

St. Michael's C of E Infant School Newsletter

Newsletter 7 Autumn 2022



12th December 2022

St. MICHAEL'S
CE (CONTROLLED) INFANT SCHOOL

The Nativity and Christmas Fayre

Year 1 have performed their nativity three times and each time I managed to have a tear in my eye when listening to 'Away in a Manger'! The children love singing in our school and sang with gusto and enthusiasm. They had learnt their words and were able to confidently say them in front of an audience. Thank you to all of our staff for enabling the performances to take place. Despite lots of illness and some children filling in for others- they were amazing! Thank you to you all for being a brilliant audience and clapping and cheering too. We are now looking forward to seeing YR and Y2 in their performances this week.

We also had our fantastic Christmas Fayre and FOSM raised an incredible £1084! Thank you to all of FOSM for organising this event and also to those of you who volunteered on a stall. Thank you also to the staff that were able to support the event and to our Santa and Elf! I know there was a rather long queue for Santa, but seeing the children's faces after they had seen Santa- it was worth it! Thank you for supporting the FOSM events this term. Thanks to your generosity, FOSM have raised £1893 this term.

I hope you have a lovely break and we look forward to seeing you all in January.

Dot Patton



Christmas Church Service

On Wednesday 14th December at 11:00am we will be singing songs from our Nativity at St Michael's Church in Aldershot. Families are welcome to join us.

If you would like to come along, please do not enter the **Church until we have got the children in and settled in a seat**. Seating will be fairly limited, but there is plenty of room to stand near the back of the Church.



Collection for the Teenage Cancer Trust

After the Nativity we are collecting for the Teenage Cancer Trust. Thank you so much for your kind donations so far.



Service Children Support

If your child is from a service family, Mrs Westmorland has kindly offered to run a special lunchtime club for service children and this will start after Christmas. This is a voluntary club and children don't have to go, but Mrs Westmorland is going to be available to run the club on a Monday and a Friday lunchtime. We will tell any service children about this. The idea is that they can go to the club if a special family member is serving abroad. Mrs Westmorland will be using the 'Little Troopers' resources to arrange fun activities for the children to join in with if they would like to.

Open Library

After the Christmas holidays, we will open the library up once a week after school. This will give you the chance to go with your child and change their library book with them (if your child would like to). The library will be open after school on a Wednesday, starting on Wednesday 4th January 3:10-3:45pm.

Diary Dates Autumn 2022/23

Nativity Performances

Monday 12th 9:30am – Owls and Flamingoes

Monday 12th 2:00pm - Badgers

Tuesday 13th 9:30am – Ducks and Toucans

Tuesday 13th 2:00pm – Foxes

Wednesday 14th 9:30am – Parrots & Penguins

Wednesday 14th 2:00pm – Squirrels

We ask for only two adults per family please and no younger children. Thank you for your understanding.

Wednesday 14th 11:00am – Christmas Church Service at St. Michael's Church

Thursday 15th Christmas Lunch Day

Friday 16th Last day of term. Children are invited to wear their own 'Christmas Themed' clothes.

Tuesday 3rd January 2023 INSET DAY

Wednesday 4th – Spring term begins

Christmas Jumper Day and the last day of term.

Children are invited to wear their own clothes, hopefully with a Christmas theme, for the last day of term. If your child doesn't have a Christmas Jumper, please don't worry about buying something new, just send them into school in their own clothes. During assembly, the Alder Valley Brass Band will be here to play Christmas carols to the children.

Collective Worship

In Collective Worship, we have been thinking about the story of the birth of Jesus and the journeys that people made to see the new baby. The children have been thinking about the fact that Jesus was a special King, but was born in a stable.



Monthly Mental Health and Well-Being Bulletin

December

Welcome to our final mental health and well-being post of 2022!

This week sees us move headlong into December and the start of what is often referred to as 'silly season'! It is always a joy to be in an Infant School at this time of year. The excitement of small children chattering excitedly about Christmas never fails to raise the spirits - their excitement and wonder is contagious as they re-tell the story of a small baby born in a stable. Despite the joy in these moments, by the time we get to the end of term, excitement levels have usually reached fever-pitch and with them can come over-excited tears, tiredness, and tantrums! This month, via the attached '12 Days of Christmas Well-Being', our post details some simple and inexpensive ideas designed to help you and your children slow down and remember the true spirit of Christmas by finding the joy in simple pleasures.

As we move further into the period of advent and the countdown to Christmas, time can take on a life of its own and there is a danger that the pressure to create a 'perfect' Christmas can be all consuming. We understand that for lots of us, Christmas can be a challenging and stressful time, more so than ever this year as the cost-of-living crisis continues to bite. If you are facing financial difficulties, please check out the links below to agencies who will provide a listening ear or signpost you towards help. We have supported families with all kinds of things over the years, so whatever you are going through and whatever you are worrying about, if you do choose to get in touch with us at school, please be assured that you will be met with a supportive ear and an understanding smile. Wishing you all a peaceful and happy Christmas with your lovely families.

Mrs Boon (PSHE and Well-Being Lead)

The Samaritans

SAMARITANS

Whatever you're going through, a Samaritan will face it with you. Call for free on **116 123**

Farnborough Food Bank



Call **0808 2082138** for a chat with an advisor if you need assistance. Lines open Mon-Fri 9-5. A translation service is available. Visit the website at <https://farnborough.foodbank.org.uk/contact-us/>

Mind

Explains how the period around Christmas and New Year might affect your mental health. Gives tips on how to cope and suggestions for supporting someone else. Visit the website below  <https://www.mind.org.uk/information-support/tips-for-everyday-living/christmas-and-mental-health/christmas-and-mental-health/> or call for free advice on 0300 123 3393

Young Minds

Call our Parents Helpline **YOUNG MINDS** twice, emotional support and fighting for young people's mental health advice for a child or young person up to the age of 25. You can call for free on **0808 802 5544** from 9:30am - 4pm, Monday - Friday.

12 Days of Christmas Well-Being

Wrap up warm and go on a Christmas lights walk

Do some Christmas Yoga - follow the link <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pMeKIAEpWxw>

Go outside – what can you see, hear and smell?

Play some Christmas music and have a festive disco!

Snuggle up with a blanket and watch a Christmas film

Use blankets and pillows to make a Winter den and share a story

Go to the park and feed the birds with bread crusts or orange peel

Light a candle and think of things you are thankful for

Make a Christmas card and deliver it to a neighbour as a surprise

Have a picnic lunch around your Christmas tree

Give an old toy to a Charity Shop for someone else to enjoy

Collect sticks in the park and make a Christmas star on the grass

Physical Activity Newsletter 4

Active Advent



Christmas is fast approaching and to help you count down the days in an active way Mr Sanders and MSportActive have once again created an active advent calendar. Paper copies of these were sent home at the start of December but if you do not have a copy check out the MSportActive website

<https://www.msportactive.co.uk/> where you can find out your active challenge each day.

Sports Awards

Congratulations to the following children who have all had sporting achievements out of school.

Swimming - well done Sebastian



Freestyle Dance- well done Amelia



If your children would like to be included in the next PE newsletter please email a photo to

PE@st-michaels-inf.hants.sch.uk with your child's name, class and a brief explanation of the award that they have achieved.

To ensure these are included in the newsletter each month please send them before the last Friday of the month. Should you miss this deadline, don't worry they will be added to the following month.

When taking photos please follow any rules for the venue/ club that you are at. Please only try to include children that are part of our school community in the photos unless you have permission to take their photo.

Have a good holiday and an active 2023.

Ms. Young.