



Newsletter July 2024

# St. Michael's Middle School

"Each person, uniquely made in God's image, merits the best we can give"



Dear Parents/Carers,

It hardly seems possible, but we have come to the end of another school year. This term seems to have gone past so quickly. The summer term is always a special time filled with exciting events and celebrations.

I can't believe we managed to have three different sports days, and incredibly, they were all rain-free! It was wonderful to see so many of you attending, and we hope you enjoyed the afternoons. The hard work from PE lessons paid off, resulting in a few new school records. A huge thank you to all the PE staff who contributed to this event.

We were treated to an exceptional end-of-term music concert. Despite coinciding with the Euros '24 semi-final England match, we had a standing-room-only audience. The inspiration for this year was 'Retro,' featuring memorable pieces such as the themes from Doctor Who, Top Gun and Friends.

Lastly, a huge congratulations to all the Year 6 pupils for their excellent SATs results! The school's performance exceeded the national average in ARE (Age Related Expectations) for all English assessments and matched the national average in maths. Additionally, the pupils who achieved greater depth performed exceptionally well across all subjects. A heartfelt thank you to the staff, parents, carers, and Year 6 pupils for this remarkable achievement.

It has been another very successful year for St. Michael's and we look forward to seeing you in September for the new school year. All of the staff wish you the best for a relaxing summer break.

Kind regards,

Mr Ayling

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Deputy Headteacher: Mr P. Andrews BSc (Hons) PGCE

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The logo for Initio Learning Trust features the word 'initio' in a dark blue, lowercase, sans-serif font. Above the 'i', 'i', and 'o' are small colored circles in teal, yellow, and red respectively. Below 'initio' is the words 'Learning Trust' in a smaller, lighter blue, sans-serif font.

# Staffing Update

We are very sad to be saying goodbye to a number of our staff at the end of this term:

**Mrs Ribton** has been an integral part of the school this year, teaching a Year 6 class and providing support during their SATs. Additionally, she has led several popular clubs for pupils, including the cubing club. We extend our best wishes to her as she embarks on a new position at a school in Bournemouth.

**Mrs Smith**, who taught textiles one day a week this term, will be leaving us. We greatly appreciate her stepping in to teach an extra day (in addition to working at Emmanuel Middle School), which allowed us to continue offering textiles to all year groups. Thank you Mrs Smith for your contributions!

**Mrs Warren** will be taking a year-long sabbatical from St. Michael's to pursue her interests outside of school. She has played a crucial role in developing careers education across the school and in revising the PSHE curriculum for all year groups. We extend our best wishes to her for the upcoming year and look forward to welcoming her back in September 2025.

**Mrs Courtenay** has worked in the reprographics and clerical support department at the school, she has been a dedicated team member for over 18 years. She began her journey in the school office and transitioned to her current role a few years ago. We will fondly remember her patience with last-minute requests for laminating or photocopying, as well as her cheerful presence in the staff room. We extend our warmest wishes for her future endeavours.

**Mrs Funnell** has been a member of the St. Michael's team for over 23 years. She initially began as a teaching assistant, before working in the school office and reprographics. Additionally, she has provided valuable in-class support for food technology lessons, ensuring that students benefited from her assistance both during lessons and behind the scenes. We extend our heartfelt gratitude for her many years of service and wish her all the best for the future.

**Miss East** has been with the school for the last two years, working as a teaching assistant. During this time, she has also been helping with the Friday lunchtime ePraise reward of going to The Reef and has been supporting the Young Carers in the school. I know the children will all miss her and all the staff wish her the best.

**Miss Joyce** has been with the school this year as a teaching assistant and also supported the children who went on the 'Tall Ships' experience. We want to thank her for all she has done and wish the best for her future adventures.

**Mrs Andrews** has been with the school for 8 years where she has supported children both in lessons and through targeted intervention work. We are very sorry to be losing her experience and expertise from the teaching assistant team and, on behalf of the many children she will have made a difference to over the years, thank her for her time at the school and we all wish her every success in the future.

**Mrs Sturgeon** is one of lunchtime supervisors and has been with us for just under two years. We are delighted that she has been offered a chance to train as a teaching assistant, a role she is well suited for, and we wish the best for her new job.

# Pupils for Praise

Every Friday, two pupils from each year group are selected to go and see Mr Ayling to receive praise and a reward for their hard work. All the pupils below have been selected since the last newsletter.

Year 5	Year 6	Year 7	Year 8
Phoebe W	Ben T	Jake M	Josh A
Amy S	Inga B	Freddie D	Sophie B
Phoenix G	Sena S	Bradley D	Chloe R
Romilly S	Freya W	Elijah B	Lola S
Monika L	Tilly C	Oliver F	Freddie D
Nicola S	Mya G	Eddy D	Justin C
Megan C	Poppy S-R	Sophie D	Bobby H
Masie S	Frankie R	Lara J	
Jacob H	Jonathan I	Freya B	
Poppy B	Tyler S	Alek A	
Charlie M	Nico T	Harry R	
Felicity B	River H	Dan k	
George R	Harrison K		
Oscar J			
Harriet J			
Hattie S			



*Congratulations!*

# House Point Totals

Here are the final house point totals for the year. Pupils earn 'ePraise' points and these are added together to make their house point totals.

**Hanham**

**Bankes**

**Gulliver**

**Paget**

**50,963**

**48,102**

**49,440**

**50,124**

You can check your child's ePraise points total by going to [www.epraise.co.uk](http://www.epraise.co.uk) and logging into the parents page.

These are the five students with the most house points in each house - well done!

Matilda C (545)

Freddie H (495)

Roseanna L (501)

Charlotte F (567)

Freya W (528)

Thomas A (495)

Oliver S (497)

Heidi C (555)

Annie B (519)

Eva-Bella J (490)

Oscar M (486)

Constance H (528)

Verity B (497)

Sibylle P (464)

Emilia S-J (486)

Bethany P (519)

Toby S (497)

Mackenzie S (457)

Olivia A (481)

Hetty R (516)

# Information for 2024/2025

We have some changes to teaching groups and exciting building renovation news to share for the coming year.

## Teaching Groups in Key Stage 3

Starting in September, we will teach English to Years 7 and 8 in mixed-ability tutor groups. This change aligns with other trust middle schools, where it has successfully improved English standards across the year group and facilitates collaboration on our joint curriculum. Our outstanding Key Stage 3 English team will receive support from our teaching assistants during lessons (as needed) to deliver engaging instruction.



There will also be a change to how we organise our French groups, moving to an extension group and two parallel teaching groups for each half of our timetable.

## New Classrooms and Library

We are delighted to let you know that we have some building work done over the summer break to improve our teaching facilities. The current library will be transformed into a classroom for September and will be the tutor base for 8B. The PAD will become the library study centre with a new entrance and a complete revamp. We will also be making improvements to room 10. Lastly, the old ICT2 room will become a new classroom base for maths and SEND teaching. All of this will be completed over the summer break.



Looking ahead, the mobile classrooms at the back of school (Rooms 5 and 6) will be demolished and replaced with two modern classrooms which we aim to open for 2025/2026.

We are very excited about these enhancements to the learning environment and believe that these changes will contribute to an even better educational experience at St. Michael's.

## Revamped PNBs

We have revamped our Personal Note Book (PMB) for next year to turn them into a more useful learning journal type booklet. They now contain lots of pages to support learning at home and in school. We have also replaced the diary pages with checklists for home learning relevant to the year group. All of this has reduced the pages by 33%, saving paper as part of our Eco-Schools work.



# ★ END OF ★ YEAR ★ AWARD ★ WINNERS

Congratulations to all of the pupils below who have been selected for an end of year award for their hard work. Well done to you all.

	Year 5	Year 6	Year 7	Year 8
<b>Jean Watts Award for Approach to Learning</b>	Rosie E	Annie B	Ellie W	Zach H
<b>Jackie Belvoir Award for Progress in Learning</b>	Phoebe W	Verity B	Karla L-R	Isla M

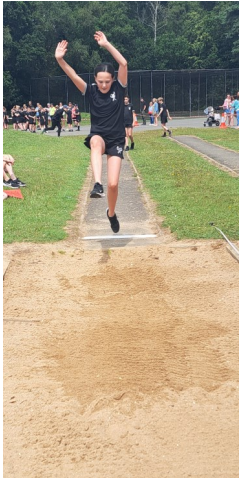
## Year 8 Leavers Awards

<b>Governors Award:</b> Archie S
<b>St. Michael's Award:</b> Oliver W
<b>Helping Hands:</b> Aniya R

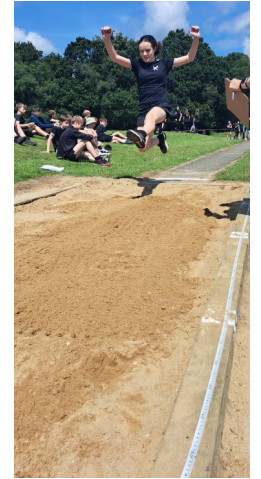
<b>Excellence in English</b>	Charlie E
<b>Maths</b>	Molly A
	Kiriana M
<b>Science</b>	Lilly C
<b>French</b>	Evie R
<b>DT Product Design</b>	George H
<b>Humanities</b>	Amelia N
<b>Art</b>	Ava T

<b>Commitment to English</b>	Devon L
<b>Music-Overall Contribution</b>	Alissa I
<b>Music-Singing/Performance</b>	Archie S
<b>Music - Instrumental</b>	James F
<b>Music - Rising Star</b>	Leo M
<b>RE</b>	Wilfren H-D

# SPORTS DAY



Amazingly, we had all three scheduled Sports Days on a dry sunny day (which has to be a first!). Pupils competed in a range of sporting events across the three days including running, throwing and jumping disciplines. Key Stage 2 had additional events such as the shuttle-run obstacle course and a mighty tug-of-war competition. We were delighted by the pupils engagement and effort and they even managed to break three school records during the Key Stage 3 event. Thank you to all of the parents who joined us and for the sports team for putting the event together.



Sports Day Winners	Year 5	Year 6	Key Stage 3
1st Place	Gulliver	Hanham	Gulliver
2nd Place	Bankes	Gulliver	Bankes
3rd Place	Hanham	Bankes	Hanham
4th Place	Paget	Paget	Paget
Overall Winners	Gulliver		

Congratulations to the following Year 8 pupils who were awarded one of the end of year sports prizes for their sporting achievements during their time at St. Michael's.

**Contribution to Sport—Boy** Harry W

**Contribution to Sport—Girl** Isabella M

**Most Improved** Charlie H

**Sports Leader** Kirianna M

**Dedication to Sport** Freddie D

# SUMMER MUSIC CONCERT 2024



We were treated to an excellent celebration of music at St. Michael's at our recent summer concert. The theme was 'retro' and the programme had a mix of orchestral, choir, small group and solo performances. The music mix ranged from films such as Harry Potter and Top Gun, television classics such as Doctor Who, Fraggles Rock and the A-Team and also some classical and original compositions. We had a standing room only crowd and pupils clearly had a great time performing. A big thank you to all of the pupils who took part and for all of the music team at St. Michael's for putting together such a fun event.





## St. Michaels' C.E. Middle School



# Term Dates 2024/2025

### Autumn Term

Tuesday 3rd September 2024	INSET Day (School Closed)
Wednesday 4th September 2024	INSET Day (School Closed)
Thursday 5th September 2024	First Day of Autumn Term for Pupils
Monday 28th October 2024 - Friday 1st November 2024	Half Term (School Closed)
Monday 4th November 2024	INSET Day (School Closed)
Tuesday 5th November 2025	Pupils Return to School
Thursday 19th December 2024	Last Day of Autumn Term for Pupils
Friday 20th December 2024	INSET Day (School Closed)

### Spring Term

Monday 6th January 2025	INSET Day (School Closed)
Tuesday 7th January 2025	First Day of Spring Term for Pupils
Monday 17th February 2025— Friday 21st February 2025	Half Term (School Closed)
Monday 24th February 2025	INSET Day (School Closed)
Tuesday 25th February 2025	Pupils Return to School
Friday 4th April 2025	Last Day of Spring Term for Pupils

### Summer Term

Tuesday 22nd April 2025	INSET Day (School Closed)
Wednesday 23rd April 2025	Frist Day of Summer Term for Pupils
Monday 5th May 2025	Bank Holiday (School Closed)
Monday 26th May 2025 - Friday 30th May 2025	Half Term (School Closed)
Monday 2nd June 2025	Pupils Return to School
Friday 4th July 2025	INSET Day (School Closed)
Wednesday 23rd July 2025	Last Day of Summer Term for Pupils