



# Saint Michael

## Catholic Primary School

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5th February 2016 | Newsletter 20



### UPCOMING DIARY DATES 2015-2016

**Wed, 10th Feb**  
Ash Wednesday

**Thurs, 11th Feb**  
Year 4 Cake Sale in the dining hall at 3 p.m.

**Fri, 12th Feb**  
In service training day - SCHOOL CLOSED FOR CHILDREN

**w/c 15th Feb**  
Half term week—SCHOOL CLOSED

**22nd Feb**  
Nursery Opens

**24th Feb**  
Workshop for Year 2—The Fire of London

### Headteacher's Update

Dear Parents, this evening we will be celebrating a mass to mark the retirement of our Chair of Governors, Clive Taylor. He has served as a governor for 25 years and as Chair for the last 12. In that time, he has helped shape the strategic vision for the school and played a huge part in our successes. It is worth remembering that all school governors are volunteers, which makes his contribution all the more noteworthy. I will thank him on your behalf this evening and I am sure you will join me in wishing him a long and happy retirement.

Clive will have witnessed many changes to our school over the last 25 years and childhood is very different in some ways than it used to be. Yesterday, I spoke to Year 6 children about the pressures they face that I never had to 'in my day'! The access that our children have to mobile technologies, social media, online gaming and apps is a growing concern. As a Headteacher, I cannot control what the children are accessing at home but I am able to have an overview of how our children are using these technologies. For example, I can tell you that earlier this year a parent was genuinely concerned that a stranger had infiltrated a group of friends online and was asking for personal details and this week we had to talk to the older children about how to use social media apps appropriately. We should embrace technology. The internet has provided us with fantastic new ways to share information and communicate but it can also lead to children feeling pressurised to keep up with the latest trends or behave in ways they would not normally do under supervision. Our children know right from wrong but please be vigilant and keep a constant dialogue with them about what they are doing online. Try to establish a relationship of trust where they can tell you if see or hear something that makes them feel uncomfortable and we will continue to educate them on e-safety. They must also realise that what they say, text, send or search for can be traced even if deleted so they must act responsibly. Our advice to them is always: 'if you wouldn't want your mum or dad to see it, then you shouldn't have sent it'. Perhaps you could take time this weekend to begin that open dialogue about internet use with your child if you are yet to do so. More advice and links to useful websites are available on the school website. Mr Lane

### INSET Day: School closed this Friday

Please remember that the school will be closed for the children this Friday, 12th February for an INSET day.

### School Council Disco: Friday 11th March

The School Council have come up with a fantastic way of raising funds for our playground project. They will be organising a disco on the 11th March. This will take place at school in the afternoon, with Reception & Key Stage 1 children enjoying a disco followed by KS2. Children will need to bring in £2 for the disco and up to £1 extra to buy drinks and treats. They will be able to wear their own clothes for the day and should be dressed to disco!

### Royal Holloway Science Festival

On Saturday, 5th March, from 10am-4pm, there will be a science festival at Royal Holloway. There will be interactive displays and talks from, and for, people with a passion for Science. [royalholloway.ac.uk/sciencefestival](http://royalholloway.ac.uk/sciencefestival)

### London Sealife Aquarium: Half Price

We have lots of half price vouchers for the London Aquarium at the front desk. Please feel free to take one. They expire on the 25th March.

### School Building Fund

You will recently have received a letter and a pamphlet explaining how you can contribute to the school building fund. This is totally voluntary but if you would like to contribute, we suggest each family sets up a £5 per month standing order to help maintain and improve the school buildings. Thank you very much to those if you that have returned the standing order and gift aid forms included as part of the pamphlet. We will be forwarding them on the banks at half-term, so if you are yet to contribute and would like to, please return the forms before half-term. More pamphlets are available from the Front Desk.

### P.E. Lessons

We have received a few requests recently for children to be excused from P.E. lessons as they are unwell. We treat P.E. as a curriculum subject like every other so it is important that children take part if they are well enough to attend school.

### Cake Sale

Year 1 managed to raise £306 this week from their cake sale. This will go towards the cost of a school trip. Thank you! Next Thursday it will be Year 4's turn.

### Shelley Library Opening Times

Day	Date	Year
Tuesday	9th	Year 2
Weds	10th	Year 3
Tuesday	23rd	Year 5
Weds	24th	Year 5
Tuesday	1st March	Year 4
Wed	2nd March	Year 6

Next week, we will be following menu 3

Saint Michael Catholic Primary School  
Excellence • Enrichment • Enjoyment



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE



Healthy Schools Plus  
Enhanced Status  
SURREY

