



# St. Michael's R.C. Primary School

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10<sup>th</sup> May 2019

Dear Parents/Carers,

It's been a very busy and exciting month here at St Michael's. Our Nursery and Reception children have been enjoying their newly developed Secret Garden, Year 1 have been closely watching the tadpoles that are visiting their class and Year 2 have been learning about position and measuring outside. Year 4 enjoyed their recent visit to Seeds for Life and Year 6 have been working extremely hard for their SATs tests in the coming weeks.

Thank you for the support you have shown in recent weeks at our class assemblies. Year 4 led an excellent assembly on Joy and their singing performance was out of this world!

On Monday 29<sup>th</sup> April, we had an Overall Effectiveness Review in school. The report from the review is extremely positive and comments on 'the strong progress the children are making', 'the excellent behaviour of the pupils' as well as St Michael's being a place where 'children thrive'. Well done to our fantastic staff team, who work tirelessly to provide the best education and experiences for our pupils. Thank you to our committed Governing Body, to the Sacred Heart Partnership of Schools and their Trustees for their continued support and of course our brilliant pupils. The report highlights their outstanding behaviour and excellent attitude.

## **Greenpower Car Project Year 5**

Year 5 have been part of an exciting project called The Greenpower Car Project. This involved the children of Year 5 working with volunteers from The Reece Foundation, who specialise in STEM subjects, to build an electric car. The build took two days in total, with children using a range of tools to connect the various parts of the car. They then had the opportunity to drive the car around our Key Stage 2 yard wearing appropriate boiler suits and helmets. It was a fantastic hand on project where our children learnt so much about engineering. Next steps in the project is for our pupils to design the body work then eight pupils will take the car to a racing competition which is to be held at Gateshead Stadium. Well done to everyone involved!

## **Shakespeare Club- Romeo and Juliet**

Our Shakespeare Club children have been rehearsing their scene from Romeo and Juliet. Mrs Simonson and Mrs Clifford are especially proud at how well the children have understood and interpreted their parts, remembered their lines and acted with such confidence. Within the scene, children work as a team to ensure the performance is as polished as possible. They will perform at Sacred Heart High School on 22<sup>nd</sup> May. If your child is performing, you will be given tickets to the performance. More ticket information will be given once we have received it.

## **Year 6**

SATs tests will begin for our brilliant Year 6 pupils on May 13<sup>th</sup> and will finish by lunchtime on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> May. Our hardworking and determined children are fully prepared for exams and we are confident they will shine. All of Year 6 are welcome to attend breakfast club from 8am throughout the SATs week.

While we want our children to achieve their best in the SATs exams, I would also like to take this opportunity to remind our children that they have many skills and talents which are not tested. Our

pupils are happy, polite, friendly, well behaved, confident, and proud of themselves, their families and their school– SATs measure none of these important attributes. Good luck to our amazing Year 6 class!

### **Celebration Assembly**

Every Friday we celebrate our children's talents and achievements in assembly. This is a lovely occasion where pupils are recognised for their hard work, attitude and success. We are opening the doors to you, our parents, if you would like to come and join us. Parents from every class have been assigned a week to come and start at 2.45pm, the weeks are as follows:

Year 3 – Friday 17<sup>th</sup> May

Year 4 – Friday 24<sup>th</sup> May

Year 5 – Friday 7<sup>th</sup> June

Year 6 – Friday 14<sup>th</sup> June

**Please note, this is not a class assembly, it's simple an opportunity for you to see what we do each week as a whole school.**

### **Ukulele Club**

Well done to our committed ukulele players who meet after school every Monday. They have been learning a range of songs. They are performing at Northumbria University Sports Central on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> July at 1:30pm.

### **Elmer Trail**

Thanks to our extremely supportive Parents and School Association who tirelessly raise funds, St Michael's has been lucky enough to buy an Elmer as part of the Elmer trail. Elmer is a popular book, especially among our Year 1 and Year 2 children which was written 30 years ago. The book celebrates the fact that everyone is different, but everyone is important- a good message for us all! Our Year 1 and Year 2 children will become artists and decorate our Elmer before it is placed somewhere around the North East as part of the trail, helping to raise money for St Oswald's hospice, a very worthwhile charity here in Newcastle.

### **Uniform Reminder**

The pupils of St Michael's always look smart and visitors to the school regularly comment on how beautifully presented they are. To ensure we continue to look the best that we can, I ask that the uniform policy is followed at all times. Can I stress that **pupils should not wear earrings for school**. Wearing earrings can pose a significant health and safety risk so we ask that all jewellery, including earrings, are removed. Thank you for your understanding.

### **Healthy Packed Lunches**

Our School Council met last month to discuss meals offered at lunchtime. They have been thinking of ideas to ensure that as a school we are healthy as we can be and are eating nutritious food to help us grow and learn. Over the next few weeks, the school council representatives will be working with their classes to look at food types and will be relaunching our packed lunch policy.

### **Breakfast Club and After School Club**

Last year we launched our breakfast club, which is sponsored by Greggs and an engineering company North, who are based on Newcastle Quayside. Approximately forty children attend the club daily where they receive breakfast and play games and activities. It's lots of fun! From September 2019, we would love to start an after-school childcare club. This would be a charged session of approximately £8 that would run from 3.15-5.30pm daily. In order to run this service at St Michael's, we would need a number of families who were interested in the service. If this would appeal to you, then please let the school office know by June 14<sup>th</sup>. I will keep you updated.

**Dates for your diary:**

- Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> May - Harry Potter themed lunch open to all children at a cost of £2.00/ Nursery £1.90 (unless your child is eligible for free school meals). Big thanks to the Student Council who designed the menu!
- Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> May – Shakespeare Performance for the club Parents/Carers at Sacred Heart High School.

Yours Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C. Chapman'. The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'C'.

Mrs C Chapman  
Head of School