



ST MICHAEL'S CE MIDDLE SCHOOL

Tel: 01202 883433 Fax: 01202 840145
Website: www.stmichaelscolehill.dorset.sch.uk

Newsletter No.4

19th January 2018

Dear Parents and Guardians,

We have been growing as a school which is very encouraging– we are full in every year group apart from Year 8. As a result, we have increased the size of the team providing supervision at lunchtimes, even so, I heard from one family that pupils said they couldn't find a supervisor. As a result, our Lunch Hour Supervisors (LHS) now wear pink tabards so they are more easily seen in their roles in the playground and dining hall. We employ 6 LHS in total but we are recruiting for one more. There are more adults than just the LHS in the playground because a member of staff is always out there and we also have at least three staff monitoring individual children. In addition to the staff monitoring playground behaviour, there are always over 100 pupils in lunchtime clubs being supervised by staff. Finally, we have asked one of our LHS to stand in the Year 5 playground so they are easily visible. Previously, the LHS had stood within line of sight but it seems some pupils weren't aware, hence the change. I hope this reassures any of you who weren't sure about our arrangements.

One of the advantages of being part of the Wimborne Academy Trust is that the school is monitored not just by our own staff but also by external challenge. Partners. We have a visit from a trained Ofsted inspector once a term; half termly visits from the CEO and also regular visits from the Specialist Leads in Education who support the development of the English and Maths teams. It is great to hear feedback on how the school is growing from strength to strength and I want to take this opportunity to thank my excellent team of teachers and support staff for the work they do.

Alice in Wonderland is happening! The rehearsals are in full flow, pupils are learning their lines and dance moves and are constructing sets and costumes. It promises to be another amazing St Michael's production and we'll let you know as soon as tickets go on sale.

Kind regards,

Ron Jenkinson

Collective Worship Update

Getting together as a school family most days of the week is a very important part of what we do as a school. We get the chance to celebrate the achievements of pupils in school and also hear different life lessons from a wide range of people. We are currently starting to implement some changes to collective worship at St. Michael's to help make the most of these times. These changes include having a theme and bible reading each week, that we will reflect on so that pupils can keep track from one session to the next. We also now have a Collective Worship team of pupils who will be key in sharing ideas for collective worship, as well as helping us develop the way we respond to and reflect on the messages and themes for the week. The team will also be writing an update in the newsletter about themes we have been looking at and questions we have been reflecting on. Our new Collective Worship display in the front entrance of school, which will be updated regularly as our reflections are added, already has interesting thoughts for you to catch up on. Your thoughts and reflections are also welcome, so please feel free to add to our display too!

Last week's theme was Epiphany and this week's theme is the Baptism of Jesus and New Beginnings. Please do talk to your children about the themes we have been reflecting on in school.

ON LINE SAFETY

Please see attached link for information regarding online safety. Not checking your child's internet usage is a little bit like leaving them to play outside in a high street at night... they might be fine but you can't be sure what they are exposed to. Our biggest problem at the moment is just one or two pupils who turn conversations sour.

<https://www.dorset.police.uk/media/53797/ssct-parents-online-safety-newsletter-summer-2017.pdf>

Dr's/Consultants Appointments-

The Government check our attendance figures and if we are not good enough it can affect our Ofsted rating. At the moment the figures have dropped slightly and when we looked into it we have lost over 300 sessions to appointments. Clearly we want you to have an appointment but please consider allowing your child to register in school first before going to the appointment or making the appointment after 2pm so they can register in the afternoon and then go. Its hopefully only a little change for you and would help us enormously. Thank you

SPORTS NEWS

Congratulations and good luck to Y7 boys football team who are playing in the last 16 of the English schools football cup on 24th January away to Truro school.

Year 5 & 6 East Dorset Swimming Gala – 17th January

On Wednesday I took a team to Canford to take part in the East Dorset Swimming Gala. The swimmers were competing in both individual events and team relay events. Other schools involved included West Moors, Lytchett, Ferndown, Allenbourn, Upton, St Ives and Castle Court. St Michael's did brilliantly and came away as overall champions! Not only did they win the gala but also 12 of the events were won by St Michael's meaning these swimmers will go forward to represent East Dorset, in June, at the County finals.

DOWNING STREET HOSTS OUR VERY OWN CYGNET SWIM SCHOOL



Amelia Hooley who runs Southern Cygnet Swim School at St Michaels Middle School in Wimborne and other small business owners from the length and breadth of the UK visited Downing Street on Thursday 30th November 2017 to mark Small Business Saturday. Amelia Hooley, Director of Southern Cygnet Swim School in Wimborne, said: "It is such a privilege to have been selected as one of the top 100 small businesses across the UK this year as part of the Small Business Saturday 2017 UK campaign! Our fantastic team of 15 swim teachers and helpers play a huge part in making the swim school a wonderful community for our swimmers to join whilst building their confidence in and around the water and being taught how to become safe and happy swimmers"

DATES FOR 2018

SPRING TERM 2018

Time in a Bottle Workshop (Year 8)	Wednesday 24th January
Holocaust Day (Year 8)	Friday 26th January
Half-term Holiday:	Monday 12th- Friday 16th February, incl.
Parents Evening	Thursday 22nd February 5.30pm - 7.30pm
Year 8 Winchester Visit	Wednesday 28th February
Parents Evening	Thursday 1st March 4pm - 6pm
Greek Day (Year 5)	Thursday 15th March
Alice in Wonderland Show at Canford School	Tuesday 27th—Thursday 29th March 7pm
Last day of term:	Thursday 29th March
Easter Holiday:	Friday 30th March - Friday 13th April (incl)

SUMMER TERM 2018

First day of term:	Monday 16th April
Holne Park Residential (Year 7)	w/c 14th May
SATs (Year 6)	w/c 14th May
Sandwalk (Year 8)	Thursday 24th May
Half Term Holiday:	Monday 28th May - Friday 1st June (incl)