our infant and junior schools has been a priority, and over this time we have been working closely together to share ideas, expertise and good practice. These links mean that our children will benefit from a joined-up journey through their time at St Michael's, with a smooth and confident move from Year 2 into Year 3 when the time comes.

Staying Safe Over the Holidays

As the nights draw in and the evenings become darker, please help your children to stay safe. This is a wonderful time of year to enjoy local events and firework displays together, and it is also a great opportunity to talk with your children at home about how to stay safe - keeping a safe distance from fireworks and bonfires, wearing bright or reflective clothing when out in the dark, and always holding the hand of, or staying close to, a trusted adult.

Thank You

Thank you for all your support throughout this first half term. The children have worked incredibly hard and should be very proud of themselves. I hope you all have a fabulous holiday and enjoy some special time together as a family. We look forward to welcoming everyone back on Monday 2nd November.

With best wishes,

Mrs Kirsty Kingham

Headteacher

Whiteknights English Hub Visit

This half term we were delighted to welcome a visit from the Whiteknights English Hub, who were very impressed with our teaching of phonics. They saw children who were engaged, enthusiastic and confident in applying their phonics knowledge to their reading, and staff who teach with skill and consistency. This is a wonderful recognition of the hard work of our staff and children, and of the priority we place on helping every child become a confident, happy reader. Thank you for all the reading you do with your children at home - it plays a vital part in their success.

Attendance

Every day in school matters. When children are in school, on time, every day, they make the most of every learning opportunity, keep up with new learning, build friendships and develop the habits that will serve them well throughout their lives.

In the early years of school, so much of the essential learning in phonics, reading and maths builds day by day, so missed time can quickly leave gaps. Small amounts of missed time soon add up: a child with 90% attendance will miss around 19 school days across the year - almost four whole weeks of learning. Arriving late also means missing important learning minutes at the start of the day, when key teaching and routines take place.

Our aim is to work in partnership with families to make sure children are in school every day and not missing any of their important learning. If your family is facing challenges that make attendance difficult, please talk to us - we are here to help and support you.

Year R PE Kits

From the first week after the half term, the Year R children will be getting changed into PE kits for their PE lessons with Mr Sanders.

As part of building the children's independence, they will be encouraged to change from their uniforms, into their kits and back again with minimal adult assistance.

Please can you send your child in with a PE kit which consists of a pair of navy or black shorts/leggings/jogging bottoms and a PE top. The t-shirt should be plain white or yellow.

PE will be indoors so the children will not need any trainers at this point.

Please make sure the kit comes into school in a named bag and that all the items are individually named.

Diary Dates

Monday 26th- Friday 30th - Half Term

Monday 2nd November – First day back

Wednesday 4th – last day to order school photos

Friday 13th – Non uniform Day for Children in Need, please bring in £1

Monday 23rd – Friday 27th November - FOSM Christmas Fair Donation Week

Monday 30th – 18:30 FOSM Wreath Making Evening

Wednesday 2nd December – FOSM's Elfidges Shop

Friday 11th – Non uniform Day and FOSM Christmas Fair

Friday 18th December - Last Day of Autumn Term

Illness

We have had children absent this week with sickness and diarrhoea. Please can we remind parents that children need to be absent for 48 hours from the last episode of either sickness or diarrhoea or both. Children can be in school with coughs and colds but if a temperature is present, they must stay at home. Please remember to contact the school every day of your child's absence. Please use this NHS link for guidance regarding illness. <https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>

Parent Volunteers

We are always looking for parent volunteers to assist with trips and off-site activities. In December, Year R will visit the church for our Christmas Service. If you are a new Year R parent and would like to volunteer with us, please contact the school office. Thank you.