



# ST MICHAEL'S CE MIDDLE SCHOOL

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Website: [www.stmichaelsmiddle.org](http://www.stmichaelsmiddle.org)

Newsletter No.3

Thursday 21st November 2019

Dear Parent/Carer,

We have been having a very busy and exciting term as always. Last year saw us achieve our best results ever whilst at the same time being recognized with the top award for Church school inspections. Things continue at pace and in the midst of this busy term I would like to thank all the staff for their outstanding efforts. Amongst the exciting things going on, we are nearly at the point where our pond is use-able for pupils. We have been linking up with an exciting charity giving opportunities for some of our pupils: <https://www.joneggingtrust.org.uk/>. We have been able to donate dozens of Christmas Parcels to the Trussell Trust and of course much more that you can read about in our newsletter.

### Mr Smart

I am very grateful to Mrs Snaith who will be covering 5S in Mr Smart's absence. Unfortunately, Mr Smart is having to take time away from school due to family illnesses. Mrs Snaith has been working with schools in the Trust, including St Michael's so not only is she an experienced teacher she also knows some of the routines and processes at school and as such is an ideal cover.

### Early Closing 20th December 12.45pm

After consultation with the bus companies and Wimborne Academy Trust, St Michael's has agreed to close at 12.45pm on Friday 20th December. As it is not something we have done before I am mindful that it may present logistical challenges to some working families but as the other middle schools locally already close around this time I hope the affect will be manageable. As indicated, the change brings us in line with local Upper/Middle schools and reduces the number of bus journeys having to pick up at different times: the buses will collect at 12.45 that day. Pupil attendance figures will not be affected.

We are also considering matching local schools with a lunchtime finish at the end of the academic year in July and if you have any views on this feel free to email them to me via: [office@stmichaelsmiddle.org](mailto:office@stmichaelsmiddle.org)

### E-Safety

I hope you have been enjoying our e-safety bulletins. It feels to me that the tide is beginning to turn with more parents saying to me that they are putting restrictions in place. I think two basics include no phones/tablets in their rooms overnight- the temptation is just too great; and if you want your child to have social media parents must have regular access to all their accounts (most pupils misusing social media have more than one account!).

More information can be found at:

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/>



## [Online safety | NSPCC](https://www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/)

The internet is amazing. Children can play, learn, create and connect - opening up a whole world of exciting possibilities. But with the digital world changing all the time, how can you make sure your child's staying safe? That's where we come in. Whether you're an online expert or you're ...

[www.nspcc.org.uk](http://www.nspcc.org.uk)

## Vocabulary Day

On 25th October St Michael's celebrated in style with an excellent profusion of flamboyant, creative and diverse costumes to celebrate vocabulary.

Pupils dressed up to illustrate a word on Friday 25th October and excelled themselves as usual with a variety of imaginative and fantastic costumes.

There were vocabulary based themes to the lessons throughout the day and prizes awarded for the best costume design and most creative word.

The staff joined in with enthusiasm and everybody enjoyed guessing the words and marvelling at the ingenuity shown by so many pupils.

### **Clarification on some aspects of attendance:**

***'Whilst children can catch up on homework, they can never get back what's most important; the discussions, the questions, the explanations by the teacher and the thinking that makes the learning come alive.'***

**Medical & other appointments:** We ask all parents to avoid arranging routine medical / dental appointments during the school day. For other non-routine appointments, such as consultant appointments, please inform the school in advance and send in a copy of either the appointment card or a letter from the consultant prior to these appointments.

**Lateness:** School starts at 8:40 am and it is important that all children are in school for morning registration, so they don't miss out on important information. If they arrive after 8:50 a.m. they will be coded as L (for late) or if after 9:10 a.m. coded U (for unauthorised absence of the morning session).

**Reporting absence for illness: parents must inform the school by telephone or email giving detailed reasons for their child's absence by 9:00 a.m. on EACH day of absence.** As part of our safeguarding procedures, we will need to contact the police by 11am if we haven't heard from you as we need to ensure your child's safety.

**Illness:** You must keep your child off from school for 48 hours following any D & V illness. On other occasions it can sometimes be a difficult call deciding whether your child is well enough to attend school – we urge you to send them into school and if required we can send them home if they are struggling.

### **We are unable to authorise any absence due to:**

- Lateness
- Other family members' appointments / illness.
- Transport difficulties

Holidays in term time (unless exceptional circumstances)

If you feel there is anything the school could do to help support you and your child in ensuring their attendance is the best it could be, then please do not hesitate to get in touch.

## **SPORTS NEWS**

### **FOOTBALL**

The Year 6 Football team have had a very busy few weeks playing in various football matches/tournaments. The team have improved significantly from the beginning of the season and are currently developing a new style of play. This passing style of football will enable them to experience more success both individually and collectively as a team!

Congratulations to the Y7 Football team who have won two games in the National Cup Competition. Good luck in the next round.

The Year 8 Football team have been preparing for the upcoming County Cup Match away to Dorchester by competing in friendlies against fellow Wimborne Academy Trust schools, Lockyers and Emmanuel. The boys managed to beat Lockyers convincingly and were dominant in the game against Emmanuel before allowing them to stage an enthralling comeback in a game that finished 5-5!

In the National Cup, the boys were unlucky to lose away to Millfield Prep School and the 3-1 scoreline doesn't do the performance justice. A big well done to all those involved so far.

### **GIRLS FOOTBALL**

We have had over 30 regular members enjoying the Girls' Football Club this term. Weekly coaching from Wimborne Town Football Club alongside competitive matches for every age group have seen the girls grow in skill and confidence. Many of the girls had not played football before but, are loving it. We even had our first win this week! Keep up the enthusiasm girls! More matches are on their way!

### **SWIMMING GALA**

On the 20th of November some pupils from year 7 and 8 competed against Poole High and Allenbourn in a relay swimming gala, they swam incredibly well and came first out of the other schools. This was a great opportunity for some of our club and non club swimmers to represent the school.

## HOLIDAY DATES FOR 2019/2020

### **AUTUMN TERM 2019**

Year 8 Parents Evening  
Christmas Carol Service  
Christmas Lunch  
Last day of Term:

Tuesday 26th November 4pm - 7pm  
Monday 2nd December @ The Minster - 7pm  
Wednesday 18th December  
Friday 20th December - school finishes 12.45pm

### **SPRING TERM 2020**

#### **Staff Training Day:**

First day of Term:  
Year 7 Parents Evening  
Half-term Holiday:  
Last day of Term:

**Monday 6th January**  
Tuesday 7th January  
Tuesday 14th January 4pm - 7pm  
Monday 17th- Friday 21st February, incl.  
Friday 3rd April

### **SUMMER TERM 2020**

First day of Term:

#### **Bank Holiday:**

Half-term Holiday:  
Pupil's Return:  
Last day of Term:

Monday 20th April  
**Friday 8th May**  
Monday 25th May – Friday 29th May, incl.  
Monday 1st June  
Friday 17th July

## TERM DATES 2020-21

### **Autumn Term 2020**

#### **Staff Training Days**

First Day of Term

#### **Half Term Holiday**

Staff Training Day  
Pupils Return  
Last Day of Term

**Thursday 3rd September & Friday 4th September**

Monday 7th September

**Monday 26th October – Friday 30th October**

Monday 2nd November (All Schools)  
Tuesday 3rd November  
Friday 18th December (First and Middle Schools Only)

### **Spring Term 2021**

#### **Staff Training Day**

First Day of Term  
Half Term Holiday  
Pupils Return  
Last Day of Term

**Monday 4th January (First and Middle Schools Only)**

Tuesday 5th January (First and Middle Schools Only)

Monday 15th – Friday 19th February

Monday 22nd February

Thursday 1st April

### **Summer Term 2021**

First Day of Term  
May Day Holiday  
Half Term Holiday

Monday 19th April

Monday 3rd May

Monday 31st May – Friday 4th June

#### **Staff Training Day**

Pupils Return  
Last Day of Term

**Monday 7th June (First and Middle Schools Only)**

Tuesday 8th June (First and Middle Schools Only)

Friday 23rd July