



ST MICHAEL'S  
C of E PRIMARY  
HIGHGATE

# WEEKLY ROUNDUP NEWSLETTER

21st December 2023



Message from our  
Head of School

*Sinead O'Brien*

Dear Parents & Carers,

September seems like a very distant memory! It has been a long and busy Autumn term and I know the whole community is looking forward to Christmas and all the staff at St Michael's would like to wish you a very happy Christmas and a wonderful New Year.

This term has been packed with activities, visitors and trips as well as many opportunities to come together as a school and wider community. These moments are what makes St Michael's such a special place and I would like to extend my thanks to all the staff & parents who have worked so hard to ensure that every moment really does count for our children.

Christmas gives us the opportunity to pause and reflect on the important things around us, to ask ourselves what we are thankful for and to make new memories. Whilst thinking about this term I was struck by how proud I am of all our pupils. There are many achievements that we have all been able to share in and celebrate such as Family Assemblies, nativities, choir concerts and our stars of the week, however there are also the smaller more private achievements made by our children which mean just as much and take as much determination and effort. These are the magic moments and we have had many this term.

I would personally like to wish all our pupils, families and staff members a very Merry Christmas and a joyful new year!

See you all in 2024

Best wishes,

Sinead O'Brien



School vision

We believe our children's future is created every day. Every moment counts.

Brought to life through our mission

To nurture and inspire our children to develop a love of learning in a supportive Christian community and become the best they can be.

Underpinned by our values

Endurance | Forgiveness | Koinonia | Creation | Friendship



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# DATES FOR THE DIARY



Mon 18th	Years 3,4,5 and 6 Trip to Phoenix Cinema
Tue 19th	EYFS Theatre Workshop at School
Wed 20th	Christmas Lunch Class Parties
Thu 21st	Year 5 Church Service 2pm Finish
Fri 22nd	School closed
Mon 8th	All Children Back at School
Tue 9th	
Wed 10th	Year 6 Athletics Haringey
Thu 11th	
Fri 12th	

# NEW 2024 - 2025 TERM DATES

	STARTS	ENDS	TERM DAYS
<b>INSET</b>	Monday 2 September 2024 Friday 11 October 2024 Friday 25 October 2024 Friday 22 November 2024	Monday 2 September 2024 Friday 11 October 2024 Friday 25 October 2024 Friday 22 November 2024	
<b>Autumn 1</b>	Tuesday 3 September 2024	Thursday 24 October 2024	37
<b>Holiday</b>	Monday 28 October 2024	Friday 1 November 2024	
<b>Autumn 2</b>	Monday 4 November 2024	Friday 20 December 2024	34
<b>Holiday</b>	Monday 23 December 2024	Friday 3 January 2025	
<b>Spring 1</b>	Monday 6 January 2025	Friday 14 February 2025	30
<b>Holiday</b>	Monday 17 February 2025	Friday 21 February 2025	
<b>Spring 2</b>	Monday 24 February 2025	Friday 4 April 2025	30
<b>Holiday</b>	Monday 7 April 2025	Monday 21 April 2025	
<b>INSET</b>	Friday 27 June 2025	Friday 27 June 2025	23
<b>Summer 1</b>	Tuesday 22 April 2025	Friday 23 May 2025	
<b>Holiday</b>	Monday 26 May 2025	Friday 30 May 2025	37
<b>Summer 2</b>	Monday 2 June 2025	Tuesday 22 July 2025	
<b>Holiday</b>	Wednesday 23 July 2025	Friday 29 August 2025	

# BANK HOLIDAYS

Christmas Day	Wednesday 25 December 2024
Boxing Day	Thursday 26 December 2024
New Year's Day	Wednesday 1 January 2025
Good Friday (Bank Holiday)	Friday 18 April 2025
Easter Monday (Bank Holiday)	Monday 21 April 2025
May Bank Holiday	Monday 5 May 2025
Spring Bank Holiday	Monday 26 May 2025
August Bank Holiday	Monday 25 August 2025

**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 a personal illness rise considerably towards the end of each term.

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

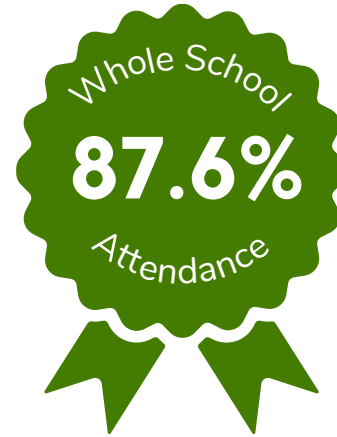
# House Points & Attendance

## Class House Point Winners

KS1	Everest 279
LKS2	Toubkal 268
UKS2	Eiger 293

## House Winner

St Patrick 678	
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Class with the best attendance:

***Sugarloaf Class***

with 99.2%



# Christmas Lunch



On Wednesday the children were treated to a gourmet Christmas lunch. Many thanks to Mickey and the whole catering team for making this such a special event for the children. The staff and governors also really enjoyed it!





Father Christmas  
stopped off at St  
Michaels yesterday  
to deliver some  
presents to the  
children!

# HOBGOBLIN THEATRE PRESENTS

## *The Pied Piper*



The Hobgoblin theatre company came into school and performed an hilarious performance of *The Pied Piper* for Early Years. The children loved the show and were even magically made to disappear. At the end of the show the children were involved in a workshop to learn how to perform as goodie and baddy characters from favourite stories.





# The Muppet Christmas Carol

YEARS 3 AND 4 HAD A MOVIE TREAT ON MONDAY. WE WALKED ALL THE WAY TO THE PHOENIX CINEMA IN EAST FINCHLEY TO WATCH THE MUPPET CHRISTMAS CAROL. THE CHILDREN REALLY ENJOYED THE MOVIE. HERE ARE SOME HIGHLIGHTS:



'It was so funny when Rizzo the Rat fell into the ice.'  
Timur

'All those ghosts and spirits were creepy.'  
Edwin

"I really enjoyed the trip because I got to sit next to my friends and because we got popcorn." Oliver

"The trip was interesting. At first Scrooge was selfish but they 3 ghosts came and changed Scrooge's life. He started giving and was kind." Etta

"Scrooge changed so much Tiny Tim didn't die." Charlie.

"I really enjoyed the trip because I got to sit next to my friends and because we got popcorn." Oliver





# KS2 History Trips and Workshops 2024

We are so fortunate to be in London with such a plethora of globally important museums on our doorstep! We want to take full advantage of this to support our pupils' learning and for them to see a wide range of historical artefacts in person to help them understand how people lived in the past.

Mrs Machin has planned the following history trips and workshops for KS2 in 2024 but we rely on parent volunteers to enable these trips to go ahead. You will receive letters about individual trips giving more detail in due course, but we thought it might be useful to give the dates in advance.

## Dates for the Diary

Y3 - Verulamium (St Albans) **22/5/24**

Y4 - British Museum ( Sutton Hoo treasures) **5/3/24**  
Saxon/Vikings Workshop (in school) **30/4/24**

Y5 - Ragged School Museum **19/4/24**

Y6 - Bentley Priory (Bomber Command) **26/3/24**

**Here is a reminder of the topics children will  
be studying for the rest of this academic year:**

	Spring term	Summer term
Year 3	Ancient Egypt	Romans in Britain
Year 4	Anglo Saxons	Vikings
Year 5	Ancient Greece/ Kingdom of Benin	Victorian Education
Year 6	Turning points of WW2	WW2/Migration



# KS2 History Trips and Workshops 2024

Some parents have asked for suggestions for family history trips:  
The British Museum has world class galleries and artefacts, and runs  
sessions aimed at families:

<https://www.britishmuseum.org/visit/family-visits/museum-missions>

Parents of Y4 children might find the Egyptian sessions particularly  
informative.

Who knows how much longer the Elgin Marbles and Benin Bronzes will  
be in Britain for - see them while you can!

You might also want to visit Horizon of Khufu,  
<https://horizonkheops.com/en/london/>, a virtual reality experience in  
Westfield Stratford for children aged 8+.

The Army Museum has regular Sunday performances based on individual  
experiences: <https://www.nam.ac.uk/whats-on/soldier-stories-sister-evelyn-morgan-15> and the Imperial War Museum is always worth a visit!

Aircraft fans might enjoy the DeHavilland Aircraft Museum in Shenley,  
which is a small independent museum just outside London.

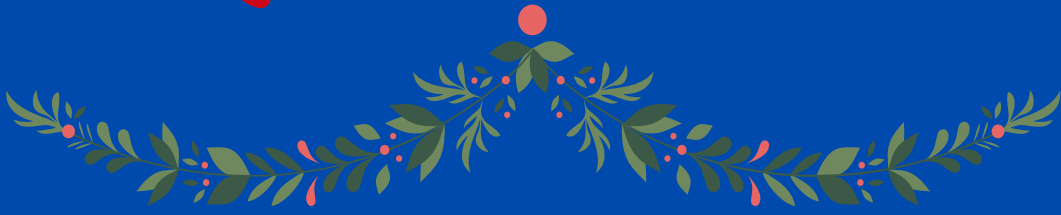
Further afield is West Stow Anglo Saxon Village, which is slightly too far  
for a school trip but great fun for a family day out -  
<https://www.weststow.org/> and if you are thinking about a weekend  
away, the Roman Baths in Bath <https://www.romanbaths.co.uk/> are very  
atmospheric.

Season's greetings to all!

Julia Machin  
History teacher KS2



# Message from the SMSA



THE END OF TERM HAS FINALLY ARRIVED AND WHAT AN AMAZING ONE IT HAS BEEN FOR THE SMSA. WE STARTED OFF THE TERM WITH OUR AGM MEETING WHICH SAW A MASSIVE TURN OUT FROM PARENTS. THE BONFIRE AND FIREWORKS EVENT WAS SPECTACULAR AS ALWAYS AND RAISED APPROXIMATELY £4000. THE CHRISTMAS FAIR HELPED KICK OFF THE RUN UP TO CHRISTMAS WITH AN ESTIMATED £5700 PROFIT.

WE HAD OUR FIRST CLASS REPS CHRISTMAS DINNER AND ALL AGREED HOW NICE IT WAS TO ABLE TO SIT AND CHAT WITH EACH OTHER AND NOT WORRY ABOUT GATHERING VOLUNTEERS. WE EXPERIMENTED WITH SELLING CHRISTMAS CARDS ONLINE THIS YEAR AND IT WAS EXTREMELY SUCCESSFUL RAISING £1000 WHICH IS 4 TIMES THE AMOUNT OF MONEY IT USUALLY DOES!

ALL MONEY RAISED BENEFITS THE CHILDREN AND THE SCHOOL. A BIG BIG THANK YOU TO OUR CLASS REPS FOR ALL THEIR SUPPORT IN ORGANISING THEIR CLASSES AND ALSO A MASSIVE THANKS TO ALL THE PARENTS THAT HAVE GIVEN UP THEIR TIME TO HELP OUT AT OUR EVENTS, WITHOUT YOU THESE WOULDN'T HAVE BEEN SUCCESSFUL!

THE FIRST CAKE SALE OF THE NEW YEAR IS NURSERY SUGARLOAF ON FRIDAY 12TH JANUARY.













THERE IS AN SMSA MEETING ON TUESDAY 16 TH JANUARY AT 7PM IN THE INFANT HALL. ALL ARE WELCOME SO PLEASE COME ALONG, IF YOU CAN, TO HAVE YOUR SAY IN HOW EVENTS ARE RUN. REFRESHMENTS WILL BE PROVIDED.

SO A FINAL THANK YOU FROM US AND WISHING YOU ALL A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HERE'S TO A GREAT 2024!

ANJA, CHARLOTTE AND VANESSA

# SPRING 2024 CLUBS

Please book well in advance as some clubs cannot accept same day or last minute bookings.  
If clubs do not have enough uptake, there is a chance they may need to be cancelled.

BEFORE SCHOOL				
MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
Y3&4 Gymnastics 	Y5&6 Gymnastics 	Rec. Gymnastics 	Y1&2 Gymnastics 	Y3-6 Choir 
Y3-6 Basketball 	Y3&4 Tennis 	Y5&6 Tennis 	Y1-6 Chess 	Y1&2 Tennis 
	R,Y1&2 Yoga 	Y3&4 iBrick 		

AFTER SCHOOL				
MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
Y1-6 Capoeira 	R&Y1 Ballet 	Y1&2 iBrick 	Rec. Debutots 	Y1&2 Choir 
Y1&2 Debutots 	Y3&4 Football 	Y3-6 Street Dance 	Y1&2 Football 	Y4-6 Art 
Y5&6 Film 	BONJOUR R,Y1&2 French 	Y5&6 Football 	R,Y1&2 Spanish 	Y5&6 Tennis 
Rec. Football 	Y5&6 Netball 	Y1-3 Art 	Y2-6 Drama 	
Y3-6 Science 	Y1&2 Science 		Y3-6 Girls' Football 	
Y1&2 Tennis 			Y3&4 Tennis 	

# MAYOR OF LONDON

Date: December 2023

Dear Parent/Carer,

As the end of term approaches, I wanted to write to you to let you know how successful our Universal Free School Meals programme has been. I'm pleased to say I've now provided more than 10 million free lunches to primary school pupils in state-funded schools across our city since September. As part of our emergency intervention to help with the cost of living crisis, I'll continue to fund millions more free school meals until at least the end of this academic year, ensuring children don't go hungry and saving families hundreds of pounds.

I'm doing this because I know many parents and carers are desperately struggling with the cost of living right now. As someone who received free school meals myself growing up, I know they can be a lifeline to people who are finding it hard to make ends meet and that they can also help children concentrate in the classroom and reach their full potential.

As Mayor of London, I also fundamentally believe that feeding our children shouldn't be an optional luxury but should rank as one of our society's top priorities. Making sure our children are properly fed and healthy is vital to building a better London for everyone – a city that is fairer, safer, more inclusive and more prosperous for all.

I've been deeply touched by the heartfelt messages I've received from both parents and pupils, who've told me what these free school meals mean to them. I know times are still tough for many families across London, so I sincerely hope this programme will continue to make a meaningful difference to you and your children, particularly as the days get colder and energy bills remain high.

Even though your child is receiving their free school meals automatically, it is still vitally important – if you have not already done so – to complete your school or borough's registration form in case your child is eligible for extra funding for their school, worth over £1,300 per year, plus any wider benefits for your family. For more information about this and anything else about the scheme, please visit our online hub: <https://www.london.gov.uk/free-school-meals>.

Families having difficulties with their financial situation can also access advice and support by visiting my cost of living hub here: <https://www.london.gov.uk/programmes-strategies/communities-and-social-justice/help-cost-living>.

I wish your family a happy and healthy winter break, and I hope your children are looking forward to their school meals when they return in the New Year.

Yours sincerely,



**Sadiq Khan**  
Mayor of London



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potential***

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## ST MICHAEL'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

RUNNING EVERY SCHOOL HOLIDAY!

Summer Holiday, Easter Holiday,  
Winter Holiday and Half Terms!



SCAN TO BOOK

# 2nd Jan - 5th Jan

Book at [activedaycamps.com](https://activedaycamps.com)