



ST MICHAEL'S
C of E PRIMARY
HIGHGATE

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

Newsletter

October 2020 - Issue 1

Geraldine Gallagher
Headteacher

Message from Mrs Gallagher

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are so delighted to have all of the children back at school. From the smiles, high attendance and skipping it's fair to say our families are glad to be back with us too. As I have said previously the children have adapted so well to the new systems for keeping them safe and thank you to all of you for your support with the procedures and routines.

We want to keep everyone safe, COVID is an evolving situation and whilst implementing government guidance we are also constantly monitoring our own practices and making necessary adaptations.

Although we are functioning within stringent boundaries the staff have done what they always do best, which is to provide rich learning environments and engaging learning for all of the children. This can be seen in their recent class videos posted online and in some of the articles within this newsletter. The children have spent some time studying the significant sports person their class is named after. Years 1 – 6 have studied significant Black Britons and shared some of their work in assemblies on Google Classroom. This is part of our celebrations for Black History Month.

Thank you for your very generous contributions for Harvest Festival which have been taken to the Food Bank. The items are very much appreciated. And thank you to Mrs Duggin, Mr Davenport and our Rights Respecting ambassadors for organising the collection and delivery.

The end of this week is half term a time for everyone to have some rest and prepare for the next half term. When we return we will be hosting online Parents' Evening meetings which is a great opportunity to share information about your child with their class Teacher and to find out about all of their wonderful work.

Have a safe and happy half term,

Best wishes,

Mrs Gallagher

Headteacher

Parents' Evenings

It is time to book your Parents' Evening appointment.

Please check your emails for a letter from the school office and book your 10 minute slot on ScoPay now.

Communications

Please remember to include your child's FULL name and class in every email and voicemail message. This helps us answer your queries more quickly.

Flu immunisations

Flu immunisations will take place on the 24th November and forms for this will be distributed shortly - please keep a look out for this.

Lunches

If you want to change your child's lunch preference please email us on admin@stmichaelsn6.com

How to report a positive test result

If a pupil or member of a pupil's household tests positive for Covid-19 please let the school know as soon as possible. You should:

- Call us on 02083407441 and leave a message and
- Email us on admin@stmichaelsn6.com

We will then ask you to fill in the form on our website. You can help us keep everyone safe by filling it in as soon as you can. This is especially useful if you receive the positive test result out of school hours, over the weekend or during the holidays, when the office is shut.

<https://stmichaelsn6.com/covid-19-report-form/>

Lost & found arrangements

Periodically, any unnamed lost property will be laid out in the top playground for you to collect. Please make sure everything is labelled clearly so that we can get it back to the children during the week.

End of half term finances

The office will shortly be in touch with anyone with an outstanding end of half term balance. Please help us by clearing these promptly.

Drop off and collection

Drop off

Year 2 & 6:	8:40am
Year 1 & 5:	8:45am
Year 4 & Reception Pele:	8:50am
Year 3 & Reception Bronze:	8:55am
Nursery:	9:00am

If you are dropping off children from multiple year groups, please arrive at the earlier of the times. For example if you are dropping off a child from Year 2 and one from Year 4, please arrive at 8:40am

Please do not enter the top playground until asked to do so. If you arrive early by accident please wait on the other side of the road, or queue down North Road at 2m intervals.

Collection

Year 2 & 6:	3:10pm
Year 1 & 5:	3:15pm
Year 4 & Reception Pele:	3:20pm
Year 3 & Reception Bronze:	3:25pm
Nursery:	3:30pm

If you are collecting children from multiple year groups, please arrive at the later of the times. For example if you are collecting a child from Year 2 and one from Year 4, please arrive at 3:20pm.

Please do not enter the top playground until asked to do so. If you arrive early by accident please wait on the other side of the road, or queue down North Road at 2m intervals.

Remember:

Please wear a face covering while you are in the queue or top playground.

Nursery have been settling in well

"In Nursery we are enjoying getting to know each other, and finding out what is unique and special about each of us. We have been talking about our families and the things we like to do, and we had great fun painting our self portraits. The staff are very proud of the way the children have settled in, and especially their independence coming into Nursery in the mornings.

Well done everyone for a great start!

Mrs Phillips"

Nursery



Year 3

Year 3 Simmonds have been learning about the human body

Year 3 Simmonds have been learning all about the human body this half term, exploring lung capacity, muscles, digestion and skeletons. We made models and diagrams of skeletons to show all the major bones in the human body.



Science lessons at St Michael's are an important way for children to learn about staying fit and healthy. Learning about their bodies, and in this case their bones, in a relatable way also helps them to learn about balance and coordination, the role of the skeleton during exercise, the importance of a healthy balanced diet and so on. "Hands on" activities are crucial to successful science lessons!

Harvest collection

A huge thank you to all the children and parents to your overwhelming response to this year's Harvest Food Bank Appeal. We had a bumper crop and Lyndsey from the Ringcross Food Bank was stunned by the amount of food donated.

A special thanks from Mr. Davenport and the Rights Respecting Team to Mr Lawrence for collecting all the donations in a COVID secure way and sorting them into categories for the food bank.

Thank you also to Mrs Duggin, our parent volunteer, who organised the pick up and liaison with the food bank.



Year 5

In Pilkington-Mills we have enjoyed celebrating what makes each of us tick: our hobbies, interests and passions. We've also been getting to grips with the new maths resources to help our learning.

Year 5



Year 4 have been learning about their digestive systems



In Year 4 Science the students have really enjoyed learning about animals and what they eat. We began the topic looking at humans and how the food we eat is broken down into nutrients. One lesson the year group particularly enjoyed was making a model of the digestive system using bananas, crackers, a sandwich bag, tights and plastic cups. Each part of the digestive system was represented: the

stomach acid was vinegar, the stomach was a sandwich bag, small intestines were the tights, plastic cups were the large intestine and the juices that were filtered out were the nutrients that are then absorbed by our body. The final product (pictured on the right) was poo!



Year 2

Year 2

Year 2 Lombardi have really been enjoying learning outdoors, especially in PE. We have been refining our fundamental skills in running, jumping and hopping. These skills will come in handy when we move on to games!



Walk to School Week 2020

This autumn, Walk to School week will take place on the

9th to 13th November

**Happier
and healthier
CHILDREN**

**Less
CONGESTION
and
POLLUTION**

**SWAP
your school
ride for a
SCHOOL WALK**

- All pupils and their families are encouraged to walk, scoot or cycle to school.
- If you have to drive, please “park & stride”: Park at least a 5 minute walk away from school and walk the rest of the way.
- In class, children will be keeping track of how many days they travelled to school in an active way.
- There will be a prize for the most active class overall.



Keeping Children Safe Online

TEAM: Talk, Explore, Agree, Manage

- Keep yourself informed
- Speak to your child about their use of the Internet
- Help them to find suitable websites, games and apps for schoolwork and play, and have fun
- Agree some ground rules about what they can do online
- Ensure they know how to deal with any difficulties they come across

Useful Websites

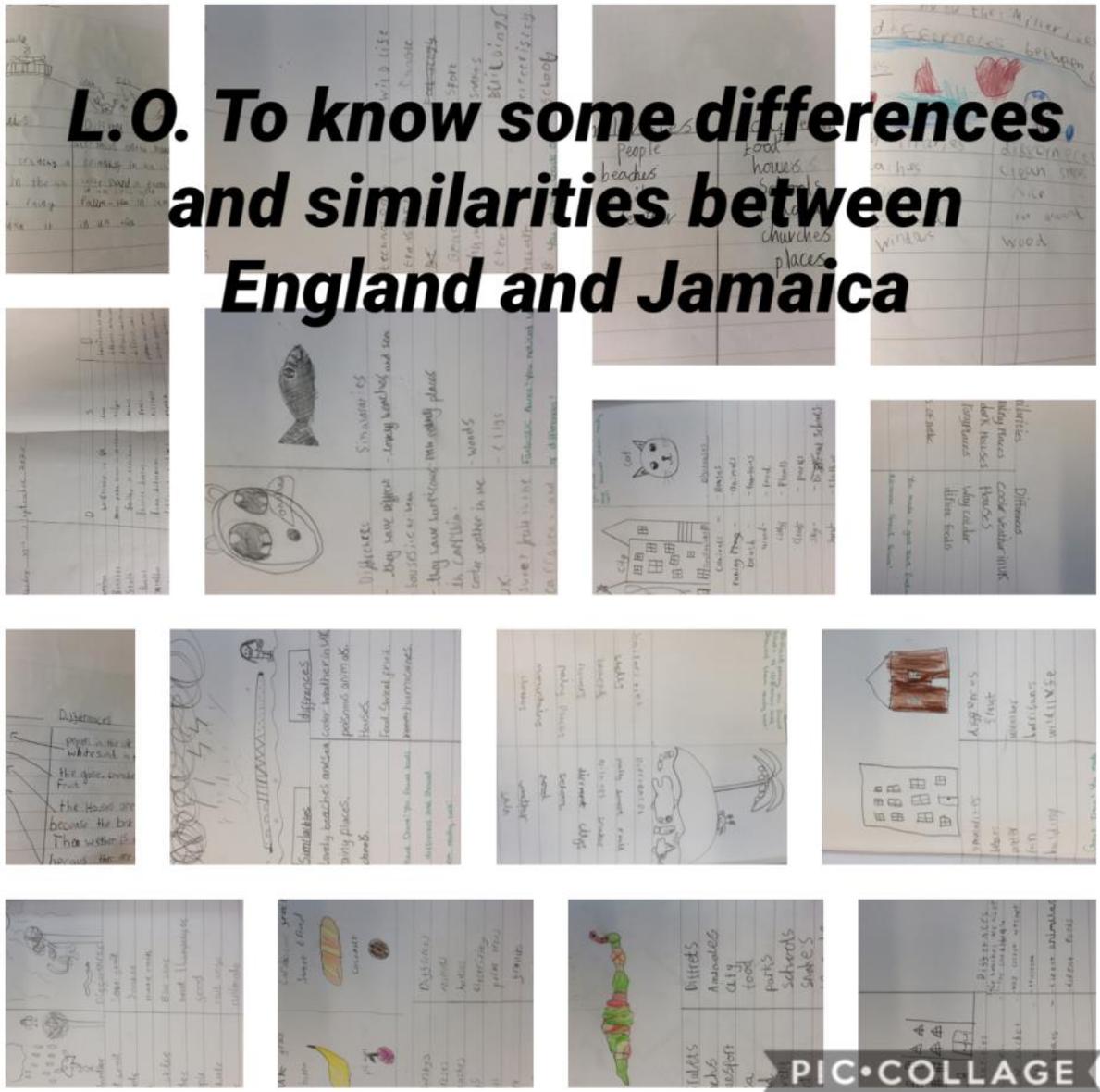
- Net Aware <http://www.net-aware.org.uk/> A guide to social networks, games, age ratings, good and bad points. From the NSPCC and O2
- ThinkUKnow Resources <https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/> This site aims to make online parenting simple, facts for you as a parent and lots videos to watch with your child.
- Childnet <http://www.childnet.com/parents-and-carers> Whether you're puzzled by parental controls or would like to know more about gaming, this can help. Also leaflets in different languages.
- BBC Own It <https://www.bbc.com/ownit> for young people taking control of their online life – includes info about the Own It App, which comes with a special keyboard which gives helpful tips and friendly advice as you write!
- Common Sense Media www.commonsensemedia.org/ Family friendly ratings and reviews on movies, TV, games, music, websites, and books. Includes ratings of potentially offensive content by category.

BLOCKING, FILTERING and RESTRICTIONS

You can set parent controls on your PC and <http://www.internetmatters.org/> has very clear guides on how to do this. Many mobile phones now have built in parent controls with screen time and app restrictions . However no block, filter or parental control tool is 100% effective, and many of the risks that young people face online are because of their own and other's behaviour. There are some steps you may wish to take to protect them on your family equipment and devices. But remember that your child can access the internet elsewhere and on other devices : at friend's houses, wifi in hotspots, and good education and knowledge about the risks are still vitally important.

Year 3 Lomu have been studying Jamaica

Lomu Class have really enjoyed learning about Elizabeth Barrett Browning and Valerie Bloom. Both poets had Jamaican heritage but both settled in England. We looked at some of the differences and similarities between Jamaica and England including the foods, climate, beaches and houses. Most of us thought that Jamaica looked like an amazing place to live but, by looking at the historical context of both the Victorian period and the 1970s, we could understand why they decided to settle in England.



Year 2 MacArthur

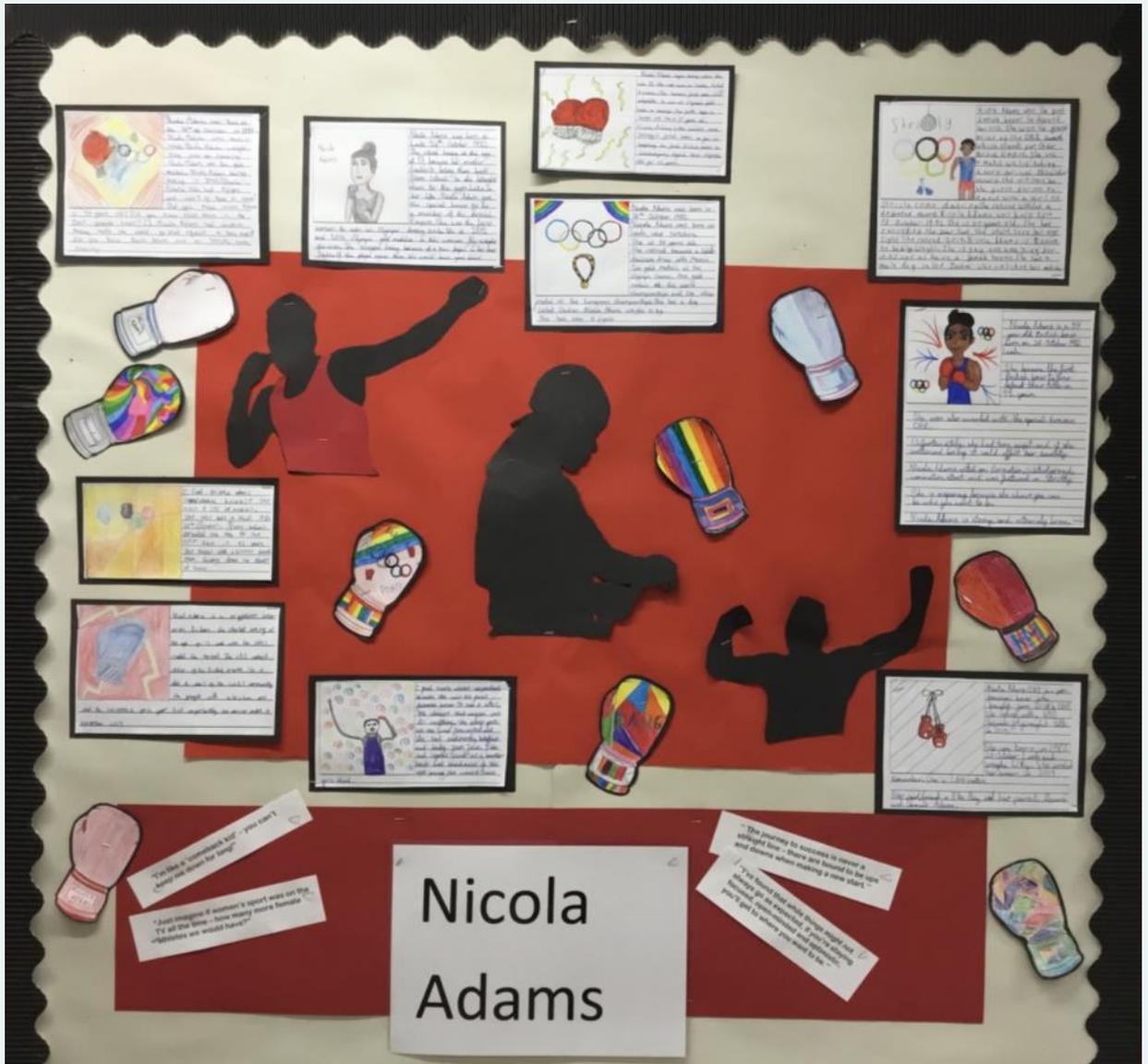
In MacArthur class we have been enjoying learning about the Great Fire of London. We started our learning journey with a Science lesson about living and non-living objects. We learnt that dry wood and straw burns easily, and Mr. Davenport showed us how fires start in our Outdoor Learning lesson. We found out that Tudor houses were made out of wood and straw and that they could burn easily too. In Art we made our own Tudor houses. In English, we wrote instructions to teach others how to make them too.



Year 5 Adams

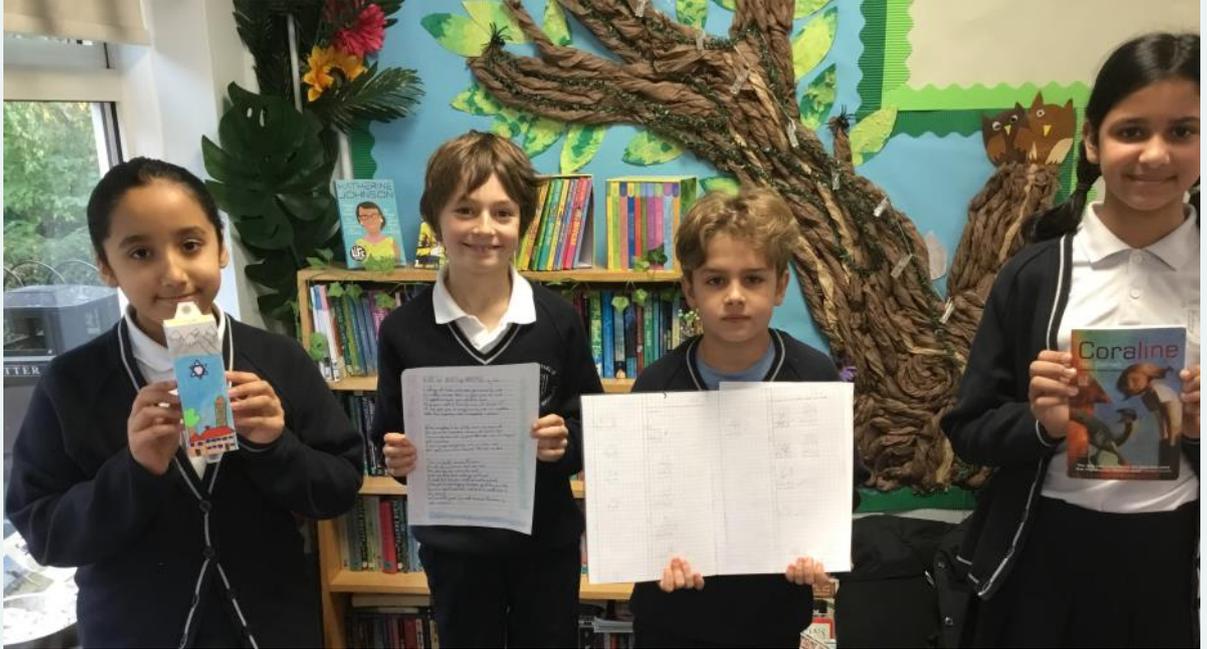
In Year 5 Adams we have been researching the lives of Nicola Adams and Marcus Rashford. We have been inspired by their endurance and reflected on how we can show this school value. Both Adams and Rashford use their voices to make positive changes based in their own experiences.

Year 5



Year 6

Children in Owens Class have enjoyed writing poetry, solving multiplication problems and designing traditional Jewish mezuzahs. We have also loved reading *Coraline* by Neil Gaiman, using it to inspire suspenseful pieces of writing and beetle works of art.



The children in Kim Class have been really enjoying the scary story 'Coraline' by Neil Gaiman. They have loved the terrifying character of the 'other mother' and the dark imagery of the novel. They have learnt about how to write really good suspense writing and wrote some excellent suspense of their own. They also drew some beetles from the story. We'll leave you to imagine what the 'other mother' does with them!!



Reception

Reception Bronze Class

This half term in Bronze class we enjoyed learning about ourselves, the world and the people around us.

We celebrated our similarities and differences and discussed our likes and dislikes.

We loved making beautiful paintings of ourselves, our family portraits and talking about what we would like to be when we grow up.

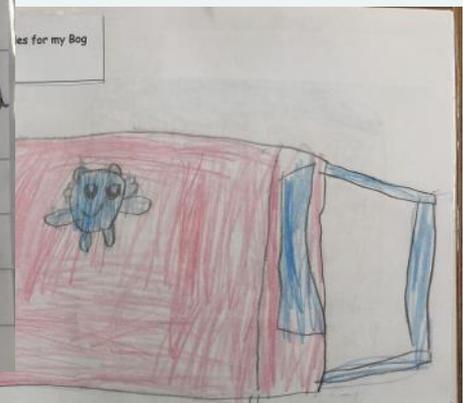


Year 1 have been making Bog Babies

I really enjoyed reading about the bog baby I liked making a bog baby



First roll the clay then push in the eyes feathers and Next pinch to make the ears. After that leave to dry. Finally paint the clay blue.



Do not jump on my bed!
do not make a mess.
do not play in the soil
look after the plants
do not mess with my things.
don't touch the tv without my permission but you can touch the tv on with me.
Capital letters.

Dear Parents and Carers,**Welcome**

On behalf of all the governors, I would like to welcome you to a new school year at St. Michael's. I extend a special welcome to our new Nursery and Reception children, to children who have joined the school in Years 1-6, and to their families and carers. We are very happy that you have joined our wonderful school community.

I am delighted to serve the school as the new Chair of Governors. This is my second term as a governor at St Michael's, and I have the pleasure of working with a particularly strong governing board as we navigate these challenging times. You can find out about us in the 'Our Governors' section of the school website, under the 'About Us' tab.

I hope you have all settled in well to the routines of the school day. Some of these will be very familiar to you and some will be new. Thank you for following the guidelines and rules for keeping us all safe. I know that this will not always have been easy, and your efforts are very much appreciated.

What have the governors been doing?

During the lockdown and partial school closure period we held our Full Governing Board meetings and committees over Zoom. We also held a number of additional meetings, for example to review the extensive plans for keeping the school safe for staff and children attending every day, and to hear about the progress of children learning at home via Google Classroom.

On 18th September the governors met in the Key Stage 2 school hall, where we could all be together following the social distancing rules, for our annual Strategy Day. This was an opportunity for us to reflect on the strengths and achievements of the school and to agree our strategic priorities for 2020-2023. Key themes this year included:

- How we will continue to ensure all children and staff are safe at school
- The school's coronavirus Recovery Plan - how we will all move forward following the very difficult national lockdown period, and how we will respond to possible future lockdowns
- The refurbishment of the school library - due for completion in the spring
- Our digital strategy - how we will ensure all learners have access to high quality IT equipment and online resources in school, and at home
- Our plans to ensure all children can enjoy making full use of our beautiful school grounds, to enhance their learning and wellbeing.

We will keep you updated on all of our plans, and we thank you for your continued support for these projects via your donations to the Governors' Fund. We will share details of how we are using your donations over the coming terms. If you have not already signed up to give regularly to the Fund, you can do this via Scopay. Thank you.

Finally, on behalf of all the governors, I would like to commend and thank Mrs Gallagher, the Senior Leadership Team and every member of staff at St Michael's for their incredibly hard work during the lockdown and partial school closure period. They ensured the safety of the staff and children attending school, they rapidly developed the 'virtual school' for children learning at home, and they carried out the comprehensive risk assessments and planning necessary for the safe-reopening of school to all children. Our staff have achieved all this while dealing with the challenges of lockdown for their own families. We are extremely grateful to them.

With best wishes,

Cordelia Brown
Chair of Governors



ST MICHAEL'S, HIGHGATE

Multi-Activity Camp  Specialist Sports Camp

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ST MICHAEL'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

October Half Term Camp
26th - 30th October 2020



CAMPS

NEW Multi-activity Camp | 5 to 11 year-olds

- 🎾 All activity leaders are DBS checked
- 🎾 Choice of activities in every session

DATES and TIMES

26th October - 30th October 2020

Normal day 09:30 - 15:30 | Extended Day 08:30 - 17:30

PRICES

One Day | £40 **One Week** | £190 **Extended Day** | £5 extra per day

*10% discount for Pupils of St Michael's school, use promo **STMICHAELS10**

*Pay with childcare vouchers

BOOKINGS

Call 07763 370835 | Book on [Activedaycamps.com](https://www.Activedaycamps.com)

****CAMPS WILL RUN IN BUBBLES OF UP TO 10 CHILDREN**

****Any cancellations due to government regulations in relation to COVID-19
will be refunded in FULL**



October Holiday Sports Camp

*Reception to Year 6
October 26th to 30th*

*Greig City
Academy, N8
£25 per Day*

OR

*St Micheal's
Primary, N6
£30 per Day*

Discounts Available Online

Health & Safety

*ALL equipment
cleaned before &
after use*

*Each group will remain in
their 'bubble' for the
duration of their time at
the Camp*

*ALL children will
wash hands before
& after every
session / break*

**See our website for full details on ALL health & safety procedures,
bookings and how our days run.*

www.rosesportsacademy.com--rosefootballacademy@hotmail.com

07763 655 743 / 07513 742 373