



ST MICHAEL'S
C of E PRIMARY
HIGHGATE

North Road
London N6 4BG
020 8340 7441
www.stmichaelsn6.com

Newsletter January 2018 - Issue 4

Geraldine Gallagher
Headteacher

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have had a great start to the new year and on Friday, my morning started very well with Year 1 Anning Class assembly. Each Friday a Class leads a family assembly whereby the children present their learning to the school and their families. The children in Anning Class confidently and proudly shared all of their achievements with us. As our children get older, when preparing their assembly and other events, they take on more leadership responsibilities. In December the Year 6 children invited members of the local community to our school for a party. The children waited on the guests, provided presents and fantastic entertainment. Thank you to the Year 6 pupils, their parents and all of the staff for ensuring members of our community had a very enjoyable afternoon.

We are very fortunate to have a close working relationship with three local Churches – St. Michael's, All Saints and St. Augustine's. They support us in planning and delivering our weekly collective worship. This is when we gather as a school for assembly each day. We focus on one of our school values (endurance, forgiveness, koinonia, creation and friendship) relating them to stories from the Bible and our daily lives. A special welcome to Reverend Tim Miller who is the new Priest-in-Charge at All Saints Church.

We have introduced a 'no hands' system across the school. When asked a question the children do not raise their hands, instead, the person asking the question selects a name from a pot containing all of the children's names. If the chosen child needs support in answering the question they can 'phone a friend'. The children use different signals to show if they agree or have something else to add to the discussion. This gives everyone the opportunity to make a contribution and an understanding that everyone's contribution is necessary.

Thank you to the parents and grandparent who volunteered to discuss their work in relation to British values. You can read all about it and find out about other exciting events in this newsletter.

Best wishes,

Geraldine Gallagher
Headteacher

Dates

Friday 2nd February

9am Family Assembly – Y3 Shirley Class

Tuesday 6th February

All day Ragged museum trip—Y5 Zhenyi

Wednesday 7th February 2018

6.30pm Digital Parents Evening

Friday 9th February

9am Family Assembly - Y2 Curie Class

Last day of 1/2 term—finish at 3.30pm

12th—16th February

Half term break

Monday 19th February

Children return to school

Wednesday 21st February

AM School nurse to measure Reception & Y6 children

Friday 23rd February

9am Family Assembly Y4 Franklin

Thursday 1st March

4pm Year 5-6 Haringey Cross Country Event

World Book Day

Friday 2nd March

9am Family Assembly Y3 Easley

5th-9th March

STEM week

Thursday 8th March

4pm Y5-6 Haringey Hockey Quicksticks Event at Fortismere

7.30pm Panto

Friday 9th March

9am Recorder Concert

7.30pm Panto

Tuesday 13th March

Parents Evening

Thursday 15th March

12.30-3.30pm Y3-4 Haringey Gymnastics

Event Hornsey School for Girls

Parents Evening

Friday 16th March

12.30-3.30pm Y5&6 Haringey Gymnastics

Event Hornsey School for Girls

Monday 19th March

Autism awareness week

Thursday 22nd March

SMSA Quiz night

Author Visit

On Tuesday the author Lisa Thompson (Goldfish Boy and The Light Jar) came to visit year 5 and 6. She talked to them about her most recent works and about how she gets her ideas.

The children were really interested to hear about how authors have their ideas and how Lisa had to work at her skill to improve and become the author she is now.



She finished by answering children's questions and taking the time to sign some books too.

Library Opening Times

Tuesday and Thursday mornings

8.25- 8.45 am



Dates cont....

Friday 23rd March

9am Family Assembly Y5 Tereshkova

Wednesday 28th March

Kids school disco

Thursday 29th March

9.30am St Michael's Easter Church Service,
led by Y3

Last day of term—finish at 2pm

30th March to 13th April

End of term Holidays

Monday 16th April

Children return to school



Energy Kidz

Energykidz are now offering a **reduced rate of £8.50** if your child attends one of the schools clubs first and then join Energykidz from 4.30pm - 6pm.

Bookings are made directly on their website (www.energy-kidz.co.uk) by selecting the correct session "After Extra-Curricular Club Session"

Attendance



Despite all the coughs and colds attendance was 96.3 % at the end of last term, with Year 5 Zhenyi the highest meeting our target of 97.6% and Year 6 Ball Class at a close second at 97.2%.

Unfortunately, at the moment some of our children are poorly and we hope they make a speedy recovery as attendance has dropped slightly to 95.9%. We wish them well.

Lateness

Thank you to all those parents who have made a real effort to get to school on time.

Today it was better as there were seven children late, when it has been as high as 25. This really helps the children to start the day settled and ready to learn. Also the office has time to attend to any enquiries and help you too.



BRITISH VALUES



Thank you to our amazing parents who gave their time and expertise helping us learn about complex issues around the rule of law, democracy, liberty, tolerance and respect in Britain and around the world.

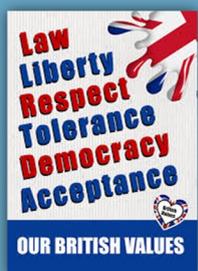


The week started with Labour MP Pat McFadden who spoke at our assembly about his experience of Parliament and meeting the Queen on official business. Reception and Year One had a visit from our Community Police, helping them to understand how they keep us safe.

Judith Nangle who lectures at the University of Essex helped Year Three to understand human rights. Jack McConnell who was the First Minister of Scotland and a peer in the House of Lords shared his experience of working in elections both here and abroad. Ben Barrison who works for a Leading Law Firm and Steve Midwinter QC spoke about Law to Year Four and Five.



Ruth Davidson held elections with Year Two and she told me "They really engaged with thinking about what they'd change for the better in the world around them, I felt optimistic for our future after a morning with them all."



After School Club



After School Club

Energy Kidz Ofsted registered clubs offer fun and affordable childcare delivered in a safe and supervised environment. Our qualified staff are DBS checked to an enhanced level, first aid qualified and are experienced in and passionate about the activities we offer.

We pride ourselves in delivering a fun and happy place for children to take part in activities, arts and crafts, sports, or just chill out and enjoy the variety of toys and games available. All our clubs follow the playwork principles and offer lots of free play and free choice activities.

A healthy snack is provided at all our clubs. Our After School clubs provide wraps or bagels with cheese or meat, vegetables, fruit and yoghurt.



Club Sessions & Booking Information

After School Club: from school finish until 6.00pm.

Price: £12.20

After School Club: from extra curricular club until 6.00pm.

Price: £8.50

Book Now to secure your place at bookings.energy-kidz.co.uk!

5% Sibling Discount is available and Childcare Vouchers are accepted.

**Find out more and book online:
0333 577 1533 | info@energy-kidz.co.uk
www.energy-kidz.co.uk**

Family Assemblies

2nd February Year 3 Shirley Class
 9th February Year 2 Curie Class
 23rd February Year 4 Franklin Class
 2nd March Year 3 Easley Class
 23rd March Year 5 Tereshkova Class
 29th March (Thursday) St Michael's Church Services, led by Year 3

SMSA Meetings

8pm 22nd February
 8pm 15th April
 8pm 24th May
 8pm 5th July—AGM
smsahighgate@gmail.com

PARKING

Please be reminded not to double park on the roads near the school or park in resident driveways.



SMSA Dates

22nd March - Quiz night- thurs - please email if you are interested in helping with this event
 28th March - Kids school disco Wednesday
 13th May - Footie Funday Sunday - Every class needs a team manager. We also need a couple of parents to volunteer to run this event- It's very straight forward but we need someone to organise refs and schedule the matches.
 10th June - Fun Run
 30th June - Summer Fair Saturday
 7th July - Camp Out Saturday

For more information contact the SMSA via smsahighgate@gmail.com

Class Cake Sales

2 nd February	Year 4 Franklin
9 th February	Year 6 Clark
2nd March	Year 6 Ball
9th March	Year 5 Tereshkova
16th March	Year 3 Easley
23rd March	Red Nose
29th March	Year 6 combined Easter



From the Governors

Funding the future

Governors have a range of responsibilities. These include setting the vision, ethos and strategic direction for the school. And of course, making sure the school's finances are in good working order.

There's no easy way to say it: schools up and down the country are in financial crisis. Some are actively considering shutting early on Fridays to make ends meet. More and more schools are asking parents to make contributions to the day-to-day running costs of the school. Most of these costs are salaries and we don't think that it's right to ask the wider parent population to make up for shortfalls in government funding.

Here at St Michael's our funds are well husbanded by our able Head and School Business Manager. No crisis here but there is no slack in the budget either.

Governors have to take the long view

As governors we have to take the longer view and to that end we have been working on a three-year strategy. We are also developing a 10-year premises plan.

While the SMSA does fabulous work raising funds for our 'nice-to-haves' including the considerable contribution for 108 iPads, the governors' fund is aimed squarely at large capital investment projects. We need to keep our eyes on the horizon and plan for those investments.

You can help fund premises improvements

As a voluntary aided school, most of our big-ticket items are around the premises because we do not receive the same state funding for buildings and grounds as fully maintained schools. Some of these projects are necessary but rather dull! We need to spend relatively large sums upgrading internal and external lighting, for example.

Some more interesting projects we have on our 10-year plan are to make a larger library, to create a link between the two main school buildings, to modernise the Science room and to reorganise the school layout so our younger children have immediate access to our wonderful grounds.

From the Governors cont. . .

These are complex and costly projects. Any money you can give to the Governors' Fund to support these ambitions is very gratefully received. You can contribute on scopay.com or via the school office.

Are you a corporate fundraiser?

Supporting the governors we have established a Fundraising Working Group which will seek alternative sources of funds. This is up and running and has done some great groundwork already. The group would benefit from a parent with a background in corporate fundraising. If that's you, please do come forward and email a short covering note and your cv to governors@stmichaelsn6.com

Thank you. The school could not survive and thrive without your support.

Together stronger!

Adam Garfunkel

Chair of governors

A reminder about our four funding 'pots'

1. **Our 'delegated budget' from Haringey.** This is the vast majority of our roughly £2 million annual budget and almost all of it goes on salaries (in keeping with other schools).
2. **SMSA funds.** The parents' body runs great social events that bring us together as a community and raise money too. This is about £40,000 a year. It pays for 'nice to haves' that enhance the children's day-to-day experience of school, for example the generous funding over three years of 108 iPads.
3. **Governors' Fund.** This raises money from parents through your regular donations (thank you!) and rental agreements. It pays for small-medium improvement projects such as the £75,000 needed to convert the old flat into music and intervention spaces.
4. **Fundraising Working Group.** This new group of parents and governors will raise significant funds for larger, longer-term improvement projects such as refurbishing all the classrooms on a rolling basis.



St Michael's STEM Week Homework: I am a STEM specialist!

In the run up to STEM week which starts on 5th March, we would like the children in all classes to participate by becoming STEM creators by creating their own STEM project, on any area of Science, Technology, Engineering or Maths.

The project can be an experiment to answer a subject-related question, a problem and solution or a research project. It can be on any area of STEM that interests your child, for example 'How many stars can we see?', 'How many right angles are in my bedroom?' or 'What would my family eat on the International Space Station if we were with Tim Peake?' Hands on and messy experiments are encouraged for those who are brave enough!

A selection of the projects from each class will be displayed as part of St Michael's STEM Fair, in the Key Stage One hall, for the children to view during Science Week. Parents will be welcome to come along and see the work that the children have done.

Photographs of the Science Fair will be displayed on the school website for parents to view.

A panel of judges will help to choose the projects to be awarded the St Michael's STEM medal in each Key Stage. The winners will be on display around the school to celebrate STEM achievements across St Michael's.

Your task:

When you have carried out your investigation or research you have to make an A4 display board to communicate your learning to everyone at school.

As well as your full name and year group, your display board should show the project title/question/problem, what you think the answer is, what you did to investigate your question, what you found out and a conclusion. If your project relates more to maths then make sure that you include your mathematical reasoning. If you like, you can include a small model or photograph of your experiment.

Set:

Friday 26th January 2018

Due:

Wednesday 7th March 2018



Haringey Sportshall Athletics Tournament 2018

A total of 19 athletic and highly energetic Year 6 pupils competed at the annual Sportshall Athletics Tournament held at Heartlands School on Thursday 18th January.

In the second of 3 heats (over 30 schools involved overall) the school competed in a range of indoor track and 'field' events. These included a range of sprint relays over various distances with extra second counting towards the school's total points. 'Field' events included vertical jump, long jump, triple jump, speed bounce, and chest push throw.

A magnificent event attended by 12 schools saw St. Michael's finish a very respectable 5th place overall after a particularly strong performance in jumping and throwing events.

The children's attitude throughout was first class, representing the school with immense determination and pride. Much praise must go to Aksel and Ellie our sports ambassadors and our two athletic ambassadors Hattie and Josh for leading and captaining the girls and boys with such dedication and attention to detail.

All the following children went home happy with their achievements. Well done to Aksel, Michael, Ade, Luca, Jonny, Sascha, Lucas, Josh, Thabang, Georgia, Lily, Alina, Anya, Talia, Bea, Grace, Gwen, Hattie, and Ellie.



PCUBED Tag Rugby Challenge 2018

On Friday 19th January 2018, St. Michael's returned to the Honourable Artillery Company in the heart of the City at Moorgate to compete in the annual Tag Rugby Challenge organised by London Skolars. Sponsored by PCubed – a global leader in business transformation – this event is a highlight of our sporting calendar.

Set within the hustle and bustle of city life and within the shadow of intimidating skyscrapers, St. Michael's once again competed to a very high standard against some of the best rugby schools in Haringey, Barnet, and Islington.

Every match was extremely competitive and there was no shortage of aggression, determination, and skill on display. St. Michael's played brilliantly throughout winning 3 matches, drawing an incredibly close 'derby' match with Rhodes Avenue, before losing their final match against a well drilled Joan of Arc School team.

Congratulations to St. Michael's who came 2nd overall! Each child received a silver runners-up medal from members of PCubed and London Skolars, before champions Rhodes Avenue stepped up to collect the winning shield. St. Michael's teamwork and determination to succeed was fantastic throughout. Well done to Jonny the school's captain for leading his team with incredible skill and sportsmanship throughout.

More excitement was to come as all schools formed a guard of honour to welcome London Skolars and the mighty Wigan Warriors onto the field for the annual challenge of professional rugby league. The children mixed with the greats of the game and took home one or two souvenirs along the way!

Much praise and thanks goes to London Skolars for organising a wonderful day and to our amazing team of Jonny, Aksel, Adesola, Thabang, Jake, Michael, Hattie, Ellie, Talia, and Gwen.





5 day workshop for 8-11 year olds bringing together multiple key skills including: problem solving, collaboration, communication, logical reasoning and creative thinking through film-making and coding to create short animated films in a Minecraft world.

St. Michael's CofE Primary School

Monday 12th February – Friday 16th February

9am-3pm

Early drop-off and late pick-up options available.

See website for details.

To book a place, visit our website:

www.mrgbooks.com/workshops

Limited places available

SPORTING CALENDAR SPRING TERM 2018

February

Weds 1st	9.30 – 12 noon	Haringey Dance competition	Hornsey School For Girls	Years 3-6
Thursday 28 th	TBC	KS2 Dance Festival	Highgate School	Years 5 and 6

March

Thursday 1st	4.00pm – 5.00pm	Primary Schools X Country Champs	New River Fields & Track	Years 5 and 6
Thursday 8 th	1.30pm - 4.00pm	Hockey Quick Sticks 5/6	Fortismere School	Years 5 and 6
Thursday 15 th	2.00pm	Gymnastics festival Y3/4	Hornsey Girls School	Year 3 and 4
Friday 16 th	2.00pm	Gymnastics festival Y5/6	Hornsey Girls School	Years 5 and 6
TBC	All day	Greig City Academy 3 v 3 Basketball	Greig Academy	Year 5 and 6