



**Newsletter- November 2018**

Dear Parents and Carers

Since the last newsletter:

- Several groups of Year 5 and 6 children have taken part in the Bikeability course, which teaches them how to ride safely on the roads. These children may now ride to school unaccompanied, provided they wear a helmet and we have a consent letter from their parents or carers.
- Year 6 have taken part in Social Media Training, understanding how to ensure they stay safe when using this media.
- The school Football Teams have played in a range of games.
- The whole school took part in Local History workshops linked to World War 1.
- Children have taken part in an International Afternoon - where they will have discussed what they would like to find out about their host country.
- We have raised £530.12 for Children in Need Day - by doing various enterprise activities in classes. Thank you to everyone who contributed to this total.
- Some children in Year 5 have attended maths sessions at Coombeshead College.
- Year 1 children have visited St Michael's Church and been involved in The Christmas Experience.
- As part of Outdoor Club some Year 5 and 6 children have taken part in Caving and Bushcraft activities.
- Year 6 spent a day involved in Christmas Craft at Buckfast Abbey.
- Year 2 visited Living Coasts as part of their IPC work.

**Application for a Primary School Place**

Applications have opened for admission into Primary School in September 2019 and you can now apply online at [www.devon.gov.uk/admissionsonline](http://www.devon.gov.uk/admissionsonline)

You can apply for a place if your child was born between 1<sup>st</sup> September, 2014 and 31<sup>st</sup> August, 2015. Applications must be in by **15<sup>th</sup> January, 2018** or they will be considered as late and you may not get a place for your child in a school of your choice.

Please make sure you apply for 3 schools of **your** choice. If you only apply for one school and do not get a place, your child will be placed in a school where there is a space, which may not be a school you would choose.

**School Lunches:**

Please ensure you clear your outstanding lunch debts, the office are spending a lot of time having to chase up unpaid dinners. If you could ensure your account is in credit, prior to your child having a dinner that would be very much appreciated.

**Ofsted:**

If you have read the recent report you will see that an area identified, is how the school ensures that teaching is challenging for the most able pupils. We will shortly be sending a letter out to all parents explaining how we cater for the higher attaining children and ensure challenge.

**Mrs West:**

Mrs West has asked me to thank you for all the lovely cards and well wishes she has received. We have a collection in the office and will be donating to a charity of her choice.

**Parent's Evenings:**

We are hoping to use the SAME easy Parent Evening Booking System for appointments (10<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> December) that we used last time. However, we now need consent to use this system under new GDPR rules. If you haven't already, please login to ParentPay. Once in ParentPay, you will find a payment item called PARENTS EVENING BOOKING SYSTEM. Please click on the VIEW blue button beside the payment item. Follow this through to give consent. By giving consent you are allowing us to use your and your child's data (First & Last Name and Class) for the above system for this year and future years (whilst your child is at St Michael's).

More information regarding Parents Evening will follow once full consent is received.

**Foundation Stage Nativity:**

The Reception children will be performing their Nativity at Oakford Lawn Senior Citizens Club on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup>, Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> and Friday the 7<sup>th</sup> December. We would like to say a massive thankyou to David Bessant, Chairman of the Club and his team for their hospitality and for allowing us to perform at their venue.

**Authorised Absence:**

Please can I reiterate to you that any request for absence can only be authorised if there are very clear exceptional circumstances. This is the law and ignoring it may result in a penalty notice being issued. Please check the calendar on our website to ensure you book holidays during the school holiday period. If you are booking further in advance, please don't hesitate to contact the office to check if we can confirm dates. You must also complete an S2 Absence form. These are available from the main reception area.

**Communication:**

Please 'like' our school facebook page to keep up to date with the achievements of the children and for reminders of what is going on in school.

School Blogs - Each class contributes to a blog on the school website which is accessible from the class pages in Pupil Zone. We also have a few other blogs which are accessible from the Home page. Please do have a look to see what your children having been doing in school.

I would like to thank you for welcoming me back. If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact me as I may be able to help. If you are unable to pop into school, please ring or email me via the school office.

Thank you for your continued support.

Kind Regards

Mrs Kate Arnold  
Head of School

<u>Dates for the remainder of the term:</u>			
<b>December</b>			
3rd	Choir to sing at Tesco		
4 <sup>th</sup> and 5 <sup>th</sup>	2.30 Froglets Nativity in the hall		
5 <sup>th</sup> and 6 <sup>th</sup>	10.30 Reception Nativity at Oakford Lawn Senior Citizen's club		
6th	Flu immunisation for Reception to Year 5 pupils		
7th	1.45 Reception Nativity at Oakford Lawn Senior Citizen's club		
10 <sup>th</sup>	Explorer Dome Year 5 and 6 at Kingsteignton Chapel		
10 <sup>th</sup> 12 <sup>th</sup>	Parents' evening 3.30 - 6.30		
11 <sup>th</sup>	Parents' evening 3.30 - 5.00 <b>FS and Year 6 ONLY</b>		
13 <sup>th</sup> , 14 <sup>th</sup>	KS1 (Year 1 and 2) Nativity in school hall		
17 <sup>th</sup>	1.30 Grandparents' afternoon Year 2 and Foundation Stage		
18 <sup>th</sup>	1.30 Grandparents' afternoon Year 1		
19 <sup>th</sup>	School Christmas Lunch Christmas Jumper day		
21 <sup>st</sup>	9.30 am Christmas Service at Church		
21 <sup>st</sup>	School finishes for Christmas holiday at 3:15pm		
<b>January</b>			
7th	School opens at 8:50am		