



St Michael's C of E Primary School

OUR VISION: 'Working together, growing together, for all to flourish.'

December 2022 Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we head into December the children are rightfully beginning to get excited about the festive season ahead. We are looking forward to welcoming you into school for our events that are happening in December.

The children have been amazing in terms of their efforts and attitudes to all their work and behaviour so far this autumn term. Here's to a fun packed and enjoyable last couple of weeks.

Christian Value:

This term, the value that we are focusing on is PERSEVERANCE. Perseverance is the quality of continuing with something even though it is difficult. We celebrate this in our whole school assembly on a Friday and on the Values Blog.

Our Right:

Each half term we will consider a different article and ensure the rights are being taught through our daily classroom practice. This month, we are focusing on Article 39 of the UNCRC. This says children and young people have the right to recover from difficult things that happen to them, and that they can expect to receive the help that allows them to do so.

Application for Primary School Places:

Applications for places opened on 15th November, for admission into Primary School in September 2023 and you can apply online at www.devon.gov.uk/admissionsonline.

You can apply for a place if your child was born between 1st September 2018 and 31st August 2019. Applications must be in by 15th January 2023 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 Attendance - Every School Day Counts!

In order for our pupils to achieve their very best it is of paramount importance that their attendance is good. Every lesson really does count for your child and catching up on lost time from school can be really difficult. Good attendance is linked to achievement, better relationships with other children and overall better behaviour. Often, the reason that children are absent from school is due to illness and it is important that you contact the school on every day of your child's absence due to ill health. Please contact the school office and leave a



UNCRC Article 39

I have the right to get help if I have been hurt, neglected or badly treated.



OUR VISION: 'Working together, growing together, for all to flourish.'

message before 8.30am so that our registers can be updated. We understand that sometimes absence cannot be avoided. Punctuality - It is SO important that the children arrive to school on time, ready and willing to learn. The gates open at 8.45am. Any child who arrives after the gates are locked at 9.00am needs to be signed in at the main school reception. Being late for school reduces learning time and can impact on your child being able to settle calmly into the school day. Children can be upset at entering a busy classroom after everyone else and missing the initial morning instructions means that they are having to play 'catch-up' for the rest of the morning. If your child is 5 minutes late every day, they will miss approximately 3 days of learning in a year. 15 minutes late every day, equate to approximately 2 weeks of missed learning each year.



drive to school, can I remind you that there should be no parking on the markings or the double yellow lines along Church Street. With more cars parking incorrectly, there is an increased risk to pedestrians, especially those needing to cross the road. None of us would want to see an accident.

RSE

Relationships and Sex Education will be taught during this month, as well as in the Spring and Summer Term. Each year group will be revising what has been taught the previous year.

Mental Health

Anxiety is a normal emotion that all us humans can feel, at different times in our lives. Feeling anxious is a perfectly natural and common reaction to some situations. However, when anxiety begins to affect our lives and is a daily or constant feeling, this can be really upsetting and difficult.

NHS's "Every Mind Matters." offers an email support programme which offers step by step help. If you are interested, you can sign up for this at <https://anxiety.ecrm-registration.nhs.uk/> Since the pandemic, our children have also experienced anxiety at higher than usual levels. Dr Lucy Russell from the organisation "They are the Future" talks about ways to calm your child when they are feeling anxious, angry or stressed. You can find some information about this at

<https://www.theyarethefuture.co.uk/calm-angry-panicky-child/>

Parking

Can I please remind you about safe parking outside the school. Whilst I appreciate that during the colder months more people



UNCRC Article 39

I have the right to get help if I have been hurt, neglected or badly treated.



OUR VISION: 'Working together, growing together, for all to flourish.'

Christmas Gifts:

At this time of year there can be pressure from children to buy their teacher/s a gift. As a staff we would like to take this opportunity to say while we are always really grateful by the kind generosity, we would like to ask that you do not buy us a gift. We thoroughly enjoy teaching your children and it is a pleasure to do so.

If your child still feels they want to bring something in a handmade card or picture would be lovely.

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

December Dates:	
Week beginning 5 th Dec	Parents evening
Tues 6 th Dec	Reception nativity
Wed 7 th Dec	Year 2 nativity
Wed 7 th Dec	Reception nativity
Thurs 8 th Dec	Year 1 trip
Thurs 8 th Dec	Year 2 nativity
Thurs 8 th Dec	Christmas Craft Fayre
Wed 14 th Dec	Christmas Dinner Day- On this day children are invited to wear a Christmas jumper or a Christmas accessory alongside their normal uniform.
Thurs 15 th Dec	Froglets Christmas Singing
Fri 16 th Dec	Last day of term
Tues 3 rd Jan	Children return to school



UNCRC Article 39

I have the right to get help if I have been hurt, neglected or badly treated.

