



St Michael & St John's RC Primary School
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Following the example of Jesus, together we learn, love and respect one another to be the best we can be.

Dear parents/carers

The children have had another busy week. They have been decorating the corridors with some beautiful art work, these can be seen on our facebook page. Our year 5 had a class visit to Jodrell bank on Wednesday. As always the behaviour of the children was exceptional and were a credit to the school. Thank you to Mrs Jackson, Mrs Pennock, Mrs Webb and Mrs Makepeace, for organising the trip and to Mrs Blatchford and Mr Evans for volunteering their help. On Monday 7 children were trained as Caritas Ambassadors and they have already produced an action plan setting out what they will be doing! Thank you to Miss Britnell and Mrs Duckworth for accompanying them.



Congratulations

Well done to our very own Mrs Lambert, who has won an award for best comedy actress in a recent play she did. This award is from the NODA awards, and we are all very proud her.



Tempest Photo orders

Tempest are collecting photograph orders on Monday from 8.30am. Please have any orders in prior to Monday to ensure the deadline isn't missed. Alternatively you can order directly through them.

Data Sheets

Thank you for returning the data sheets so promptly. Mrs Wilkinson will be updating these over the next few days, so please be patient as this can be time consuming. The reason for this exercise is to ensure that all emergency contact details are up to date should we need to contact you. Please ring the office directly with any changes or call in as notes sent in with the children don't always make their way to the office. Please let Mrs Mabbott know of any family/home life changes that you think may be relevant to the welfare of your child whilst in school, so that again notes can be made on the system. Please be reassured that as always, information is confidential but is required to ensure the best possible care for your child(ren).



Flu vaccination letter from vaccination team

Re: School based childhood flu programme for Year 1, 2 and 3 children

I am writing to bring to your attention an increase in circulation of the influenza virus across Lancashire with outbreaks reported in nurseries, schools and nursing homes.

The childhood flu programme is a national programme which is being delivered in all the primary schools across England, from September to February every year. NHS England North (Lancashire) commissioned IntraHealth to deliver this programme.

In view of the current flu circulation in the community IntraHealth are offering a further opportunity for eligible children in year groups 1, 2 and 3 to receive the vaccination at a local community venue.

I would appreciate your support in sharing this information with the parents and guardians of your pupils. The sessions listed below are drop in sessions and no appointment is necessary:

Acorn Primary Health Care Centre - Wednesday 25th January '17 between 3.30pm - 6.30pm 421 Blackburn Road, Accrington. BB5 1RT.

If you require any further information, please contact myself on rachel.lynch@intrahealth.co.uk



Communication

We strive to ensure that communication to parents is working effectively. There are a few ways we will communicate with you. Text, email, newsletters or letters home. We are concerned that letters that are being printed and given to the child aren't always making it back home, and quite often letters are still left in book bags. We are trying to reduce the amount of paperwork being produced in the office so most of the letters home will now be sent to the email address we have on the system. Unfortunately the system at the moment can only send to one email address so if you aren't receiving the newsletter via email please let Mrs Wilkinson know. A text will be sent to let you know that a letter is being sent via email to ensure you don't miss them.

Parking

We have received phone calls regarding the parking on Bayley Fold. Please be considerate of the home owners and access required by the carers to these properties. I appreciate parking is difficult at arrival and pick times. Thankyou



Young Voices

On Wednesday 1st Feb, our choir and some members of staff will be going to the Young voices concert in Manchester. This is a wonderful event and a culmination of some very hard work by our children, Miss Acklam & Mrs Lambert who have prepared them and organised this event. You should all now have had your tickets. If not please can these be collected from the office by an adult as they are quite valuable. Please don't forget to send a packed tea for the children. They will be having an early lunch in school, which should have been ordered through Mrs Wilkinson, regardless of whether your child already has a school dinner. Thank you in advance to the staff who have ensured the children do not miss out on this amazing experience by volunteering to accompany the children.



What have we been doing this week

Reception- the children have been making dinosaur ice balls and watching them melt as part of an experiment

Year 1- the children have been learning about Zog and practising for their assembly.

Year 2- the children have been learning about Christopher Columbus & Neil Armstrong. They have been learning about the Philippines. In maths they have learnt how to divide and looked at division problems. In English they have written a diary about spending a day on the moon with Bob.

Year 3- The children have been learning about the Iron Age in topic. In maths it was challenge week, and they have finished reading Stig of the dump and planned their own story based on it.

Year 4 - Mr Warren, the school's head teacher from a while ago, came in and talked to the children about his role in different communities.

Year 5 - We visited Hyndburn sports centre for multi skills sports organised by Mrs Cook and we have been creating our space booklets.

Year 6 - In maths the children have learned about co-ordinates. They have studied The Andes Mountains in 3D and have researched the Old Testament in the Bible.



Achievements

Please let us know of any special awards or something your child has achieved out of school, such as sports, music, drama, etc. It's always lovely to hear how well the children do outside of school and some of the wonderful things they achieve. They may not always get a certificate to bring to assembly but nevertheless deserve recognition. Where possible we will put a little note on the newsletter. Let Mrs Wilkinson in the office know.

Parent Assessment Working Group

As mentioned last week, we need your views! As part of our school development plan/priorities for this year and following the national changes to assessment, we are considering the information we send home to parents about your child's attainment and progress. With this in mind, I would like a small group of parent representatives to form an 'Assessment Working Group'. This involves attending an initial session on Friday 3rd March at 9.15am with myself and a teacher representative during which we can take your views on the type, format and frequency of information you would find useful as a parent in terms of your child's attainment and progress.

If you would be interested in joining this working group to represent parental views please complete and return the attached slip or send an email or note in to the school office by Friday 3rd February.

EVERY DAY COUNTS!

At St Michael & St John's we know that good attendance is the key to successful schooling and we believe our pupils can be amongst the best.

Each year we are set a target for attendance & this is used to compare us to other schools nationally. Our current **target is 96%** attendance.

Attending school every day will help give your child the best possible start in life.

Going to school every day means:

- learning new skills
- making friends
- having lots of fun
- building lasting relationships
- taking part in exciting activities

You can help us to help your child by encouraging regular school attendance.

Regular attendance helps children to develop their confidence and to make and keep **lasting friendships**.

Your child's education is very important; attendance habits established in the foundation years of education can affect their entire school life.

Attendance figures for week commencing 23rd January

Reception- 89% 15 mins in lates
Year 1 - 87%
Year 2- 87% 5 min in lates
Year 3- 89% 15 min in lates
Year 4- 90% 10 min in lates
Year 5- 88% 25 min in lates
Year 6 - 88% 25 min in lates

Don't forget that a few minutes late to class each day adds up--

Dates for your diary

Tuesday 31st - EYFS Coffee Morning

Wednesday 1st - EYFS Bikes and Scooters

Wednesday 1st - Young Voices

Friday 3rd - 1.15pm - PTA Meeting - School Council Attending

Friday 3rd - Celebration Assembly - Y2

Tuesday 7th February - Safer Internet Day

Parents Assessment Information Evening - Wednesday 8th February at 5.30pm

Friday 10th February - PTA Valentine's disco

School closes at 3.30 for half term

School re- opens 8.55am Monday 20th February

Parent Assessment Working group Meeting - Friday 3rd March at 9.15am

Parents' Evenings will be held on **Monday 20th and Thursday 23rd March.**

Thankyou for your continued support

Mrs Mabbott