



ST MICHAEL'S
C of E PRIMARY
HIGHGATE

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

Newsletter January 2020 - Issue 4

Geraldine Gallagher
Headteacher

Message from Mrs Gallagher

Dear Parents and Carers,

We recently received a letter from The Rt Hon Nick Gibb, Minister of State for School Standards, congratulating us on our results which you can see on page 6. He notes that we are in the top 3% of schools for pupil progress. We are proud of our pupils' high academic standards and their exceptional personal development and progress.

The new year and term got off to a great start and the school is a busy hive of activity during the day, night and at weekends. Staff, pupils and parents are busy rehearsing for the Panto which will be performed at school on the 5th, 6th and 7th of March - be sure to get your tickets early.

The Panto is just one example of the exceptional opportunities at St. Michael's for pupils to develop their talents and interests. We consistently promote the personal development of the pupils. We go beyond the norm so that pupils have access to a wide, rich set of experiences which are coherently planned through the curriculum and extra-curricular activities. We provide pupils with meaningful opportunities to understand how to be responsible, respectful, active citizens who contribute positively to society. All of the pupils gain confidence and build their self-esteem through performances, representing the school at music and sporting events and taking on school responsibilities. They make a tangible contribution to the life of the school and enhance their own and other's wellbeing.

We promote wellbeing in all areas of school life. The school ethos, systems and policies support positive behaviours for learning and successful relationships. We have a planned programme for teaching the children about health and wellbeing. Pupils know how to eat healthily, maintain an active life style and keep physically and mentally healthy.

Recently, the school made a pledge to the Haringey initiative to be a sugar smart school. The children have enjoyed noting the amount of sugar in their food at lunch time and calculating their daily intake. The children have developed their understanding of how our bodies and minds are connected and the reasons behind the excellent practises here at St. Michael's such as the daily mile, five a day, meditation and our behavior policy. All of these ensure that the children feel safe and make exceptional progress in their personal development.

At the beginning of term we said goodbye to Suzanne Dykes. Suzanne worked in the school for four years, during which time she was a great support to the school and community. Although Suzanne is still involved with St Michael's as a parent she will be missed by all and we wish her the very best in her new role.

Next week we have lots of exciting activities relating to our Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM) focus. For other upcoming events please note the dates section.

Best wishes,

Geraldine Gallagher
Headteacher

Dates

5th February

Transport for London's sustainable travel activity day.

7 February

Year 5 Pilkington-Mills family assembly and coffee morning

11 February

Year 4 violin and cello concert KS1 Hall

14 February

Year 3 Lomu family assembly and coffee morning

28 February

Year 2 Lombardi family assembly and coffee morning

5, 6 & 7 March

Panto

9 March

Year 4 trip: Steve McQueen Year 3 trip: photos at Tate Modern

13 March

Year 1 Bolt family assembly and coffee morning

17 & 19 March

Parents' Evening 3.50-6.30pm

26 March

Quiz Night

27 March

Year 5 Adams family assembly and coffee morning

2 April

School Disco

Rec/Y1&2 3.45-4.45pm

Y3&4 5-6pm

Y5&6 6.15-7.15pm

Year 3 trip: Science Museum

Year 6 trip: Bentley Priory

23, 24 & 25 April

Year 4 Residential trip to Flatford (Field Studies Council)

3 April

Easter Bonnet Parade to Church 9.30am Easter Church Service led by Year 3

School Finishes 2pm

3 May

Footie funday

7 May

Polling day. School closure TBC

8 May

VE Day: School closed

18-22 May

Year 6 Residential trip to PGL

Outdoor Adventurous Activity Week

21 May

Year 3 Trip to Alexandra Palace

14 June

Fun run

4 July

Summer Fair

11 July

SMSA Camp Out overnight

13 July

Year 2 Trip: London Zoo

21 July

Year 6 Leaver's disco 7-9pm

Last day of school year

School Finishes 2pm

Show racism the red card!

**SHOW
RACISM
THE
RED
CARD**

This January, the whole of Years 5 and 6 were visited by two sports persons from an organisation called Show Racism the Red Card, who talked to them about racism in sport.

They introduced the subject in an age-appropriate manner and the sessions were well received by the children.

Band on the Run!

Highgate School's orchestra visited our Key Stage 2 assembly on the 17th January as part of their "Band on the Run" tour of local primary schools.

They played a variety of different pieces and they even allowed some lucky St Michael's pupils to have a go at conducting!

Lucy Y5 "It was really good to see my dad conduct and my brother play and watch how good they are and enjoy the whole orchestra."

Chase Y5 "I have never seen an orchestra play like that before ... I'm surprised how much I liked it. I want them to come back."



ATTENDANCE

Congratulations to Year Four Comaneci Class for having the highest attendance of 98% - well done to everyone. If your child is absent for a period of time due to illness our aim is to support your family by providing work they may do at home.

For minor illnesses, please send your child to school and we will do our best to look after them.

We will contact you if your child's absence has dropped below 90% to see how we can manage their attendance together as this can build up over time and have an impact on their learning and relationships.

Attendance during one school year	Days Absent...	Weeks Absent...	Lessons Missed...
95%	9 Days	2 Weeks	40 Lessons
90%	19 Days	4 Weeks	80 Lessons
85%	29 Days	6 Weeks	120 Lessons
80%	38 Days	8 Weeks	160 Lessons
75%	48 Days	10 Weeks	200 Lessons
70%	57 Days	11.5 Weeks	230 Lessons
60%	67 Days	13.5 Weeks	270 Lessons

Year 3 Trip to the National Gallery

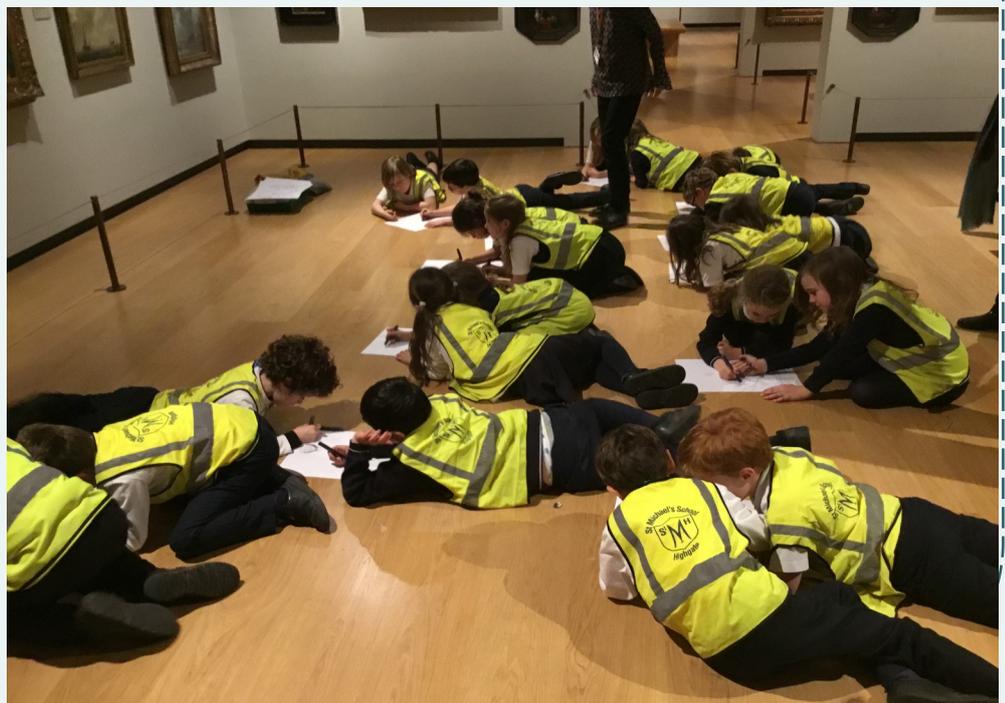
Year 3 took a fascinating trip into the world of art during a visit to the National Gallery just before the holidays. As well as exploring the whole gallery, the pupils had a workshop looking at how artists make their work, and they got to have a go at making art themselves. Here are some quotes:

"I liked the still life with so many colourful and beautiful flowers. There was every colour."
Tienne

"My favourite bit was when we were exploring and looking at the paintings, the ones with ships and Flatford Mill."
Marlie

"I loved the flowers and the spotty drawings."
Bobby

"I could see amazing patterns in the spots on



Sewing Club

We do a lot of creative and imaginative projects in the sewing club. You'll learn hand stitching, embroidery and appliqué techniques.

There'll always be a vast array of materials to inspire the making of each unique sewing creation.

These are our needle books by Y1-3 and flower embroideries by Y4-6.



Eco Team Visit

Mr Coffield and Ms Wallace took 7 pupils to the Highgate Junior School Eco Conference.

The children learned about how to live more sustainably and shared their ideas with pupils from other schools.

Thank you to Mr Coffield and Ms Wallace for taking them.



Use of digital images

In line with our Data Protection Policy the school has reviewed how we get consent for, and use, digital images.

Please give consent for us to use digital images of your child here:
<https://forms.gle/vc9D8U799dx7Xke68>

This breaks it down into different categories so you can see exactly how your child's image will be used.

You can also read our Data Protection Policy on our website.

TFL Stars Silver Accreditation



Silver level accreditation 2019

Over the past 18 months at St Michael's we have been improving the way that people travel to school. Through a variety of initiatives we have seen a drop in the amount of private car usage and a rise in the number of children being active on the way to and from school.

We have had visits from the police and BikeAbility, and "staying safe" workshops in school, to educate the children about how to look after themselves while out and about. The Chief Medical Officer for the UK recommends that children need to be active for a minimum of 1 hour every day, and walking, cycling and scooting to school are easy ways to achieve this.

Many thanks to all the parents who are opting to park a little bit further away from school and "Park and Stride" in the mornings. As well as easing congestion outside the school gates this also contributes a few minutes of activity to your child's day. The school recently bought some road signs to remind drivers about the dangers that come with parking on zig-zags or double yellow lines and North Hill and Castle Yard are now calmer and safer.

Our activities are recorded with TfL and we have been awarded Silver accreditation. This year we will be working towards Gold accreditation and have a programme of activities for all year groups, with more cycling, visits and workshops planned. We are aiming to reduce private car usage by a further 1% this year, and with the days getting longer, and Spring not far away, this should be easy for us to do.

Egyptian workshop

On the 10th of January Year 4 Comaneci and Tendulkar classes dressed up as ancient Egyptians. The classes took part in a number of activities such as soap carving, charm making, and making our own scented mummies.

In the afternoon we had a tasty feast to celebrate the Pharaoh's health and there were many different roles to play such as the slave, Pharaoh and Queen. While we were enjoying our feast we watched a terrific play and a dance about some ancient Egyptian legends.

We had a fantastic day!

Kyrani and Saskia, Year 4



Police Visits

This month our local borough Police Officer has been visiting the school regularly and has run classes with Nursery, Year 2 and Year 4, helping them with their topic work and teaching them to stay safe.

It has been nice for the children to get to know their local Police Officer and learn that the Police are people too!



We were delighted to receive this letter this month.



Rt Hon Nick Gibb MP
Minister of State for School Standards

Sanctuary Buildings, 20 Great Smith Street, Westminster, London, SW1P 3BT
tel: 0370 000 2288 www.education.gov.uk/help/contactus

Mrs Geraldine Gallagher
St Michael's CofE Voluntary Aided Primary School
North Road
London
N6 4BG

20 January 2020

Dear Mrs Gallagher,

I would like to congratulate you, your staff and your pupils on the very high level of progress that pupils in your school demonstrated in the reading, writing and mathematics Key Stage 2 assessments last year.

Your school's results, as published on 13 December, show progress scores of 4.4, 4.9 and 3.5 in reading, writing and mathematics respectively. This means that in terms of the progress your pupils make between Key Stage 1 and the end of Key Stage 2, your school is amongst the top 3 per cent of primary schools in the country.

The Government wants to ensure that every child has the fluency in reading, writing and mathematics necessary to prepare them for a successful secondary education and beyond, which is why I was delighted to see your results.

Thank you for your work in continuing the drive towards higher academic standards, and congratulations again to you and your staff for your commitment and success.

With best wishes.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Nick Gibb', written over a faint circular stamp.

Rt Hon Nick Gibb MP
Minister of State for School Standards

NOTEWORTHY

PCubed Rugby Champions!



On Friday 17th of January 2020, 11 children from Year 6 travelled to the Honourable Artillery Company at Moorgate in the City of London to compete in the PCUBED Schools' Challenge Tag Rugby Tournament.

A select group of high performing schools were invited to compete including Kebe School, St Joan of Arc School, Canonbury School, Rhodes Avenue School, Coldfall School, and of course St. Michael's.

The team played a series of 12 minute games in a league system with the winners of the league being crowned champions. St. Michael's began the event with an excellent 5 – 1 victory over Kebe. This was followed by a 3-0 victory against a spirited Canonbury School.

The toughest match was yet to come as St. Michael's then faced St. Joan of Arc School who were well organised and had some excellent players and a tough defence to breach. After an exciting match St. Michael's came through as 2-1 winners thanks to some excellent team play. The game could have gone either way!

"It is always important to keep trying - right until the very end."

SPORT



"It is always important to keep trying - right until the very end."

SPORT

PCubed Rugby Champions cont...

Then St. Michael's competed against Coldfall School. St. Michael's had a slow start in this game and after 5 minutes it was tied at 1-1. However, St. Michael's determination and quality shone through in the latter stages with 3 quick tries to make the final score 2-1.

So heading into a final match, St. Michael's had achieved a 100% record. They knew that a draw or a win would guarantee them winners. And, after another impressive display, the PCUBED shield was won when they came out as 2-0 winners against last year's winners and close rivals Rhodes Avenue.

Well done to the St. Michael's squad who played outstanding rugby throughout. Their teamwork and the recognition that this is a team game shone through. Mr. Whiting was very proud saying that it was the 'best rugby he had seen from a St. Michael's team.'

Well done to Zoe P, Monisade, Mia, Darcey, George, Jasper, Noah, Orhan, Luca, Peter, and Kiefer for outstanding performance and a lovely shield to place into trophy cabinet for the next year.

After the tournament, the team were handed their medals and shield by a representative from PCUBED. Then as per usual they stayed on to watch Wigan Warriors take on London Skolars in a men's game that saw the Warriors easily defeat the Skolars.

The icing on the cake was to follow as our rugby squad were given the opportunity to have their photo taken with the rugby league world cup! What a day!!



Sportshall Athletics 2020



A squad of 18 Year 5-6 boys and girls headed to Thomas More School on Thursday 16th January to compete in the annual Sportshall Athletics Tournament.

This was the second heat of 3 with Rhodes Avenue comfortably winning the first heat. St. Michael's were up against 9 other schools from across Haringey in a range of

athletics disciplines including long and triple jump, chest push, speed bounce, vertical jump, and lots of relay races. The first and second placed teams would qualify for the grand final in a few weeks.

Our team had a fantastic attitude throughout and always tried their best. They knew that the faster you ran the more points you received. Also they knew that the longer you jumped or the further you threw enabled you to gain more points. So the attitude right from the beginning was that every millimetre and second counted.

SPORT



Sportshall Athletics 2020 cont...



The team certainly took this on and there were some fantastic performances especially in the races. St. Michael's were 2nd or 3rd fastest in several races and came out 3rd fastest in the races. In the field events, our athletics came up against some strong athletes and finished in 6th place. This meant that the team finished a very respectable 4th place behind a very impressive Coldfall School who achieved one of the events highest scores with their excellent relay teams.

Well done to our brilliant squad who applied koinonia to be successful. They were from Year 5 – Jayden, Josh, and Chase. From Year 6 – Peter Den, Peter Do, Orhan, Louis, Raphie, Keifer, Darcey, Savannah, Salma, Monisade, Zoe P, Millie, Mia, Marli, and Gretel.



School Uniform

In 2017 we revised the school's brand and visual identity in consultation with Parents, Governors, staff and children. Changes to our uniform came into effect September 2018 with a two year transition period in which children could wear the old or the new uniform.

The two year transition period for the school uniform will come to an end in July 2020. This means that in September 2020 the new school uniform will be compulsory

All stock items with the school's logo can be purchased through our uniform supplier—Stevenson's and details can be found on our website: www.stevensons.co.uk

The new uniform consists of:

- A white polo shirt with embroidered school logo
- A navy blue v neck jumper or cardigan with grey piping and embroidered school logo
- Navy blue trousers, shorts, pinafore, culottes or skirt
- Navy or white socks/tights
- Blue gingham summer dress
- Black shoes – we are developing an increasingly active timetable and so all children need to wear footwear that is conducive to being active at all times.
- PE Kit: Technical, non - crease top with embroidered school logo. Navy shorts, navy tracksuit bottoms. Black or white plimsoles (indoors) trainers (outdoors)
- Reading folder and PE bag with school logo – purchased through Scopay and collected from the office



Dear Parents and Carers,

On behalf of all the governors, I wanted to wish you all a very Happy New Year and best wishes for 2020.

Undoubtedly this will be another jam-packed year of enjoying school activities, delivering substantial learning and attainment achievement and deepening that special sense of community at St. Michael's.

I don't have any overall theme to write about this month but wanted to give you a quick update on a number of fronts.

Firstly, teachers, staff, children, the senior leadership team and governors will all be gearing up in the next few weeks for an expected Ofsted inspection. In a nutshell, they look for evidence that the self-evaluation we have made - that the school is excellent - is accurate and can be backed up by key progress, attainment, procedural and financial proof points. We are quietly confident that the steady improvement and sheer hard work of everyone at St. Michael's School will be reflected in our rating.

Secondly, I would like to congratulate Mrs. Gallagher for entering her seventh year at St. Michael's School. Mrs. Gallagher has now been here longer than all but one of our governors and has led us superbly in that time. Getting an 'excellent' mark from Ofsted would be a fitting recognition of the power of strong and inspired leadership.

Thirdly, I wanted to commend to you the crop of new and relatively new governors, many of whom have taken up this important challenge over the course of the past year. We have a diverse, dedicated and strong team in place that will take us well into the 2020s.

That kind of continuity is important as we embark on the strategic development we have set before the school as a major aim in the coming years. You will remember that we had an open evening in late September where we introduced the idea of developing our premises and highlighted the immediate need for a new library and ICT suite.

Since then governors have received a lot of constructive feedback from parents and others, and we've been working hard on due diligence, weighing up costs and options, meeting technical experts and visiting other schools.

We have evolved our thinking and now are evaluating an updated proposal, which involves providing computer equipment in classrooms for every pupil and turning the existing IT suite into a larger library. This proposal doesn't compromise on the goal of improving educational outcomes for our children (which was at the heart of the standalone library proposal), but is more cost-effective, and governors believe it can be delivered within 12-18 months. Over the next few months we plan to share a more detailed overall plan with you and expect to be able to begin some much-needed work as early as this summer.

Finally, can I extend my best wishes to all those gearing up for the school pantomime. As they say in showbiz - break a leg!

Mark Dailey

Chair of Governors

NOTICES

Vomiting or diarrhoea?

If your child has been unwell and has had vomiting or diarrhoea they cannot come to school until they have been clear of all symptoms for 48 hours. This is to allow your child to fully recover and so that other children do not get ill and also miss school.

Please keep the school office updated on a daily basis if your child is ill.

Breakfast Club

Breakfast Club can be booked at a discount rate for a regular booking for the whole term, or used on a drop-in basis.

Daily 7:45am to 8:45am/ Reception to Year 6

If you wish to use Breakfast Club, please complete the Breakfast Club Agreement which is available on the school website.

School Lunches

The refreshed three-week menu can be found on the school website.

Periodically, Harrisons renew their menu to ensure variety, and children are enjoying a new selection of meals.

Broken bones and injuries

To allow your child to return to school safely after a serious injury we ask parents to call the school and make an appointment to meet with either Mrs Sorapure or Mrs Parker to carry out a risk assessment.

This is so that we can put in place measures to support your child, like a buddy to carry their things, or special breaktime arrangements.



Lost Property



Lost property is located in the green box under the arch by Reception — this is the place to look for any lost items. Please label all clothing items, bags and water bottles clearly to ensure items can be returned to the correct child before they end up in lost property.

Admissions 2021-22

Please see our website for our proposed admission arrangements for the 2021-22 academic year.

The school is proposing to increase the points awarded to children who attend our Nursery from 1 to 2 points.

If you have any comments on the proposed arrangements, then please send them to

Miriam Owen:

Post:

St Michael's Primary School, North Road, London N6 4BG

Email:

admin@stmichaelsn6.com.

Please respond by:

30th January 2020

Cake Sale Dates

31st Jan – Reception Pele
 7th Feb – Yr 2 Lombard
 14th Feb – Yr 2 MacArthur
 28th Feb – Yr 5 Adams
 6th March – Yr 5 P-Mills
 13th March – Sports Relief
 27th March – Nursery
 3rd April – Joint Year 6
 24th April – Yr 1 G-Thompson
 1st May – Yr 1 Bolt
 8th May – Yr 4 Tendulkar
 15th May – Yr 6 Kim
 22nd May – Yr 6 Owens
 5th June – TBC
 12th June – Yr 4 Comaneci
 19th June – Reception Bronze
 26th June – Reception Pele
 3rd July – Yr 3 Simmonds
 10th July – Yr 3 Lomu
 17th July – TBC



Nursery & Reception Admissions

We were delighted to show potential parents around our beautiful school in November. Our children did an excellent job as ambassadors; of taking parents around and showcasing the school. **The Admissions deadline for 2020-2021 has now passed**

For late admissions queries, contact Miriam in the office on admin@stmichaelsn6.com





Term Dates 2020-21

Autumn Term 2020

	Starts	Ends	Term Days
INSET	Wednesday 2 September 2020	Friday 4 September 2020	
Autumn 1	Monday 7 September 2020	Friday 23 October 2020	35
Holiday	Monday 26 October 2020	Friday 30 October 2020	
Autumn 2	Monday 2 November 2020	Friday 18 December 2020	33
INSET	Thursday 17 December 2020	Friday 18 December 2020	
Holiday	Monday 21 December 2020	Friday 1 January 2021	

Spring Term 2021

	Starts	Ends	Term Days
Spring 1	Monday 4 January 2021	Friday 12 February 2021	30
Holiday	Monday 15 February 2021	Friday 19 February 2021	
Spring 2	Monday 22 February 2021	Wednesday 31 March 2021	28
Holiday	Thursday 1 April 2021	Friday 16 April 2021	

Summer Term 2021

	Starts	Ends	Term Days
Summer 1	Monday 19 April 2021	Friday 28 May 2021	29
Holiday	Monday 31 May 2021	Friday 4 June 2021	
Summer 2	Monday 7 June 2021	Friday 23 July 2021	35
Holiday	Monday 26 July 2021	TBC	

Bank holidays

Christmas Day	Friday 25 th December 2020
Boxing Day	Monday 28 th December 2020
New Year's Day	Friday 1 st January 2021
Good Friday (Bank Holiday)	Friday 2 nd April 2021
Easter Monday (Bank Holiday)	Monday 5 th April 2021
May Bank Holiday	Friday 3 rd May 2021
Spring Bank Holiday	Monday 31 st May 2021
August Bank Holiday	Monday 30 th August 2021

Inset days: 5 days are set by the school for training; the school is closed on these days.

Holidays in term time: We do not authorise holidays in term time under any circumstances. Parents and Carers, please ensure that you do not book holidays or flights for before term ends or for after term has begun. Every day in school matters. We see the number of requests for time out of school for e personal illness rise considerably towards the end of each term.

All requests for leave during term time are monitored by the Headteacher who may wish to meet with you to discuss your request further.