



# St Michael & All Angels CE Infant School

## Newsletter March 2023



### Our School Vision



*Connected through the values of love, respect and compassion. Three separate schools, we journey together to grow physically, spiritually, emotionally and intellectually, so that everyone can fulfil their potential. We strive to preserve the wonder of childhood, whilst ensuring our children are future ready.*

*"Be strong and of good courage, do not be afraid nor be dismayed for the lord your God is with you wherever you go" Joshua 1:9*

### Message from Mr Bowen

Although we have had numerous cold spells, I am taking great delight in the fact that it is now daylight when I arrive and leave school – this means that Spring is underway and the Summer term is upon us! The Summer term is always a very busy term, with our children continuing to enhance their learning with more opportunities to be outside (without the need for full wet gear)!

### Our Vision in action

*Connected through the values of love, respect and compassion.*

### Comic Relief

I would like to say a huge thank you for all the donations of cakes and the funds raised to support Comic Relief. We raised a grand total of **£323.00** to support this worthy charity.



### World Book Week

WORLD  
**BOOK  
DAY**

As you will know, reading is a life skill. This is why we celebrate World Book Week (instead of World Book Day). This year we continued our sponsored reading challenge and **you raised approximately £1,599 across the federation!**

This is incredible and I would like to extend my thanks to everyone who got involved and took part in the challenge! This money will be used to contribute towards the cost of books within the school.

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### **Team Spirit**

Every half term Team Spirit send out communication via parent mail, so parents can register or re-register their children onto the various after school sports clubs. Please look out for these messages and remember to sign up via their website.



### **Swimming**

Year 1 will be starting swimming lessons at Totten leisure centre, next half term, with their first lesson starting on Thursday 20th April. There has been a number of correspondences with Year 1 families regarding this, but please do speak to your child's teacher if you have any further questions. Year 2 will be swimming after the next half term holiday and further information will be provided nearer the time.

Further communication will be shared after Easter about this.

### **Federation Sports Days**

Next half term, ACE sports will be returning to our schools and leading our Federation Sports days! Year One and Two will be learning and practicing all sorts of sports in order to compete for the prestigious Federation cup!

The current reigning champions are Year 1 at Copythorne and Year 2 at Netley Marsh – will this continue for another term?

If you are able to come and support our sports day events, they will be held on Bartley Junior school field (weather dependent). **Year 1** is currently planned for **Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> May** and **Year 2** for **Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> May** from 9.30am—11.30am.

**Year R** will also be competing in their first inter federation sports day, this will be held at Netley Marsh (where all the children have visited before as part of their celebration topic) on **Friday 26<sup>th</sup> May** from 9.30am—11.30am. This will be chance for the children to meet their peers and show off their skills learnt over the year! All welcome to attend and support.

### **Getting ready for Year 3**

Next term we will begin to start to prepare the children for transition to year three. The Year Two team will be starting to talk to the children about their new schools and answering questions the children might have about moving up.

If your child is not be moving to Bartley for Year Three, please let the class teacher know, as this will help with planning for all transitions at the end of Year Three.



### **New Lunch Menus**

New lunch menus will be available for next term click [here](#) to view. We always encourage our children to try new things, so please do encourage your child to have a school dinner at least once or twice a week.



## Attendance

As many of you will know, school attendance is key to ensuring that your child is able to continue to make progress and to avoid gaps in learning. The less your child attends school, the greater the impact on your child, which will show as they move through the education system. Many areas of our curriculum are taught at pace and time off from school results in the need to catch up on return. For example, in phonics, we teach a new sound everyday. This means if your child is off school for 7 days, they have missed the teaching of 7 new sounds. This means on return, they will need to catch up on the 7 missed sounds taught, as well as learn the new sounds being taught alongside this. Because learning is also sequential, where a child has not attended school, they will often find it harder to catch up, as they have missed previous building blocks, needed to fully access taught learning on return.

Our Schools monitor attendance on a regular basis. We do this using a traffic light system, for example if your child's attendance drops below 95% your class teacher will notify you. Often, there are clear reasons (ie sickness bug, medical appointments etc) for this. In these circumstances, it is absolutely right to keep your child at home to rest and recover.

However, if attendance drops below 90% Mr Bowen will be notified in order to arrange a meeting and discuss the implications, in order to look at how we can support increased attendance. This will often include a discussion around the help which we may be able to provide and where necessary, external support maybe sought.

Each day a register is taken in class in the morning and again in the afternoon, these registers log a "session" so if your child misses a whole day at school, they will have missed two sessions, this can make a big difference in your child's attendance.

## Rwanda

As you will know, I was very privileged to be invited to join the diocese education team, along with another head teacher from Bournemouth to build and strengthen links and undertake some really great learning opportunities with schools in Rwanda, during half term. I have been sharing some of the pictures and stories with our children, looking at similarities and differences, with the hope that we will be able to form a link with one of the schools visited. If you would like to read more about this, the diocesan website has some great information about the work we did.

<https://winchester.anglican.org/rwanda-2023/>

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## Kings Coronation 8th May

To celebrate the Kings Coronation we are planning a week of creativity and celebration.

On **Thursday 4th May from 2.30** parents/carers are invited to come into school to look at the work the children have created. On **Friday 5th May** the children are invited to come into school dressed as kings and queens. We will be holding a street party with HC3S providing a special coronation lunch, followed by fun and games!



## Walk to School Week

Walk to School week takes place from 15th—19th May. This year's challenge encourages children to travel actively to school every day of the week. They will learn about the

important reasons to walk and the difference it can make for individuals, communities and the planet!

We are aware that some of you drive and park close to the school but if you are able to try to park a little further away and do a short walk even on one day that would be great. We want all children to understand the important messages of this week so all children will receive a certificate as they will have learned some valuable life skills.



## PTA Events



We are very “egg”cited to announce that the PTA’s Easter Trail is returning for another year! It will run from **31st March until 10th April** around the village with all proceeds being donated to the School PTA charity.

Hop around 6 village locations to complete the trail’s challenges, reveal a code word and collect a tasty treat!

You can purchase maps at our **Easter Bake Sale on 30th March** or from Tesco on the High St thereafter for £2 per map.

### Save the date...

The PTA will be holding a Quiz night **on Friday 12th May** so start getting your teams poised and ready! More information will follow after half term.

We would like to thank Reverend Burnish and the Baptist Church for the children and Staff’s Easter Eggs.

## Diary Dates

Thursday 30th March	Easter service at St Michael & All Angels Church—2.00pm
Thursday 30th March	PTA bake sale and Easter Trail map sale
Friday 31st March	LAST DAY OF TERM
Monday 17th April	First day of new term
Thursday 20th April	Year 1 Swimming
Thursday 27th April	Year 1 Swimming
Thursday 27th April	Year 2 Ukulele lessons commence (until end of term)
Monday 1st May	<b>BANK HOLIDAY—School closed</b>
Thursday 4th May	Family Worship <b>CANCELLED</b> due to Kings Coronation celebrations
Thursday 4th May	Year 1 Swimming
Thursday 4th May	Kings Coronation—parent work share from 2.30pm
Friday 5th May	Kings Coronation—Dress down and street party
Monday 8th May	<b>KINGS CORONATION—School closed</b>
Thursday 11th May	Year 1 Swimming
W/C 15th May	Walk to School Week
Thursday 18th May	Year 1 Swimming
Monday 22nd May	Year 1 Inter Fed Sports day (parents welcome weather permitting)
Tuesday 23rd May	Year 2 Inter Fed Sports day (parents welcome weather permitting)
Thursday 25th May	Year 1 Swimming
Friday 26th May	Year R Inter Fed Sports day (parents welcome weather permitting)
Friday 26th May	LAST DAY OF TERM

### Term Dates for 2022/23

Summer Term 1	Monday 17th April 2023	Friday 26th May 2023
Summer Term 2	Monday 5th June 2023	Friday 21st July 2023
Inset Days School Closed	Monday 26th June	