



Newsletter June 8th 2026

St. Michael's Middle School

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

Dear Parents/Carers,

What a difference a week makes! Last week, we were bathed in continued sunshine and very humid nights. This week, it has been much colder and wetter. It certainly makes a change for the worse weather to be when we are back at school and not the other way round. On one day in the holiday, during a heavy cloudburst, we had the most glorious rainbow over the school which is shown above. It gave me a good feeling for the busy final half term ahead of us.

This week, we were treated to an amazing evening showcasing the creativity of the pupils as part of our first summer arts festival. This combined contributions from the art department, homework projects from English and various musical performances. You can read more about this excellent event later on in this newsletter.

We have been hard at work rehearsing for our summer school production of Matilda Jr. This will be performed at the Layard Theatre in Canford School at 7pm on the 8th, 9th and 10th July. It will be a great show we can't wait to share the musical with you. Look out for a communication this week telling you how to buy tickets. Get them quickly as it is first come, first served and we are limited to only three nights.



It hardly seems possible, but we are coming to the end of another school year. In a few weeks' time, we have transfer day on Friday 26th June where pupils will spend time with their new class teacher. We will be sending out details in the coming weeks about the arrangements for the day and so watch out for this information on the Arbor app.

Thank you for your continued support.

Mr. Ayling

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St. Michael's Church of England Middle School

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

The logo for Initio Learning Trust features the word "initio" in a dark blue, lowercase, sans-serif font. Above the letters '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.

Sports News

It has been a very busy period for our various sports teams. Here are some of the most recent events we have been involved in, showcasing some of the reasons why the school has maintained its School Games Platinum award for this year. These events highlight another fantastic half term of sporting achievement, participation and teamwork across the school



Year 5/6 Indoor Athletics

The Year 5/6 Indoor Athletics team secured the bronze team medal at the County Indoor Athletics Championships held at Redlands, Weymouth. The team delivered an excellent all-round performance, demonstrating great determination and teamwork throughout the competition. Congratulations to all involved on a fantastic achievement.

Year 5/6 Girls' Football

The Year 5/6 Girls' Football team completed an outstanding double this season by adding the County 9-a-side title to the 7-a-side county trophy they won before Christmas.

In a highly entertaining and end-to-end final, the girls narrowly edged out Canford Heath Junior School 3-2 in a thrilling encounter. The victory is a testament to the team's hard work, skill and resilience throughout the season. Well done to all the players on a remarkable achievement.



Year 7/8 Girls' Handball

The Year 7/8 Girls' Handball team represented the school at the England Handball Championships held at Stoke Mandeville Stadium.

The girls played some excellent handball throughout the tournament and were unfortunate to narrowly miss out on qualification for the knockout stages against strong opposition. What stood out most during the day, however, was the team's outstanding sportsmanship, which was evident in every match they played. They were excellent ambassadors for the school and should be very proud of their efforts.



Rounders and Cricket

Our rounders and cricket teams are currently heavily involved in a range of PEDSSA and county competitions. With finals days taking place during the second half of the summer term, we wish all of our teams the very best of luck and look forward to reporting on their progress.

Vikki Slade MP Visit



We were delighted to welcome our local MP, Vikki Slade, to St. Michael's last week. Vikki has visited every school in her constituency since being elected and takes a close, active interest in education.

She started her visit with a tour of the school, guided by three of our Year 8 school ambassadors. Together, they spent time exploring some of the highly creative subjects offered at St. Michael's, including art, design technology, and music.

Following the tour, Vikki met with our school council to answer their questions. The conversation was incredibly engaging, with topics ranging from how one becomes an MP and how to build the confidence to speak with high-profile figures, to whether she has aspirations of becoming Prime Minister! The school council also sought her advice on how to take action to improve road safety directly outside the school gates.

We would all like to extend our warmest thanks to Vikki for taking the time to visit St. Michael's and inspire our pupils.



Here are some other photos of the various teams that have represented the school in sports events this year. Thank you for all those pupils who have been involved this year.



Staffing Update

We will be very sad to be saying goodbye to a number of staff members at the end of this term. We are also excited to welcome new staff for next year.



Mr. Taylor, who has been with the school as a member of the Senior Leadership Team since 2020, will be taking retirement at the end of the term. Mr. Taylor has been an integral part of our school community. Throughout his tenure, he has brilliantly managed our safeguarding and pastoral teams, serving as a vital point of contact and a source of unwavering support for countless families and children. He is deeply respected by students, staff, and parents alike, and his absence next year will be felt by us all. Mr. Taylor is hugely respected by our school community and I know how much he will be missed by us all. It also means that we will say goodbye at the end of the year to **Winnie** (Mr. Taylor's dog) who will join him in his upcoming adventures. We will all want to thank him for all he has done during his time at the school and wish him the very best for his retirement.



Mrs. Lennon, who has worked closely alongside Mr. Taylor, will also be taking retirement at the end of this term. Mrs. Lennon has been an integral part of the St. Michael's family since 2017. Throughout her nine years with us, she has been a steadfast pillar of support, dedicating herself to the mental health and well-being of our pupils and their families. I know that many pupils and parents have benefited from her amazing depth of knowledge in this area and we will all miss her very much. Please join us in thanking Mrs. Lennon for her incredible service and collectively wishing her the absolute best for a long, happy, and well-deserved retirement!

We are currently holding interviews for her replacement and I will update you on the recruitment outcome in due course.



Starting at the school in 2018, I want to congratulate **Mrs. Holmes** in securing a promotion in a first school where she will be leading up an in-school provision for children who find learning difficult. Mrs. Holmes started at the school as a classroom teacher before moving to head up Year 5 for the last few years. She has been central to managing the transition of pupils from their various first schools into St. Michael's, meeting with the Year 4 teachers to ensure that pupils have the best start possible to their time at St. Michael's. Mrs. Holmes will be deeply missed by both the staff and pupils alike. Her dedication, warmth, and expertise have shaped so many journeys here, and we have no doubt she will truly excel in this next stage of her career.

We are delighted to have appointed **Mr. Chapman** to lead the Year 5 team from next year. As a parent of the school, he knows the school and community and brings many years of senior leadership experience to the role. We look forward to working with him.



We will also be saying goodbye to **Mrs. Wadley-Scott**, who has been a hugely valued member of our Year 5 team this year, as well as teaching English and French to Key Stage 3. Mrs. Wadley-Scott has been fantastic in helping her tutor group adapt to middle school life this year. She leaves us to take up an exciting new post at another school this September and we wish her much success in her new job.

Replacing Mrs. Wadley-Scott in the Year 5 team next year, we are delighted to welcome **Mrs. Barnes** to the St. Michael's team. I have had the privilege of working with Mrs. Barnes before and know that, as an extremely experienced middle school key stage 2 teacher, we are fortunate to be able to appoint her to the staff team at St. Michael's.



Following his decision to take a year away from teaching, Mr. Johnston has decided not to return to St. Michael's next year. Whilst we are sad to hear this, we are pleased that he has found a new passion in building work. Our music department will continue to thrive under the leadership and direction of Mrs. Martin-Papp.

Staffing Update



We will be saying farewell to two of our wonderful teaching assistants, **Miss Mawdesley** and **Mrs. Eldridge**. Both joined us in September and have made a fantastic impact in a short space of time. They have been an incredible support to our pupils, particularly working alongside our Year 5 classes, where their dedication to helping the children learn and grow has been clear to see every day. They are both moving on to exciting new



chapters. Miss Mawdesley is leaving us to pursue further study at university, while Mrs. Eldridge will be taking her talents to a different setting. We want to say a huge thank you to both Miss Mawdesley and Mrs. Eldridge. We will miss them both dearly and wish them the absolute best of luck in their future careers!



Miss Parmenter joined the school in September, teaching in the Key Stage 3 English team and serving as a tutor to pupils in 6P. She has helped to develop pupils' love of English and used her training at GCSE to extend the writing of pupils in her groups. Going forward, she is looking to work more with pupils who can find school a difficult place to be, and we want to wish her the very best moving forward.



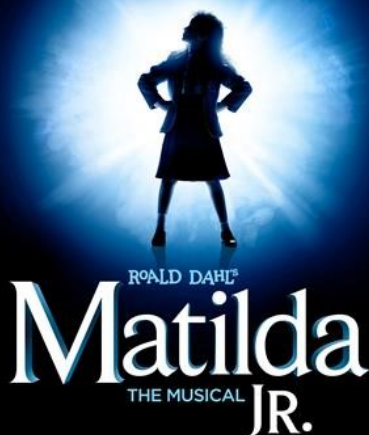
We are delighted to welcome back **Mrs. Holmes** from her year away from teaching whilst she returned to her home nation of New Zealand. She will be resuming her post as a tutor in Year 6 and also as a member of the Key Stage 3 English team, currently being covered by Miss Parmenter. We are looking forward to hearing of her adventures over the previous year and look forward to her rejoining the staff team next year.

We are also pleased to welcome **Mr. Mondon** to the school next year. He will be teaching maths across the whole school and will also be working alongside Mr. Joy in the Year 6 tutor team.



Finally, we are very sad to say 'au revoir' to **Madame Hughes**. As a very talented and dedicated languages teacher, we are sad that she will not be with us next year. She has brought new teaching ideas to our languages department and supported the Year 8 French trip, sharing her love of languages with our pupils. She will be looking to focus her energies on her other roles outside of education and we want to thank her for the hugely valuable contributions to our school over the last 3 years. Bonne chance pour la suite et tu vas nous manquer.

St. Michael's Middle School presents



Book
DENNIS KELLY

Music & Lyrics
TIM MINCHIN

July 8th, 9th and 10th

Layard Theatre,
Canford School

Tickets on Sale this
week!

Summer Arts Festival

Last week, we were treated to an amazing display of musical, artistic, and creative talent at our inaugural Summer Arts Festival.

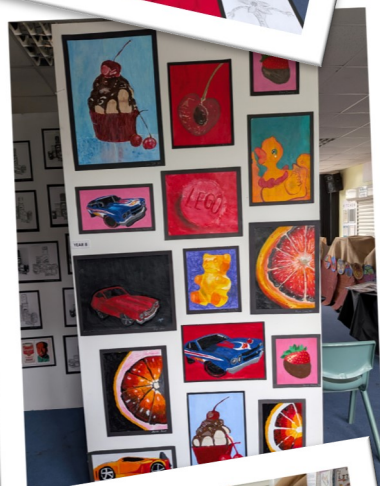
A wide range of outstanding work produced by our pupils in lessons was on display, showcasing creativity across all year groups. This included impressive, life-sized sculpture work created in the style of Giacometti. There were also fantastic displays from the pupils who have been studying for their Bronze and Silver Arts Award schemes.

The musical concert featured a brilliant variety of acts, including choral, orchestral, and solo performances. We enjoyed two stunning violin solos from Sibbie and Annie, alongside wonderful vocal performances from soloists Fliss, Georgiana, and Iris, among others. The second half of the evening turned up the energy with performances from the various school bands, including the winners of this year's Battle of the Bands.

We also had the first glimpse of the cast from the upcoming production of Matilda Jr, who performed a song from the musical.

Beyond the stage and studio, we also had a chance to appreciate the incredible creativity of the Year 8 English homework tasks.

A huge thank you to all the staff who came together to make this spectacular event possible!



House Point Totals

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

Hanham

Bankes

Gulliver

Paget



36,198



36,148



35,098



35,711

You can check your child's ePraise points total by going to 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!

I.Clark (593)	S.Gadniwa (431)	A.Hardyman (480)	S.Hull (483)
L.Jackson (453)	N.O'Gorman (418)	J.Vail (402)	S.Compton (412)
R.Struck (432)	O.Jeffery (389)	I.Hayward(365)	I.Porretta (393)
O.Merritt (395)	N.Baseley (379)	T.Large (351)	J.Craik (383)
H.Pope (394)	C.Benham (377)	J.Atkins (350)	T.Dunnington (379)
E.Clunies-Ross (367)	M.Dawson (361)	C.Garvie-Swiggs (340)	H.Coveney (375)
S.Matthews (362)	R.Scheepers (360)	E.Neil (330)	L.Randall (374)
V.Bronk (359)	F.Fricker (352)	O.Stoakes (329)	P.Swift (372)
A.Burry (355)	B.Dykes (350)	E.Farmer (327)	L.Kendrick (351)
L.Wither (354)	W,Buckman (346)	G.Dmochowski (326)	E.Arnold (349)

School Games Platinum Award



St Michael's Middle School

has achieved the Platinum School Games Mark award for their commitment and engagement in the School Games for 2025/26.



St Michael's CE Middle School is celebrating once again after retaining the prestigious **School Games Platinum Mark**, the highest possible government-led accolade for school sports provision. Facilitated by the Youth Sport Trust, the Platinum award is reserved exclusively for schools demonstrating a long-term commitment to high-quality physical education, inclusive competition, and outstanding leadership. St Michael's stood out for its exceptional student engagement with over 50% of pupils regularly participating in extra-curricular sports as well as its diverse curriculum, which utilises the school's on-site swimming pool and offers unique activities ranging from traditional rugby and netball to parkour and handball. This consecutive achievement highlights the school's ongoing dedication to fostering healthy lifestyles, teamwork, and sportsmanship across all year groups.



Junior Mayor & Junior Town Crier



COMPETITION



SATURDAY
4TH
JULY



2:00^{PM}



WIMBORNE
MODEL
TOWN



Do you have a loud voice, great ideas, or a flair for public speaking?



Why not take part in this year's Junior Mayor and Junior Town Crier Competition!



JUNIOR TOWN CRIER

Ages 6 – 14 years



Participants will deliver a pre-written town cry.

JUNIOR MAYOR

Ages 9 – 18 years



Participants will present their own speech, up to one minute in length, on the subject:

“My ideas to make Wimborne a better place”



This is a wonderful opportunity for young people to build confidence, develop speaking skills, and take part in a fun community event. Family, friends, and supporters are warmly welcome to attend.



For further information or to enter, please contact: Gary mason 01202 881655 or community@wimborne.gov.uk
Closing date for entries: Friday 26 June 2026





Join your Family Hub and **TRAIN TO BECOME**

A volunteer parenting group leader

Lived
Experience

Shared Strength

Lasting Impact

- The years between two and eleven can be an intense emotional roller coaster for **any parent or carer**.
- Could your parenting journey **support other parents and carers?**
- We're looking for **volunteers to lead** Empowering Parents Empowering Communities **a course by parents, for parents.**
- **You bring your experience.**
- We'll give you the **training to thrive as a leader.**

Mums, dads and carers can apply

To find out more, please scan the QR code, fill in the short enquiry form and we will contact you for an informal chat



EMPOWERING
PARENTS
EMPOWERING
COMMUNITIES

UPCOMING IMPORTANT DATES

Monday 15th June -	Year 8 French Trip
Friday 19th June	Year 8 Tall Ships
Friday 19th June	Science Share Event (after school)
Monday 22nd June	Michael James Concert at Wimborne Minster
Friday 26th June	Transfer Day
Monday 29th June	Year 6 Sports Day (1300-1530)
Tuesday 30th June	Year 5 Sports Day (1300-1530)
Tuesday 30th June	Matilda Rehearsals all day in school
Tuesday 30th June	New Year 5 Parents Evening
Wednesday 1st July	HPV Vaccine Catch-Up Session
Wednesday 1st July - Friday 3rd July	Year 6 Post-SATS Activity Week
Friday 3rd July	Piano Concert with Mrs Goy after school
Tuesday 7th July	All day Matilda rehearsal at Layard Theatre
Friday 10th July	Year 4 Leavers' service at Wimborne Minster
Tuesday 14th July	Subject Based Parents Evening
Friday 17th July	ePraise non-uniform day
Monday 20th July	Year 8 Mud-Run reward trip
Tuesday 21st July	Year 8 Leavers Assembly (am)
Tuesday 21st July	Year 8 Leavers Celebration Evening
Wednesday 22nd July	Last day of term
Thursday 3rd September	First day of new school year
Thursday 3rd September	Individual School Photos
Friday 4th September	Tutor Group School Photos



Layard Theatre- Canford School

School Production Dates

- Tuesday 7th July—All day rehearsal
- Wednesday 8th July—Evening Performance
- Thursday 9th July—Evening Performance
- Friday 10th July—Evening Performance



Term Dates 2026/2027

Autumn Term

Tuesday 1st September 2026	INSET Day (School Closed)
Wednesday 2nd September 2026	INSET Day (School Closed)
Thursday 3rd September 2026	First Day of Autumn Term for Pupils
Monday 26th October 2026— Friday 30th October 2026	Autumn Half Term (School Closed)
Monday 2nd November 2026	INSET Day (School Closed)
Tuesday 3rd November 2026	Pupils Return to School
Friday 18th December 2026	Last Day of Autumn Term for Pupils

Spring Term

Monday 4th January 2027	INSET Day (School Closed)
Tuesday 5th January 2027	First Day of Spring Term for Pupils
Monday 15th February 2027— Friday 19th February 2027	Spring Half Term (School Closed)
Monday 22nd February 2027	Pupils Return to School
Wednesday 24th March 2027	Last Day of Spring Term for Pupils
Thursday 25th March 2027	INSET Day (School Closed)

Summer Term

Monday 12th April 2027	First Day of Summer Term for Pupils
Monday 3rd May 2027	Bank Holiday (School Closed)
Monday 31st May 2027—Friday 4th June 2027	Summer Half Term (School Closed)
Monday 7th June 2027	Pupils Return to School
Friday 16th July 2027	Last Day of Summer Term for Pupils
Monday 19th July 2027	INSET Day (School Closed)
Tuesday 20th July 2027	INSET Day (School Closed)
Wednesday 21st July 2027	INSET Day (School Closed)