



## St Michaels Middle School Newsletter No.8

### 30th April 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

Thank you for your ongoing support with COVID expectations. We are expecting that we will be relaxing the rule about KS2 pupils wearing masks in lessons from May 17th and we await further guidance from the Government about other restrictions being lifted at this time. As the weather gets warmer will be preventing pupils from wearing coats and hoodies in school. We have been relaxed about this for obvious reasons but it is definitely not a long term solution. Please can you check that your child's summer uniform choices are correct including: shirt length long enough to tuck in, skirt length is not short, any PE kit doesn't have large commercial labels and leggings are black.

#### Aerial Video

Recently we asked a drone technician to film our Easter Service and I am delighted that this led to over 2100 views. Whilst on site we also asked them to complete an aerial shot of the school and the delightful footage is available on our website and youtube: <https://youtu.be/eShAUKucqoo> The angle and height of the camera allows viewers to see how the school sits at the top of Colehill which, before the time of trees, would have been the prominent place hence the good folk of the Bronze Age using what became our site for burials!

#### Wildlife Pond

An exciting new feature at St Michael's is our wildlife pond. This wildlife pond has been created by school Librarian Mrs Atkins to provide a wildlife habitat for the school grounds and as a resource for pond dipping in science lessons, inspiration for creative arts and writing, and a place of quiet reflection for staff and pupils.

Last year in lockdown it was used as an extra activity for the key worker pupils, who loved finding and learning about the great variety of wildlife from caterpillars to dragonflies, we even caught a great diving beetle nymph which ate a small newt whilst the children were watching! Food chain in action.

This year it has been used for the first time as part of science lessons in Year 5 with enthusiastic response from pupils. Pond life is flourishing with tadpoles, mayfly nymph, dragonfly nymph, midge larvae, tadpoles, water hog louse, pond skaters and newts amongst other things already observed.

I'd like to thank Mrs Atkins and various helpers along the way who have put an enormous amount of time and care into making this wonderful and lasting resource for the school.



### **Lunchtime Clubs**

The following clubs are now running at lunchtime up until the end of the Summer Term.

<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Year 7 Cricket</b> <b>Year 7 Rounders</b> <b>Years 5 &amp; 6 Beginners Swimming (invitation only)</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Year 6 Cricket</b> <b>Year 6 Rounders</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Year 8 Cricket</b> <b>Year 8 Rounders</b>
<b>Friday</b>	<b>Year 5 Cricket</b> <b>Year 5 Rounders</b> <b>Year 6 Swim Squad</b>

### **After School Clubs**

The following after school clubs are now running up until the end of the Summer Term, please book a place for your child via Parentmail.

<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>KS2 Cricket</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>KS3 Cricket</b> <b>KS2 Athletics</b> (Please note that there is no club on 16th June) <b>Year 5 Orchestra</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Girls Cricket</b> <b>KS3 Athletics</b> <b>Year 6 Orchestra</b>

### **Awards**

Every term we hand out awards celebrating excellence in academic progress and pupils who demonstrate an excellent attitude towards their learning. Well done to the following pupils:

<b>Spring 2021</b>	<b>Award</b>	<b>Pupil Name</b>			
		<b>Yr 5</b>	<b>Yr 6</b>	<b>Yr 7</b>	<b>Yr 8</b>
	<b>Approach to learning - Jean Watts award</b>	Jayden Rutten	Isabelle Spreadbury	Finlay Ellard	Emily Searle
	<b>Progress Award - Jackie Belvoir</b>	Mason Yardley	Olivia Cox-Williams	Erin Haywood	Charlotte Bedford
	<b>Governor's (Academy Committee) Shield</b>	Lauren Bell			

## **TERM DATES 2020-21**

### **Summer Term 2021**

First Day of Term Monday 19th April

May Day Holiday Monday 3rd May

**Half Term Holiday Monday 31st May – Friday 4th June**

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

Pupils Return Tuesday 8th June (First and Middle Schools Only)

Transfer Day (Year 4 & 8 to new schools) Friday July 2nd

Last Day of Term Friday 23rd July (**Early finish 12.45pm**)

## **TERM DATES 2021-22**

### **Autumn Term 2021**

**Staff Training Days Thursday 2nd & Friday 3rd September (All Schools)**

First Day of Term Monday 6th September

**Half Term Holiday Monday 25th October – Friday 29th October**

**Staff Training Day Monday 1st November (All Schools)**

Pupils Return Tuesday 2nd November Last Day of Term

Last Day of Term Friday 17th December (First and Middle Schools Only)

### **Spring Term 2022**

**Staff Training Day Tuesday 4th January (First and Middle Schools Only)**

First Day of Term Wednesday 5th January (First and Middle Schools Only)

**Half Term Holiday Monday 21st – Friday 25th February**

Pupils Return Monday 28th February

Last Day of Term Friday 8th April

### **Summer Term 2022**

First Day of Term Monday 25th April

**May Day Holiday Monday 2nd May**

**Half Term Holiday Monday 30th May – Friday 3rd June**

**Staff Training Day Monday 6th June (First and Middle Schools Only)**

Pupils Return Tuesday 7th June (First and Middle Schools only)

Last Day of Term Friday 22nd July