



FAMILY LETTER

SUMMER TERM NEWSLETTER 1

23RD MAY 2019

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From the Head

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It seems hard to believe that we have come to the end of another half term, albeit a very short one. This half term our school value has been 'Courage' and that has definitely been evident around school. Our Year 6 children certainly 'dug deep' during SATS week and should be incredibly proud of the way they approached the tests. They are to be commended for their determined approach. Year 5 were completely out of their comfort zone at Whitemoor Lakes and were fantastic ambassadors for our school. It was lovely to join them over tea and hear about their various exploits. The children really looked out for one another and encouraged each other to complete tasks that they were finding challenging. Our musicians entertained the school by playing their instruments in a recent recital. Mr Rowley, our guitar teacher, praised all of the children for their confidence and musical prowess. He remarked that the children shared their love of music with their peers. The children managed their nerves well and definitely oozed confidence as they played. I'm looking forward to hearing them perform again in our summer concert here in school.

We have had a number of sporting events take place this half term. Thank-you for all of your support with transport and to Miss Lewis and her team of staff helpers who ensure we can offer these activities. The children thoroughly enjoyed Sports Day on Tuesday and we appreciated you coming along to cheer your children on.

Thank-you for understanding about the additional school closure for European Elections. As a school we are very frustrated about being used as a polling station and have endeavoured to address this with the District Council. Unfortunately we have to be used, but wherever possible we will now make any known election dates one of our five training days that we are required to



PTA SUMMER FAYRE

FRIDAY 5th July

5.30PM UNTIL 8.00PM

St Michael's: 'excited about learning'



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undertake each year. So heads up for 2020, we are expecting to be used as a polling station on Thursday 7th May and as such school will be closed to pupils.

Hope everyone has a happy half term break.

Jewellery Reminder

Children should not wear jewellery at school for safety reasons. Watches are permitted but must be removed for all PE activities. Please note that SMART watches may not be worn by pupils under GDPR (General Data Protection Regulations) and the Safeguarding regulations schools are required to adhere to regarding mobile phones in school. Children with pierced ears may wear small, plain studs (not hoops / sleepers) but these must be removed by the children themselves for all PE activities.

Summer Footwear

Now that the summer is approaching, sandals may be worn to school. Please ensure that sandals are flat and have a strap over the top of the ankle and around the heel. Fashion sandals, flip flops or slip-on type sandals are not suitable. Sandals should also be worn with socks (no bare feet please).

Thank you.

Safety Outside School

There are some safety concerns that the school have been made aware of concerning children's safety at the school crossings. Please make sure you keep your children near to you and do not let them run ahead towards the crossing or the crossing patrol.

Please take care.



London 2019

On Wednesday 22nd May, Year 6 were lucky enough to go to London and visit many exciting places.

When we arrived at Lichfield Trent Valley Station we all got onto the Virgin Train. The toilet was awesome! It talked! The journey there was fun as we played lots of fun games such as hangman. Eventually, when we all arrived at London Euston we went on the underground: it was extremely hot and busy. After arriving at Green Park we went on a long walk through many parks and fantastic sights and wildlife, even Buckingham Palace.



After walking a long way, we arrived at our River Cruise along the River Thames—'The Silver Bonito'. We saw loads of stunning buildings that dominated the skyline like Big Ben which is actually called The Elizabeth's Tower. Our tour guide was very funny too! I had a great fun experience I'll never forget.

After the boat docked we stopped for lunch in the Jubilee Gardens. It was beautiful there, but there were loads and loads of pigeons but that didn't ruin the fantastic view of the London Eye. It was nice talking to friends and eating lovely food. It made me feel refreshed as it was extremely hot.

Next we went to the Lyceum Theatre where we saw the one and only Lion King; words can't describe how incredible this show was. From the singing and dancing to the bright colours of the breath taking costumes. I was lucky enough to buy a cool souvenir; an awesome keyring. The roar of the crowd was amazing and I couldn't be more satisfied. This was definitely the highlight of the trip.



Overall, I loved my time in London. It was a once in a lifetime opportunity and the weather was great too. The only bad thing (apart from the pigeons) was that my bag broke. I would definitely recommend this brilliant trip to London! I will remember it for a long time.

By Robyn—Year 6

Year 5—Whitemoor Lakes 2019

On Thursday 2nd May Year 5 went to Whitemoor Lakes in Alrewas for a residential stay. The trip was two days and one night and each hour was packed full of excitement. We were split into groups of 12 and during the day we did various activities such as high ropes,



canoeing, raft building, abseiling and zip wire. There were also some less daring activities which were team building, night walk, writing post-cards, Mr Hayward's stories, and playing games. We also had some very delicious meals.

Throughout the trip we all had to represent St Michael's core values as for many of us this was our first night away from home. The activities took a lot of courage and perseverance but most of us managed to succeed in all of them. All the activities required trust and teamwork but

especially raft building, canoeing and high ropes. In raft building you had to work as a team to build a strong and sturdy raft otherwise it would collapse and you wouldn't get anywhere if you didn't work as team to paddle your boat. Finally, in high ropes you have to fully trust your teammates in supporting you until you touch the ground safely.

Our trip to Whitemoor Lakes gave us a chance to show independence, core values, trust and teamwork.

Thank you to all the teachers who took us there as it is a trip we will most definitely not forget.



Lots of pictures will be available to see on our Whitemoor Presentation—details to follow shortly.

Y5 Lichfield Fire Station

SAFE AND SOUND

On Monday 20th May visited Lichfield Fire station to learn how to be Safe. Staffordshire Police showed us all an interesting clip and slideshow all about Internet Safety and Cyberbullying. Network Rail gave us a very informative presentation on safety around railways.

We learned that one of the reasons why we should not walk on the railway is that the content of the train's toilet are released onto the tracks!! And electricity from the lines (25,000 volts) can jump up to 3m.

We also enjoyed the Canal Trust session where we had to spot the dangers on a gigantic riverside poster. One of the favourites was learning about fire safety. Apparently you have to check your smoke alarm once a week.

Grow, Grow, Grow

As you can see Bill and Ben have been working their magic and with the help of the warmer weather and little bit of rain we can see sweet corn, beetroot, carrots and courgettes all beginning to establish themselves. Onion, Garlic and Potatoes should be ready end of May.



Sam Moving to Crossings New!

Our lovely lovely Lollipop Man, Sam, will be moving to 'crossings new' from September. Sam has been helping to keep the children of St Michael's safe on their journeys to and from school for 23 years.

Many of us have known Sam for a long time and staff have begun a collection to which parents are also welcome to donate if they wish. Please pop any donations into the school office. Of course if anyone wishes to give their own gifts they are more than welcome.

Sam's last day will be on Friday 19th July and we're hoping he will agree to lead out our Year 6 pupils on their final parade around the school playground at 3.10pm. Everyone will be welcome to bid Year 6 and Sam a fond farewell.

Year 1 Where's Wally in Lichfield

Year 1 had a wonderful time as they had a day out in Lichfield in the glorious sunshine. The day was split into two parts; a brass-rubbings trail in Beacon Park and a guided tour of the city centre's landmarks. On the brass-rubbings trail, the children had to find 7 check points around Beacon Park and complete the rubbing in their booklet. At each location there were some historic facts and an extra challenge to complete. The 8th check point remains a mystery... do you think you can find this over half-term Year 1? Our allotment men, Bill and Ben, played the role of Bob and John the tour guides as they shared stories of Lichfield's historic landmarks in a fun and interactive way. The children listened carefully to enable them to answer a quiz question at each landmark—they 'wowed' Bob with their fantastic knowledge! We, of course, found time to have a picnic, play and ice-cream in Beacon Park. All in all it was a great day out with lots of fun, active learning about our amazing city! We'd like to thank Bob and John for making it such a memorable day and the parent helpers who superbly assisted throughout the day. We will finish with some feedback received via e-mail:

"Good afternoon, I work at the Lakeside Bistro in Beacon Park, today we were visited by a group of your school children. I would just like to tell you how polite and well behaved they all were whilst in our cafe! They're a credit to your school."

Well done Year 1—you truly are a credit to St Michael's!



Sports Day 2019

On Tuesday, 21st May St Michael's had another thrilling sports day.

The KS1 sports morning was well supported by lots of parents and grandparents whilst the children completed a carousel of activities.

It was Year 6's last sports day and the afternoons rays of sunshine left everyone tired. If you looked over the field you would hear the cheers and see the sea of colours ranging from red to blue to yellow to green.

The KS1 Winners were Wedgwood.

The KS2 Winners were Anson.



Year 3 Iron Man

Year 3 had fun creating their own Iron Men after studying the book by Ted Hughes. Great fun was had by all creating these men. Some were huge! Thanks to all the parents who supported us by gathering items for their creations.



DIARY DATES: Monday 27th May—Friday 19th July

| DATE | EVENT | TIME |
|---------------------------------------|--|---------------|
| Monday, 27th May to Friday, 31st May. | Summer Half Term | |
| Monday, 3rd June | Back to school until Friday 19th July | |
| Tuesday, 4th June | Year 6 and Rec —Tempest Photography | Morning |
| Tuesday, 18th June | New Reception Pupils—Play and Stay | 1.45pm—2.45pm |
| Tuesday, 18th June | Year 6 High School Transition Day 1 | All day |
| Wednesday, 19th June | Year 6 High School Transition Day 2 | All day |
| Friday, 28th June | PTA Non-Uniform Day for Summer Fayre Tombola | All day |
| Friday, 28th June | Year 2 Songbirds—Coton Centre, Tamworth | Afternoon |
| Wednesday, 3rd July | New Intake Parents' Meeting | 6.30pm—8.00pm |
| Friday, 5th July | Summer Fayre | 5.30pm—8.00pm |
| Tuesday, 9th July | Year 4, 5 and 6 Communion Service at St Michael's Church | 9.30—10.30 |
| Wednesday, 10th July | Leavers' Performance —Performance only | 9.30—11.00 |
| Wednesday, 10th July | Leavers' Evening—Performance and Presentation | 6.30pm—8.30pm |
| Monday, 15th July | Transition Days for Reception through to Year 5 | All day |
| Tuesday, 16th July | Transition Days for Reception through to Year 5 | All day |
| Thursday, 18th July | Year 6 Leavers' Performance with Scotch Orchard at St Michael's Church | 2.00—3.00 |
| Friday, 19th July | Year 6 Strykers | All day |
| Friday, 19th July | Year 6 Farewell Parade in main playground | 3.10pm |
| | Pupils break up for summer holidays | |