



ST MICHAEL'S  
C of E PRIMARY  
HIGHGATE

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

## Newsletter June 2018 - Issue 9

Geraldine Gallagher  
Headteacher

Dear Parents and Carers,

Year 6 have returned from their week's residential in the Isle of Wight and are busy rehearsing their production of the Lion King. The children have been well prepared for this moment as they have had many opportunities to perform during their time at St. Michael's. Every child from Nursery to Year 6 takes part in performances such as class assemblies, leading Church services, Nativities, musical recitals, community events like Fair in the Square, the pantomime and musical performances. They all excel, loving their performances, and appreciate the critiques offered by their peers. These along with the wide variety of sporting opportunities gives the children the opportunity to feel part of a successful team and builds their positive view of themselves.

We also have a strong record of academic achievement. The results can be seen not only in our above average attainment figures but by observing and speaking to our children and reading their work. Beatrix's short story (page 3) was a competition entry in the Daunt Books Children's Short Story Competition which has been published. Moreover, our Year 6 children entered the Haringey Welcome Poetry Competition. Oliver won 1st prize, and Esther won third prize (page 5). Joshua, Mala, and Sara all received special commendations too.

This month we have our healthy living and sports weeks. All of the children have represented their house team and experienced a range of activities. A big thank you to Mr Whiting for arranging a great fortnight of events and for the parents and athletes who have supported him.

The children participated in the Footy fun day in May, which is a great event enjoyed by children and families. Thank you to the all parents, carers and the SMSA for organising this fun event.

The fun run was another excellent event. There is a lot of preparation and organisation prior to the races and on the actual day. Thank you to all involved.

I hope you enjoy reading about all of the extra - curricular activities and events we have been involved in and can join us in some of the upcoming events.

Best wishes,

Geraldine Gallagher  
**Headteacher**

## Dates

### Tuesday 3rd July

All Day Year One Seaside Day

### Wednesday 4th July

1.30-2.30 Year 4 Wider Ops Concert KS2 Hall

7pm Year 6 Evening concert

Choir to perform at Finsbury Park (evening)

### Thursday 5th July

Anita's piano concert

### 7-11th July

Destination Highgate—dance and music events at St Michael's School

### Friday 6th July

9am Seacole family assembly and coffee morning

### Tuesday 10th July

8-10am Stevensons in KS1 hall for uniform sizing

### Wednesday 11th July

All day Y2 Trip—Cutty Sark

PM Year 6 play to parents

### Thursday 12th July

Piano Assembly KS1 Hall wth parents

AM Reception Children to have eye test

Sarah's piano concert—children performing to parents KS1 Hall

PM Year 6 play to parents

### Friday 13th July

Nancy's Recorder Concert - Whole School

Assembly. KS2 with parents all children

Step-up day

### Monday 16th July

All day—Year 3 trip to the Zoo

3.30pm Year 6 second-hand uniform sale - top playground

### Tuesday 17th July

Year 2 pirate day

### Friday 20th July

Year 6 Leavers Church Service

Last Day of School for Children - finish 2pm

**Children return to school 4th September**

## THE FAIR IN THE SQUARE

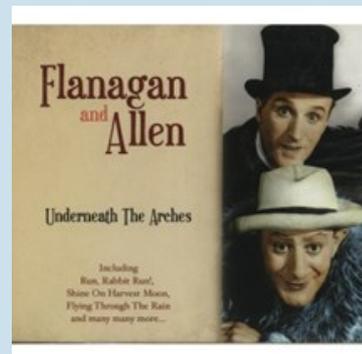
POND SQUARE  
N6

We hope you were lucky enough to catch the performance on the main stage at the Fair in the Square by our talented St Michael's Players, made up from children in Year three up to Year Five. They performed songs and comedy sketches in the style of the old early Musical Hall artists, such as Flanagan and Allen and Marie Lloyd. Their enthusiasm, sheer joy and talent shone through and truly won over the large Fair in the Square audience. I was so proud standing watching from the crowd, many commented on how talented and confident the children were.

Following on from this, the children performed again in an assembly and as a consequence we have more children who want to be in it next year. They were perfect role models and ambassadors for the arts. Thank you to Mrs Sorapure for writing the script and Mr Holt for



preparing the children.



### Children's Short Story Competition

Beatrix in Year 6 entered the Daunt Books Children's Short Story Competition earlier this year and her story below has been published and is available via Daunt Books.

Well done Beatrix for her riveting story below!

#### Short story

### Refugee by Beatrix, age 10

Omar shouts through the curtain around lunch-time. Mama is cooking onions and rice because that is all we have. She waves a hand at him carelessly, rocking Abdul in the crook of her left arm.

Some sand whips past my nose. I block my ears. Saira from next door is having another tantrum, most likely involving her brother. Why were we packed in like this? Why did Omar act as if nothing was wrong? Papa could be anywhere, miles away. I can feel the weight of tears, too much for my eyes. They are already heavy with dust and the painful screams of toddlers.

Our family wasn't always torn in the middle. We used to have a house and a garden. A father. Even pets. We had regular food and our mother wasn't always stressed and in constant fear of Papa's life being risked. I used to go out in the mornings and water the flowers like any normal girl. But then one day Papa disappeared. Mama told us to pack our bags and run.

After that our house was filled with red lights and soldiers. We haven't seen Papa or the house since. And that is why every night I stay awake – to watch the moon. If you tilt your head to the side a little, when it is a full moon, the dappled grey of it isn't just muddled, but a girl's face. An anxious girl's face, peering down at the world. And every night she reminds me that I am not alone. Her faith is with me, away from the bustle and rustle of others and voices that creep into your mind.

\*\*\*\*

The next morning, I am filled with surprise. Mama has cleared the shack. Every item we own is bundled into a case. Abdul is sucking a carrot, Amna is playing with her doll and Omar is shouting at his friends while they are called inside by their mothers.

My own mother is whispering with the family two rows down.

"Mama," I call. "MAMA!"

"Ah yes, there you are, Nadia," Mother replies.

"What's happening?" I ask.

Mama signs. "Well, we're going on a trip. Far, far away from Istanbul. Far away from Turkey."

"Is everyone coming with us?"

"Most will. Others are choosing to stay."

"Why can't we?" I say.

## Refugee by Beatrix

"Oh, Nadia," Mama looks exhausted. Probably from Abdul. Or perhaps from me.

"The only reason I say this is because I was to find Papa," I plead. "If we're leaving Turkey, we can't get closer to him. We'll be further away."

"No, Nadia. That's not what he'd want," Mama whispers.

"Bu-"

"No."

"I..."

"Go and pack, Nadia. We're leaving in an hour."

So that is what I do. Mama is made of steel; she can't be beaten.

\*\*\*\*

Crowds of people walk the paths. Every second tiny pebbles go inside my rough, brown sandals. Abdul cries, Amna groans and Omar looks as terrified as I. But we must go on.

The road is littered with families. Men whiz past on motorbikes, holding cans of beer and yelling at the top of their lungs. As the clouds begin to gather, I see some parents ushering their children into bushes and ditches. One family even spot a deserted shed and settle down for the night. Mama has other plans. A crows of girls about my age giggle nervously as we carry on the winding road of insecurity.

Suddenly a loud rumble and a pounding of metal breaks the silence as everyone is trying to get some rest. It's a truck, bigger than the rest and dark blue. Soldiers swam out of it like angry wasps, dressed in unfamiliar clothing. Mama's face is a picture of fear. I know what is coming.

"Hide now! Nadia, take the baby! Omar and Amna will come with me."

Grabbing Abdul from Mama, I spot a green bush already occupied, but the family is petrified and do not even look my way.

The street is now a mess of sirens and anxious parents. The soldiers are holding guns and giving people numbers in large lettering. Eventually I spot Mama wrapped in a blue shawl. Amna is limping along, completely crestfallen, and Omar is in tears.

"Nadia, we're leaving. If the soldiers catch us, we must run," Mama explains.

And then my mind pieces it all together. The soldiers are trying to get all of us back in Istanbul. Where they think we belong, I suppose.

\*\*\*\*

"Nearly there now, you can do it," Mama says from time to time.

The sun is just rising over the distant hills. We've been walking for days on end but every now and then Mama would spot a well and the water it produced would give us hope. Hope we'd find Papa. Hope we'd have a proper home. Hope we wouldn't always be refugees.

THE END

## Welcome Haringey Poetry Competition

Earlier in the term Year 6 entered a poetry competition called Welcome Haringey. The poems were about refugees and how it feels to be an immigrant in a new country. Many of our children were lucky to be selected and commended for their poems. Two however, were selected for 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> place prizes. In first place was Oliver with his 'Welcome Poem' and in 3<sup>rd</sup> place was Esther for her poem 'All Alone'. Both of these poems will be printed in the anthology being published by Welcome Haringey. Congratulations to both of you!

### Welcome Poem by Oliver, Year 6

It began at a house,  
the wind welcoming me,  
by sweeping the snow off my coat.  
The glittering flakes whispering in my ear,  
it was a new looming land.

A land of magical buildings,  
a land of busy, hustling secrecy.  
A land of unbegged curiosity,  
and... a land of no intimidation.

Home... the warmth greeted me,  
like shaking my hand with joy.  
I was flooded with comforting heat,  
I got to the table, I picked it up... a Key.

### All Alone by Esther, Year 6

What I once called home is now a pile of rubble.  
What I once called happiness is now soldiers pounding on the street.  
What I once called family is now loneliness.

I'm all alone.  
It's a long time since I heard laughter.  
All I hear now are tears and cries of pain and anguish,  
and all I have is a lone piece of rubble.

That is all I have.  
Sadness  
Loneliness  
Crys of pain  
And a broken heart.  
But maybe there will be light.  
Twinkling eyes.  
Merry voices.  
And laughter once more

### PGL

The Year 6 had a wonderful time in the Isle of Wight PGL this year.



## Year 5 Camp Out



On Friday 11th May, the school filled up with children as usual, streaming in through the gates chatting animatedly...except all of them were carrying sleeping bags and tents, and it was 7pm on a Friday night! Year 5 had arrived for St Michael's second annual Space Camp-Out. The field was awash with a patchwork sea of canvas as children and parents alike battled with their tents, getting them up in good time before the adults were banished. Soon, tent groups were revealed and the task of tiring Year 5 out as much as possible before 10 o'clock began. Games of crab football, dodgeball and predator were immediately set up, followed by stargazing (somewhat mixed success on that front), cake and hot chocolate, and a scary story before bedtime.

The next morning saw bleary-eyed staff ('bedtime' turned out to be a surprisingly loose concept) serving out breakfast to a long queue of irkingly peppy 10-year-olds in onesies. The children's excitement was infectious, and soon the staff were forgetting their tiredness, laughing and joking just as much as the children as their parents came to pick them up after another successful Camp-Out.

Many thanks to Mr Fowler for organising the Camp-Out, with a special thank you to Mr Whiting and Miss Mealey for organising camp activities. Thank you also to Miss Mealey, Mr Whiting, Mr Fletcher, Mr Coffield, Miss Stagg and Miss Lyons who attended to help make this great occasion happen.



## St. Michael's Junior Choir at the Royal Albert Hall

On Monday June 4th, the St. Michael's Junior Choir attended the Haringey Music Festival at the Royal Albert Hall. The children performed many songs at this amazing venue, all composed by Haringey talent, with about 2000 other Haringey school children.

The children sang beautifully as part of the harmonised performances and enjoyed many other performances including orchestras, classic guitar ensembles and a classical pianist.

The children are looking forward to their upcoming St.





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Headteacher: Geraldine Gallagher

Friday 15<sup>th</sup> June 2018

Dear Parents and Carers,

### **Primary Science Quality Mark**

To celebrate our school's commitment to excellent primary science, this year we have been working towards the Primary Science Quality Mark (PSQM). The PSQM is the only national award scheme to develop and celebrate the quality of science teaching and learning in primary schools.

The PSQM is led by the University of Hertfordshire, School of Education in partnership with the Primary Science Teaching Trust. It is supported by the Royal Society of Chemistry, the Ogden Trust and the Association for Science Education.

Following a rigorous process of self - evaluation I am very proud to inform you that we have achieved the Silver award.

Jane Turner, PSQM National Director, said: *"Gaining a Primary Science Quality Award is a significant achievement for a school. The profile and quality of science teaching and learning in each awarded school is very high. Children are engaging with great science both in and outside the classroom, developing positive attitudes towards science as well as secure science understanding and skills. Science subject leaders, their colleagues, head teachers, children, parents and governors should be very proud."*

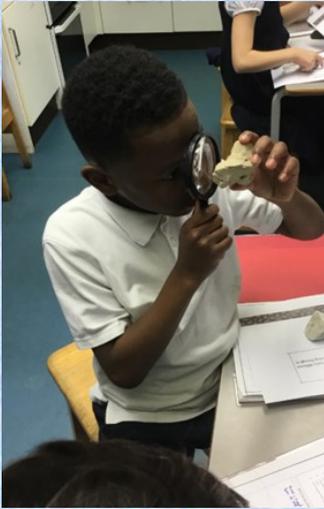
Well done to all of the staff, especially our Science Leader Mr Fowler, the pupils, parents and governors on this achievement.

Best wishes,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Gallagher".

Geraldine Gallagher  
**Head Teacher**

## Primary Science Quality Mark



Further to St Michael's successful submission of evidence and subsequent award of the Silver Primary Science Quality Mark. We wanted to share with you some of the photographs which were submitted as part of our application.

What we are most proud of, is that these images clearly demonstrate the fantastic range of opportunities the children have to experience hands on, engaging science at St Michael's. Children are actively engaged in scientific enquiry and they enjoy their scientific experiences in school.

Well done to children, staff, parents and the wider school community! We are all officially fantastic scientists.



## *From the Governors*

### **Healthy, happy and wise**

'Good health' we say as a toast. As adults, we wish it for each other, because we know how vital it is to enjoying a good life.

At St Michael's we have a vision that all our pupils will leave with 'the knowledge, skills and motivation to equip them for a healthy lifestyle and lifelong participation in physical activity and sport'.

PE and Sport Premium funding was brought in a few years ago to support these initiatives. It's not a huge sum, but we have creatively applied it to make the most of it and put in place a robust plan.

Doing more competitive sport has been a strong push over recent years. We now have a pretty comprehensive calendar of activities that enables all pupils to access competition with a particular focus on increasing opportunities for girls.

Active play at lunchtime supports that push as well. With the PE leader working with external providers to create more physical activity opportunities at lunchtime, children improve and enjoy being active more. Which makes it more likely they will continue with sport into adult life. And that in turn, will help them lead happy, fulfilled lives.

### **Putting your money to work**

Now the Governors' Fund is making an investment in the Key Stage 2 playground – or the 'cage' as the all-weather area is affectionately known. When we ask you for contributions, it is so we can spend on it on this sort of infrastructure at the school. These things don't come cheap. In fact, it is expensive to recover that surface and make it fit for purpose. After our usual process of securing three quotes to ensure value for money, we will be spending £55,000 from the Governors' Fund on the cage surface over the summer holidays.

### **It takes a village...**

Some of you may not know the story of how the cage got built. It is a great example of the community coming together. Back in the day, when customers came into the garage on North Road and they didn't take the tokens on offer, the owner John collected them and gave them to the school. And with other contributions from parents, the cage was fully funded and built. 'It takes a village to raise a child...' as the saying goes, and it certainly takes a village to help a community school with 450 children to thrive.

Thank you for all you do for St Michael's.

Together stronger!

Adam Garfunkel

**Chair of governors**

## Class Cake Sales

6th July      Year 1 Anning  
13th July     Year 6 Ball—rescheduled

## Family Assemblies

6th July    Year 2 Seacole  
20th July   Year 6 leavers service at St  
Michael's Church



Yes! The School Council is pleased to announce that the Tuck Shop is back. We have fantastic, tasty and healthy snacks available at morning break on **Tuesdays** (Years 3 and 6) and on **Thursdays** (Years 4 and 5). Apples, bananas, fruit bars and squash will be available to start off, with a maximum spend of £1.50. So if you think your child will benefit from a mid-morning boost of energy, we think the Tuck Shop can meet those needs. At the end of term the School Council will decide how to spend the money they raise. See you down by the pavilion! ☺

## 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](http://bookings.energy-kidz.co.uk)!

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**[www.energy-kidz.co.uk](http://www.energy-kidz.co.uk)**



## Haringey Girls' Kwik Cricket Tournament 2018

On Wednesday 6th June an enthusiastic squad of nine Year 5 girls attended the Haringey Girls' Kwik Cricket Tournament at North London Cricket Club. This event for Year 5/6 has gone from strength to strength with more and more girls taking up the sport. St. Michael's were unfortunately without Year 6 members due to PGL, however the Year 5 girls played very well in their place despite coming up against teams full of Year 6 girls.

Miss Forsythe was really impressed by the girls' attitude throughout. They certainly enjoyed themselves in what turned out to be another successful day for Rhodes Avenue. However, the standard from all schools was very good and there were many talented girls out there for all to see.

St. Michael's started well with a closely fought victory against Bounds Green. However, from then on the girls came across some very tough competition, and despite putting in good performances, could not manage another win in the 3 matches that followed.

Thank for to all the staff and parents who made this possible. It was great to see so many girls involved. Well done to Lieke, Kiri, Sophia, Rosie, Bronte, Serafina, Freya, Francesca, and Grace for their efforts. St. Michael's is very proud.

## Haringey Boys' Kwik Cricket Tournament 2018

On Thursday 7th June, 11 Year 5 boys from St Michael's walked to North Middlesex Cricket Club in Crouch End to take part in the Haringey Kwik Cricket Tournament. It was a sunny day and all the boys enjoyed the experience. 15 schools participated and St Michael's played 5 matches. The opposition was tough (mostly Year 6 boys) but our team played their hardest.

Our team unfortunately was missing several Year 6 players at PGL, but managed to win one match against Crowland by 6 runs (257 to 251). Miss Forsythe said their attitude and enthusiasm throughout was first class. Thank you to Garfield for coaching them and the parents who took time out to ensure we could attend this exciting event. Finally, well done to Toby, Luke M, Luke P, Bruno, Noe, Victor, Orlando, Charlie, Oscar, Guy, and Alex B for being brilliant sportsman.

**Written by Toby (Y5) and Mr. Whiting**

## St Michael's Year 6 girl in Haringey U11 Girls' National Football Champions team

A massive well done to our very own Georgia from Year 6 who was part of the 'Haringey Under 11 Girls' football team that became national champions. Read the article here from the Haringey Sport website.



*What a magnificent achievement! Not content with becoming National Schools U11 Girls' Football Champions last year the U11 team have only gone and done it again by retaining their crown after winning the age group at the English Schools Football Association National event at Liverpool FC Academy on Saturday. Just two members of last year's winning team were in this year's squad and it is a remarkable performance and example of consistency to win the title for the second year running, the first team ever to do this.*

*Congratulations to the team manager, Adem Ali, from Rhodes Avenue Primary School, for his work with the squad who train every Tuesday at 4.30pm at New River Sports Centre.*

*The success has also been made possible through the support of Haringey Sports Development Trust and The Tottenham Grammar School Foundation.*

*By Dave Thomas  
Haringey PE Consultant & School Games Organiser*

## Haringey Quad Kids Athletics 2018



St. Michael's joined 25 other Haringey schools at the annual Quad Kid Athletics Tournament on the Thursday 24th May. It was a fantastic day with over 200 children competing at the New River Stadium. It turned out to be another successful day for Rhodes Avenue who certainly lead the way in primary school sport in Haringey at the moment.

Four boys and four girls from each school competed in four events: 75 metres sprint, 600metres, long jump, and javelin. The faster the times and the longer the throw or jumps, the more points each team received.

Our squad led by our athletics ambassador Hatixhe also included Adesola, Jonny, Luca, Michael, Lolly, Alina, and Beatrix. There were some excellent achievements throughout with highlights including Adesola's huge javelin throws; Hatixhe's, Bea's and Alina's excellent 600 metres times; Lolly's, Michael's and Adesola's huge javelin throws, and Jonny and Luca's consistent performances across all 4 disciplines.

Once every child had completed all four events, each squad of 8 took part in an 8 x 50 metre relay. St. Michael's certainly impressed after being drawn in the dreaded lane 8, managing to record one of the fastest times in the event.

## Haringey Y5-6 Tri-Golf Tournament 2018

### **Year 5 entered this popular event on the 18th May 2018.**

Ten of us went in Marlon's scout bus to Albert Road Pavilion Tennis Club. Some of us had tried golf before but the majority had not.

We competed as a team in six different golfing activities against five other schools from Haringey. The activities included "The Treasure Hunt" where you had to putt the ball at different coloured cones for 1, 5 or 10 points and if all teams got the same amount of points it all came down to time. In another, you had to hit a Velcro ball at a furry target. This was hard because you couldn't hit it too hard or too lightly. My favourite was the activity where you had to hit a ball over a line of blue cones into a square of orange cones.

At the end, each team's points were added up. Rhodes Avenue won and we were very excited to find that we had come second! The top three teams received gold, silver or bronze medals and everyone received a certificate for participation. The winning team went on to the Crystal Palace Youth Games.

It was a very exciting event and we had a lot of fun.

Thank you to the parents and staff that attended and of course to Kiri, Bruno, Charlie, Sophia, Oscar, Freddy, Toby, Rosie, Grace, and Bronte.

**Written by Freddy in Zhenji Class**

## Haringey Powerleague Community 6-a-side Football Event

A great turnout in the sunshine on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> June for the annual Haringey Community Tournament at the Powerleague. 19 boys' teams and 18 girls' teams turned up and played some great football on the day.

St. Michael's arrived with a squad of 24 boys and girls from Year 4 – 6. The school's largest turnout in this event. All 4 teams played really well with St. Michael's A teams for both boys and girls losing only one game in the group stages. The girls however made it to the quarter-finals where they were soundly beaten by Rhodes Avenue. Well done for all our wonderful and talented pupils who attended. You made your P.E teacher very proud indeed.

In the end Muswell Hill walked away with the girls' title beating St Mary's in the final with Rhodes Avenue back in 3rd. In the boys' competition Tetherdown won the 3rd place playoff game to win bronze with a tense final going to penalties with Muswell Hill edging the gold medal over Rhodes Avenue in 2nd.



# SING! SING! SING!

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## HIGHGATE COMMUNITY CHOIR



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WELCOMES ANYONE WHO WANTS  
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  - **WHERE:** ST MICHAEL'S PRIMARY  
SCHOOL, NORTH ROAD N6, in the  
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  - **CHOIR LEADER:** ELISA JEFFERY
  - **COST:** £100 for 10 sessions to cover cost of hall and  
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Informal concert—11th July 2018



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## PUT ON A SHOW

**23RD - 27TH JULY**

**Age:** 6- 16 year olds

**Time:** Mon - Fri, 10:00am - 4.00pm

**Performance:** Friday 4.00pm

**Cost:** £165 (£135 for siblings)

**Venue:** St Michael's C of E Primary School, North Road,  
Highgate, N6 4BG

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