



Dear Parents and Carers

As we head into December, we usually would have shared with you dates for your diaries. However, we have had to adjust our normal plans for the Christmas period this year, but the children in our Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1 are working on something special and we will share the details nearer the time.

We are committed to try and make Christmas as enjoyable as possible for all of our pupils and make sure that it remains a special time for them.

Christian Value

This term, the value that we are focussing on is PERSEVERANCE. Perseverance is the quality of continuing with something even though it is difficult.

This Month's Right



December's Right is Article 27 of the UNCRC – it says that children and young people should be able to live in a way that helps them reach their full physical, mental, spiritual, moral and social potential. For this to happen, they should have access to adequate food and housing.

Application for Primary School Places

Applications for places opened on the 15th November, for admission into Primary School in September 2021 and you can apply online at www.devon.gov.uk/admissiononline. You can apply for a place if your child was born between 1st September 2016 and 31st August, 2017. Applications must be in by 15th January 2021 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.



UNCRC Article 27 The right to a life that meets their physical, social and mental needs





PE Kit

PE KIT should be worn to school on the days your child(ren) has PE. Please can I remind you that they should be wearing the correct kit (listed below). If, on particularly cold days, they wish to wear under armour as a base layer, that is fine as long as it is navy or black.

- Plain white T shirt or T shirt with school logo
- Plain black or navy shorts
- School jumper
- Plimsolls or trainers (younger children need to have Velcro fasteners)
- A tracksuit may be worn in cold weather (navy or black)

School Lunches

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

Attendance

Attendance is monitored weekly, as part of our legal duties as a school. We will notify you by letter if we have a concern about your child's attendance. If you would like to discuss attendance, please talk to your child's class teacher in the first instance. We will be happy to work with you and your child to help improve their attendance at school if needed. If your child is unwell, you must contact the school via the Absence Option 1. We are also required to ask for as much information as possible about the nature of the illness, in line with our health and safety procedures.

School Christmas Lunch

This year the children's Christmas Lunch is on **Wednesday 9th December**. Thank you for Pre Ordering via ParentPay. There will not be any other options available so if your child does not want to have the Christmas lunch they can bring a packed lunch from home. Children are welcome to wear a Christmas jumper instead of their school jumper, on that day. **All other uniform should be worn as usual.**

Google Classroom

Please can I remind you that it is essential that you have logged on to your child's Google Classroom account – this is so that should you need to access online learning for your child



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due to self-isolation, you are already up and running. Any issues please email homelearning@stmichaels.education

Mental Health

We are pleased to have launched our new MindUp Curriculum! MindUp offers simple practices and insights that help children deepen their understanding of their own emotions and mental processes. Children learn about the parts of their brain and how these interact to influence behaviour and feelings. The MindUp approach promotes optimism, tolerance of differences, develops mindful attention to oneself and others and the capacity to grow as a human being and learner. We will be sending a link to a short presentation about MindUp, for parents and carers to watch at their leisure, before the end of term. In the meantime, if you have any questions about The MindUp approach, please do ask!

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to use our 'tier' system. If you are unable to pop into school, please ring or email via the school office.

Thank you for your continued support.

Kind Regards
Mrs Kate Arnold
Head of School



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December 2020 Newsletter