



Saint Michael

Catholic Primary School

Feltham Hill Road, Ashford, Surrey, TW15 2DG | Tel: 01784 253 333
Email: info@st-michaels.surrey.sch.uk | Website: www.st-michaels.surrey.sch.uk

23rd October 2015 | Newsletter 8



UPCOMING DIARY DATES 2015-2016

w/c 26th Oct
Half term week

Mon, 2nd Nov
INSET DAY - SCHOOL CLOSED

Thurs, 12th Nov
PTA meeting 7.30 p.m.

Fri, 6th Nov
Open morning for Parents interested in the Nursery 9.30 a.m.

Thurs, 12th Nov
PTA meeting 7.30 p.m.

Fri, 13th Nov
Class 5L assembly—5L parents welcome—9.05 a.m.

w/c Mon 16th Nov
Parents open evenings

Fri, 20th Nov
Class 4Y assembly—4Y parents welcome—9.05 p.m.

w/c Mon 23rd Nov
Bikeability for Year 5

Mon, 25th Nov
Open Morning for prospective Parents of children for admission to Reception class— 9.30 a.m.

Fri, 27th Nov
Class 4G assembly—4Y parents welcome—9.05 p.m.

Sat, 28th Nov
PTA Christmas Fayre

Next week, we will be following menu 3

Headteacher's Update

You will have noticed that work has begun on upgrading the Key Stage 2 playground this week. There will be new seating; a stage; a climbing wall; some low level climbing equipment; netball posts with new line markings for the pitch and resurfacing around the equipment. This has been funded by the PTA fund so a big thank you for your generosity. We are also resurfacing our quadrant adjacent to the Nursery and the Reception Classes will have their outside area fenced so that their outside space is more enclosed. All being well, the work should be completed during the half-term.

Mr Higgins and Miss Lewis spent this week in Tanzania, visiting our partnership school, St. Therese of Lisieux. They were able to bring our children's curriculum projects with them to share with the pupils in Dar-es-Salaam. It was fantastic to see Mr Higgins and Miss Lewis join Sister Amelberga and the children in a live Skype link. Our children sang 'If I were a Butterfly' and the Tanzanian pupils sang their school anthem. The children were then able to ask each other questions about school life. These questions mainly revolved around the length of the school day and punishments given at school! Year 5 were able to Skype each other to share their learning about water pollution and sanitation. Please read the [blog](#) written by Mr Higgins and Miss Lewis to find out more and feel free to leave a comment.

We have had a very positive first half-term with lots of excitement and more to look forward to. The children have settled into their new year groups very smoothly and continue to make excellent progress. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the staff for their hard work this half-term.

Parents, please don't forget that Monday, 2nd November is an INSET day so the children are due back on Tuesday, 3rd November. Looking slightly further ahead, your parents evenings will be held during the week beginning 16th November. Appointment letters will be distributed during the first week on the new half-term. Have a lovely break! Mr Lane

NURSERY OPEN DAY: 6th November 9.30am

We are delighted to be opening our maintained school nursery on **22nd February 2016**. This is a fantastic development for the school and our community. There will be up to eight 15 hour places available for Two year old children that [qualify for Free Early Education and childcare for Two year olds \(FEET\)](#) and forty-four 15 hour places available for [Three and Four year olds](#). The 15 hour places will be offered in two options, each option offering a place over two and a half days (Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday morning or Wednesday afternoon, Thursday and Friday). Meals will be charged for. Parents will be able to request to be considered for a full time place and these may be offered if available but there will be a charge for the additional 15 hours. The Admissions Policy will available on the website soon and will closely follow the criteria of the existing policy, with priority given to Baptised Catholic children from practising families that reside in the parishes of St. Michael's and St David's. The nursery Admissions Policy will be separate to all other admissions to the School including Reception. A place in the nursery will not guarantee a place in Reception. A new application will be required for entry into full time Statutory Education at the School and the Oversubscription Criteria will again be applied. More details on how to apply will follow in due course. If you are interested in applying for your child to join the nursery in either February 2016 or September 2016, please attend the open day at 9.30 on 6th November.

PTA Christmas Fayre: Saturday 28th Nov 11am-3pm

All the family and local community are welcome to celebrate a Christmas Fayre this year. If you would like to run a stall or know anybody that does (especially a food stall), please let Mrs Diton know via the [PTA facebook page](#) or phoning the school. We also need lots of decorations!

MANNA Foodbank

The MANNA Foodbank serves the most vulnerable in our local community. They are currently requesting: tins of cold meat (ham, spam, corned beef etc.); instant mashed potato; tomato ketchup; sugar - especially small bags; long-life juice; long-life semi-skimmed and full fat milk; long-life sponge puddings; Christmas goodies - puddings, mince pies/cakes, selection boxes etc but **must be dated until at least 25th Dec.**; shaving foam; disposable razors; tooth-paste; shampoo; liquid soap; washing powder

Open Day for 2016 Reception Children: Wednesday, 25th November 9.30am

We will be holding a further open day for the parents of children reaching their 4th birthday between 1st September 2015 and 31st August 2016 and are wishing to apply for our Reception classes in September 2016. Mr Lane will make a presentation, which will be followed by a short tour of the school. Please pass the information on to any parents that may be interested.

