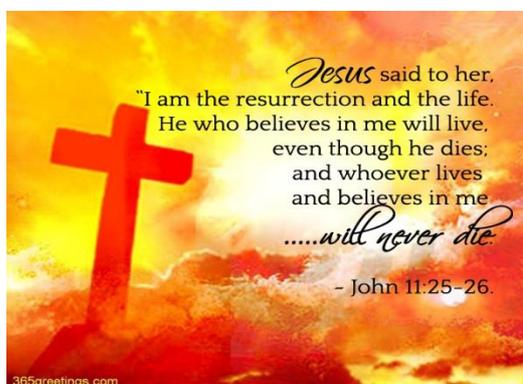


St Michael's School



19 March, 2015

Newsletter No: 24



Easter Services

All parents are welcome to join in with one of our our Easter Services. There should be plenty of space because this is the first year that we will be having separate Raphael and Gabriel Easter services. 5P will be leading both services
Gabriel Service will be at 10am on Tuesday 24th March and will be for 6M, 4HM, 3B, 2M, 1G and Red Class
Raphael Service will be at 10am on Wednesday 25th March and will be for 5P, 4F, 3G ,2R ,1D and Yellow Class

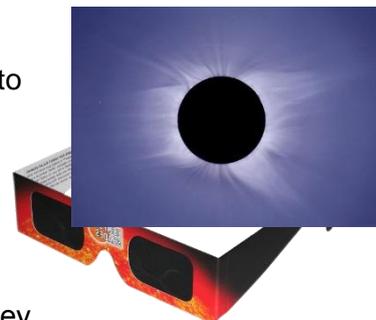
Solar Eclipse Event

If you are able to, we would love you to join us on Friday morning to share the excitement of the solar eclipse. Bring your woollies because it will be cold and maybe a picnic blanket or chair. It might be wise to make sure children have hats and scarves because we will be outside for a lot of the time between 8.30 and 10.30.

Solar Eclipse Safety Glasses

The rush for safety glasses this morning took us completely by surprise. I apologise to those who queued up so very patiently this morning and still didn't get any. Initially, I had assumed that parents would be able to buy their own but when I realised that the UK shops were selling out, I took a chance and ordered 225 from America on my own credit card. I thought these would provide enough for each class to have a few to share and then there would be a few leftover to sell to parents that weren't able to get them. I never envisaged that I would become the sole provider in North Enfield! I could not send a letter out earlier just in case they didn't arrive on time. They arrived after lunch on Tuesday and we got a letter out immediately.

I am aware that Year One and 4HM did not get the letter on time and I am sorry about this. I have put some aside for Years One and Four to have some extra pairs for communal use. On Friday, there will be plenty of opprtunies to make and use all sorts of viewers and each class will hold a few pairs of glasses to share.



Parents' Evening Survey

Thank you so much to everybody that completed and returned the Parents' Evening survey. Hopefully, I will be publishing the results before the holiday. The staff were really uplifted to hear of the positive things that people had to say and the way their extra efforts are appreciated. Many people made great suggestions which have been collated and will be passed on to members of the SLT to follow up. Immediately after Easter, Mrs Rolland and I will be inviting individuals with concerns to come in to talk through how we can adress those issues.

Internet Safety – Don't forget!!!

Don't forget we have our Internet Safety day tomorrow. A parent drop-in is being held between 9am-10am and at 7pm there is a session for parents. The feedback from parents who attended the evening session last year was overwhelmingly positive.

Praying Parents

Praying parents will be meeting on Friday 20th March to pray for the school and the children. If you would like to join us please meet in the reception area at 9am.



St. Michael's Family News

Congratulations to our relief site manager, Peter Barrell aka. Perfect Peter (as he is known by the PTA!), our relief site manager. Baby Emily Violet was born, prematurely, last week. Mother, baby and unbelievably proud father are doing fine! Ps If you have family news you would like announcing in the newsletter, feel free to leave a note at the office.

For Your Information: Clubs/Parents Evenings

For future Parents' Evenings, please be aware that 'paid for' clubs carry on right the way through term time, even on Parents' Evenings. Teacher-run clubs, for obvious reasons, cannot run on those evenings.



Diarrhoea and Vomiting

Please be kind to your fellow parents. The Easter holidays are coming up and nobody needs a vomiting family over the holiday. If your child has a tummy bug please keep them away from school for the full 48 hours after the last episode of diarrhoea or vomiting. The clipping below is guidance from the Health Protection Network.

Infection/Virus	Exclusion period	Comments
DIARRHOEA AND VOMITING ILLNESS		
General advice	Exclude until 48 hours after the diarrhoea and/or vomiting has stopped. Depending on the specific infection, exclusion may apply to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • young children; • those who may find hygiene practices difficult to adhere to; • those who prepare or handle food for others. Your local HPT will advise.	Diarrhoea is the passage of 3 or more loose or liquid stools per day, or more frequently than is normal for the individual. If blood is found in the diarrhoea then the patient should get advice from their GP.
Common Infections		
Norovirus	48 hours from last episode of diarrhoea and vomiting.	
Campylobacter	48 hours from last episode of diarrhoea and vomiting.	Discussion should always take place between the HPT and Nursery
Salmonella	48 hours from last episode of diarrhoea and vomiting.	
Less common infections		
Cryptosporidiosis	48 hours from last episode of diarrhoea and vomiting.	Exclusion from swimming is advisable for two weeks after the diarrhoea has settled
E.Coli O157	Your local HPT will advise.	
Shigella (Bacillary Dysentery)	Your local HPT will advise.	
Enteric fever (Typhoid and paratyphoid)	Your local HPT will advise.	

Once a Week Peek

Wednesday is Once-a-Week-Peek day. Please check your children's hair for creepy crawlies. If you do find unwelcome visitors, remember, it is important to treat the whole family.

Year 5 Woodwind Band and Lunchtime Drama Club

There will be a short Year 5 Band and Lunchtime Drama Club concert on Thursday 26th March at 9:30am in the school hall. All parents of Year 5 children/Lunchtime Drama Club children are invited to join us.

Sports News from Mr Douglas:

Boys' Football

The Year 6 boys' football team have had another busy week, playing three matches in the league. They started off fantastically, beating Lavender 3-0 before drawing 1-1 with St. Andrew's. In their final game they lost 2-1 to Forty Hill. The boys can be especially proud of how they played each match and the excellent sportsmanship they have displayed throughout all their matches so far.

Half Marathon Schools Challenge

It was a freezing cold Sunday morning but 78 children braved the elements to complete the final mile of their half marathon at Allianz Park, making us the second largest school in attendance. Each child received a well deserved medal and goody bag for their efforts.

So far, the children have raised over £200 to support Noah's Ark Children's Hospice. To sponsor the children and help this fantastic charity, visit www.justgiving.com/stmichaelschoolschallenge and click on the "Donate" button. This money goes direct to Noah's Ark, who will visit the school again after Easter to deliver a thank you assembly.

If you would like to send in any photos of the event to publish on our school website, please email them to [Mrs. Leybourne@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:Mrs.Leybourne@yahoo.co.uk)

Learn about ...

A morning in the life of a School Governor

Mrs Presland has been a governor at St. Michael's for some years now. She is not a member of staff, a parent or linked to St. Michael's Church. As such, she brings an external view of the school that is most valuable.

"It is a bright, sunny morning as I enter St. Michael's school. I "buzz" at the gate to be allowed in and, wearing my Governor ID badge, I sign in at reception before being allowed through into the school. Being the nominated Child Protection Governor, I am always delighted to observe the procedures that are put in place for the safety of the children at St. Michael's.

The brightness of the morning is only matched by the pleasant smile of the Office Manager on reception and the sunny disposition of Father Stephen as he breezes past me after his Friday morning assembly, in great spirits after spending time with the children.

My first meeting of the day is as a member of the Headteacher Performance Review Committee. At these meetings, Governors meet with the Headteacher to set targets and to monitor performance against those targets. This is followed by a meeting with a small working group of Governors and the Headteacher to discuss child protection and safeguarding. The safety of the children at our school is of utmost importance to the Governors and staff at St. Michael's. A self-review of safeguarding at the school is currently being carried out and we are working our way through a check-list of safeguarding guidelines produced by the London Diocesan Board for Schools. The review covers areas such as safety on the school site, record keeping in relation to safeguarding, first aid and medicines, safer recruitment, policies, appropriate physical contact, pupils and behaviour. The findings of the review will be reported to the full Governing Body. This morning's meeting looks at "Pupils" and Governors consider questions such as "Do pupils feel safe?", "Do pupils feel able to seek support from the school should they feel unsafe?", "Do adults listen to them and take their concerns seriously?", "Can pupils identify a trusted adult with whom they can talk about concerns?" and "Do pupils understand how to keep themselves safe from bullying?". During the meeting, Junior playtime starts and it is decided to ask the children themselves. Five children from the playground volunteer themselves to talk to us. Governors are pleased to hear what the children have to say and are suitably reassured. The children speak confidently and intelligently and are an absolute credit to the school and to their parents.

Whilst on the school premises, fellow Governors and I are pleased to observe the excellent behaviour of children around the school and exchange details of compliments received about good behaviour.

Our meeting is suddenly, yet politely, interrupted by a group of Year Six pupils. A box of chocolate finger biscuits has been "stolen" from their classroom. The "thief" has mysteriously left a note written in black ink and they are carrying out an investigation to identify the culprit. Two Governors, who are writing with black pens, are asked to hand over their pens for inspection! I am pleased that no Governor is found to be under suspicion. However, pupils do note that Miss Matthews has a rather suspicious looking black felt pen on her desk and they confiscate it and photograph her with it ... I believe that investigations continue...

After this very welcome interruption, it is back to our meeting and discussions take place about pupils being encouraged to adopt safe practices and to think about "How what you do affects other people". Miss Matthews talks about recent sessions with Year Three, teaching them to be responsible for themselves and their actions and, in particular, to be aware of their surroundings. Rumour has it that, at the height of this training, it was possible for all 60 children to leave and re-enter the classroom by one door, collect their coats whilst supporting their smaller friends to reach the higher pegs in less than 3 minutes. Governors find this hard to believe, saying "Surely not!" and ask if we can observe this splendid feat. We go along to Year Three to witness this for ourselves. I am pleased to report that Year Three performs the exercise superbly... in 2 minutes and 30 seconds... and Governors all swiftly compliment the children on their behaviour and teamwork and give them a big round of applause.

It has been an extremely uplifting morning at St. Michael's and I leave the school, passing the children in the playground during their lunchtime play, feeling extremely privileged to be a Governor, very grateful to have such excellent, dedicated staff and incredibly proud of the school and its pupils."

Mrs. K. Presland
Governor

PTA News

Summer Fayre Planning Meeting, TONIGHT - Wednesday 18 March, 7:30pm in The Cricketers

Please come along to share your ideas and help to plan the Wild West Bonanza that is to be this year's Summer Fayre. Everyone welcome – the more the merrier.

Curry and Disco evening - Saturday 21 March, 7:30 pm onwards at school

Last chance to get your tickets for this evening of fine fayre and classic cheesy dancing (with DJ MBB in da house). Chaseside Tandoori have kindly given us an extra few days to finalise numbers, but we must have details with them by midday tomorrow (Thursday 19 March). So please make sure you get your ticket requests in by then. If it helps you can email rachael.ryan.ryan@btinternet.com to secure your tickets.

PTA AGM - Monday 23 March, 7:30pm at school

Please try to come along to this important PTA event and have your say in the running of the PTA and how the money you help us to make is spent. We will also be electing the new PTA committee at the AGM. There were no nominations outside the current committee members put forward for the PTA election. So, unless we get some high drama “stop the proceedings!” last minute objections, the current committee will be re-elected unopposed.

Community News

George Spicer – Health Day

George Spicer School are hosting a Health Day on Friday 20th March. There are a number of external organisations attending who offer support and advice to families – this is open to all parents.

George Spicer Parents Consultation Day - Friday 20 th March 2015	
Someone will be available to talk to you from the following organisations	Time they will be here
Alison Brown – Osteopath	11.30 – 1.30pm
Bush Hill Park Children's Centre	12noon -1pm
CCHF	2.30pm – 5pm
Community Police	10am – 3pm
Dazu	9am – 1pm
Ellenborough Table Tennis Club	10am – 2pm
Enfield Council Sports Dept	10am – 11am 2pm -3.30pm
Enfield EWO	10am – 11am
Enfield NHS Health trainer	11am – 12noon
Enfield Parents and Children	10am – 2pm
Good Looking Optics	9am – 4pm
Informed Families	10am – 12noon
Parent Support Service	10am – 3pm
Pure Gym	9.30am – 3 pm
School Nurse	9am – 10am
Yoga Temple	10am – 12noon

Literature will be available from the following organisations but no one will be in attendance
Enfield Citizens Advice Bureau
Enfield National Autistic Association
Gingerbread
Herts Young Mariners Base
Real Family Holidays