

ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH OF ENGLAND HIGH SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

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Issue: 015

SUMMER 2 NEWSLETTER

Dear Parent / Carer,

Recently, I received the most beautiful card/letter from the grandmother of one of our students. It offers prayers and a listening ear, which emphasised to me how very special our community is. What a wonderful thing: to think of others during a global pandemic that has caused so much heartache and disruption. But that is what makes St Michael's special: we are outward-facing; caring; compassionate and merciful.

Ending the year with such positivity leads me to pray that you all have a fantastic summer and that you can relax and prepare yourselves for a fresh start next term. I look forward to seeing Year 11s in August and the whole school in September. Meanwhile, have a magnificent summer break.

Sincerely,



Mrs J Gray, Headteacher

Upcoming News & Events:

Wednesday 21st July	Students break up for the Summer
Thursday 12th August	GCSE Results (10.00am – 12 noon)
Thursday 2nd September	Staff Training Day
Friday 3rd September	Years 7 and 11 return to school
Monday 6th September	Years 7, 8, 10 and 11 only
Tuesday 7th September	All Year groups return to school
Wed 15th September	Open Evening
Thurs 16th September	Open Day
Thurs 21st October	Students break up for half-term
Friday 22nd October	Staff Training Day
Monday 1st November	Students return to school

OUR SCHOOL PRAYER

What does the
Lord ask of you?

To act justly, to love mercy
and to walk humbly with your
God.

Micah 6vs.8



Headteacher: Mrs J Gray, MSc, NPQH

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As we all know, on 6th April 2020, Captain Tom Moore set out round his garden to thank our NHS heroes. One hundred laps later, he had raised an incredible £38.9 million for the NHS.



ST MICHAEL'S C OF E HIGH SCHOOL
CAPTAIN TOM 100
CHALLENGE
WE HAVE RAISED
£3,943.93
INCLUDING GIFT AID
FOR BIRMINGHAM WOMEN'S & CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL CHARITY

His simple message of hope, *'Tomorrow will be a good day'*, inspired millions around the world and, this year, everyone was invited to think up their own 100 challenge to ensure Captain Tom's legacy lives on, and fundraise for their chosen charity; this could be anything from walking 100 metres to baking 100 cakes or writing 100 letters.



When was it?

St Michael's launched the challenge with students and staff in May to allow them plenty of time to get started or think of an idea. For those who wished to do something on a bigger scale, we figured they might need more time to complete it. The whole

school fundraising week took place from 12th-16th July, so everyone had until then to complete their challenge and raise funds. As part of the Captain Tom 100 week, each form participated in '100 laps for Captain Tom' as a team during their PE lessons; for example, a form of 30 students completed 3 laps each, with 10 students completing a 4th lap, to equal 100.

Who could get involved?

The more the merrier! We wanted as many people as possible to join the challenge so students and staff were encouraged to invite family and friends to be part of the fun. All students were encouraged to take part in Captain Tom 100 which was linked to the house system to drive our school values.

Who are we raising money for?

All money raised will be split equally between Birmingham Women's Hospital Woodland House Appeal (new baby loss centre for bereaved families) and Birmingham Children's Hospital.

How do people donate?

We have a Virgin Money giving page to make sponsorship and donations easy. It's not too late to make a contribution, if you have not already done so.



CAPTAIN TOM 100 12-16TH JULY 2021
FUNDRAISING WEEK
DO IT YOUR WAY

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
100 LAPS P3/4 YR7 (AELS)	100 LAPS P3/4 YR8 (STMI)		100 LAPS P3/4 YR9 (MICH)	100 LAPS P3/4 YR7 (MICH)
100 LAPS P5/6 YR9 (AELS)	TROLLEY OF TREATS BREAK / LUNCH PRICES: VARY - UP TO £1	TROLLEY OF TREATS BREAK / LUNCH PRICES: VARY - UP TO £1	TROLLEY OF TREATS BREAK / LUNCH PRICES: VARY - UP TO £1	Don't forget to share pictures of your 100 Challenge!
	100 LAPS P5/6 YR8 (AELS)		100 LAPS P5/6 YR10 (AELS)	To claim house points please make sure sponsors include your full name!
	INSTAGRAM LIVE 3.30PM HOUSE LEADER SQUAT CHALLENGE			

<https://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/stmichaelscaptaintom100/>

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FUND THE HUBS



Hundreds of thousands of young people are struggling with their mental health – and too often they can't get support when they first need it. We know that the earlier a young person gets support for their mental health, the more effective that support will be. That is why Fund the Hubs is calling for a government funded network of hubs across the country, which would provide early support for young people's mental health when their problems first emerge.

"Young Minds" want young people under 25 to be able to go to a hub without an appointment or referral and get advice for their mental health and other issues that are affecting them, before they hit crisis point.

St Michael's Student Voice has been actively supporting the Fund the Hubs campaign by sharing links on social media to encourage greater awareness; students have also written to local MP, James Morris, urging him to write to the Prime Minister calling on the Government to #FundTheHubs.



We were delighted when the CEO of The Children's Society gave us a shout out and tagged @dralexgeorge – Alex George is a Welsh physician and television personality who serves as the UK Youth Mental Health Ambassador within the Department of Education.





BLACK COUNTRY RADIO XTRA

We are thrilled to have been given a monthly show on Black Country Radio Xtra! Following a gruelling audition process, we are pleased to announce the team of hosts/content creators for our new show: UNMUTED, which will focus on health and wellbeing and will broadcast once a month.

All 28 students who were interviewed had potential so the final choice was not an easy one. Congratulations to the students below who made the team:

Year 7

Esme Lloyd
Lily Marlow
Nathan Smith

Year 9

Annabelle Calvert
Robin Draper
James Wright

Year 10

Honor Cartwright
Jessica Postings

Year 11

Callum Aston
Rosie Smith



This has been a huge learning curve, but the students worked hard to pull together their fabulous first two shows which aired at 7pm on 16th June and 14th July. All the content has been created by the students including original music, feel good tracks, services spotlight, trending issues and fun debate.

If you would like to tune in, you can download the BCR app or listen using the link below:

<http://www.blackcountryradio.co.uk/player/black-country-xtra/>





WINDRUSH DAY

Special thanks to our own Miss Prescott (PA and Office Manager at St Michael's) for delivering a fabulous workshop on Wednesday 16th June as part of a collaborative project with the Black Country Living Museum to celebrate Windrush Day on 22nd June.

The Empire Windrush's arrival at Tilbury Dock, Essex on 22nd June 1948 marked the beginning of a period of migration that would eventually see over 500,000 Commonwealth citizens settle in Britain between 1948 and 1971. This is now referred to as the 'Windrush Generation'.

This collaborative project, 'Writing for Windrush', offered the opportunity for students to learn more about these journeys and experiences; Miss Prescott shared some amazing memorabilia – clothing, accessories and music - which really brought the project to life. Students were also able to write postcard messages of hope and thanks for elders of the Windrush Generation.



CHURCH OF ENGLAND

YOUNG LEADERS AWARD



Build pupils' leadership skills and character



Grow confidence, teamwork, resilience and care for others



Empower pupils to serve their communities

During this academic year, four of our Year 9 students have been taking part in the Young Leaders Award (YLA) run by the Church of England.

The YLA is a fully resourced, year-long online leadership and development programme. Students have developed leadership skills and character virtues, allowing them to be catalysts for positive change within school, the community and local church. Additionally, they have been provided with a platform to engage with, and contribute to the strategic development of the Church of England.

Congratulations go to:

- Robin Draper
- Lily Bennett
- Jemima Mandet
- Shannon Lovesey





Year 9 Book Quiz

Due to restrictions, the library has been unable to open to students during the past year. This has meant the loss of many activities and events normally organised by library staff, such as the annual student book quizzes. However, as the library is situated within the Year 9 bubble, this meant we were able to run a Year 9 book quiz, which meant that library staff could engage with students to encourage their love of books and reading during the last few weeks of Year 9. It was wonderful for the staff to connect with students once more and encourage them to use the library when we are able to fully re-open.

The four books chosen for the students to read were:

- *Jessica's Ghost* by Andrew Norris
- *Philosopher's Stone* by J K Rowling
- *All The Things That Could Go Wrong* by Stewart Foster
- *The Midnight Gang* by David Walliams



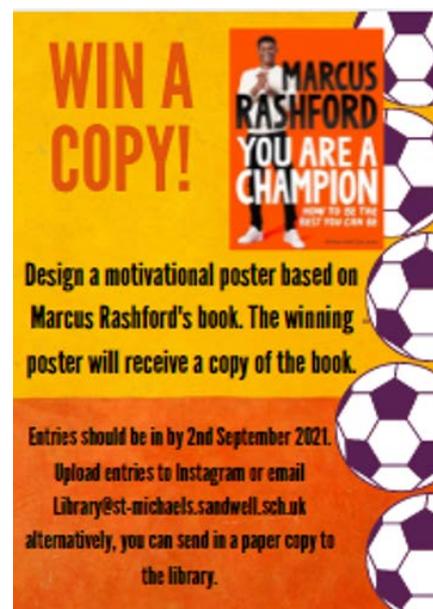
Students were asked to read a book each, remembering as much detail as possible. In addition to questions on the four books, students were also quizzed on their book general knowledge. The aim was to provide some fun and competition amongst the students, with prizes for the runners up and a trophy for the winners. It was a fantastic opportunity for Year 9 students to get involved with reading before the start of their GCSE courses in Year 10 and all the work associated with that.

The winners of the Year 9 book quiz were Miss Kirton's class, 9S, who were fantastic competitors and true book lovers, although it was a close competition with only a few points between each team.

Win a copy of Marcus Rashford's book!

The library was lucky enough to win a copy of *You Are a Champion: How to be the best you can be* by Marcus Rashford. To celebrate, we will be launching a competition over the summer holidays to design a motivational poster based on his book and the creator of the winning poster will receive a copy of the book.

To enter, students should design a poster to be displayed in and around school, as well as on the school website and social media. The poster should represent the title of the book, using whatever subject matter you want, whether that is inspiring someone to go for their dream job, taking up a new sport, or simply learning to have confidence in themselves – these are just a few ideas and the choice is yours. Whatever topic for motivation you decide on, make your entry bright and eye-catching – something that stands out from the crowd. Entries should be in by Friday 10th September 2021. Upload entries to Instagram or email library@st-michaels.sandwell.sch.uk; alternatively, you can send in a paper copy to the library.





With restrictions lifting, we are hoping to be able to host the **Scholastic Book Fair in the library from Wednesday 22nd September to Wednesday 29th September 2021.**

Students are welcome to visit the Book Fair during their break times and after school. Parents are also invited to accompany students after school.

The Book Fairs are always very popular with our students and have been a massive success in previous years; every book you buy helps get **FREE BOOKS** for our school library! The book fair also promotes reading for pleasure which, in turn, has a positive impact on academic work as well as on a personal level.

You can pay online or by cash. Further information will be sent out to students a little nearer the time.



New Year 7 Students

All Year 7 students will take part in library inductions within their first few days at St Michael's. During this time, they will have a tour of the library, select their first library book and take part in an activity. In the meantime, we have set a task on Google Classroom for students to take part in, based around the Roald Dahl book, *The Twits*. If you have a copy, it would be great to re-read it with them over the summer.

Student Librarian applications will open in September and Year 7 students will also be eligible to apply. If your child is interested, remind them to ask for an application form during their library induction.

Can you also encourage them to take part in the Summer Reading Challenge, which they can access on Google Classroom, as well as the Marcus Rashford Design a Poster competition.

NUMERACY



Well done for the continued progress in the form time numeracy activities! Last half term, the following form groups demonstrated most progress and, as a result, won doughnuts for the class. Congratulations!

The following individuals progressed most in their year group. Keep up the good work!

Year 7	Form	Year 8	Form
Tegan Takawira	7S	Scarlett Mansfield	8A
Jack Tolly	7S	Destiny Smith	8H
Mason Towler	7S	Joseph Allen	8I
Jess Travers	7S	Ryan Gibbs	8L
		Jamal Sogbesan	8L
		Tia Spicer	8L
		Chloe Yates	8M
Year 9	Form	Year 10	Form
Lincoln Harbach	9I	Taylor Sabin-Tyler	10A
Navid Basir	9L	Tnishka Ahmed	10C
Harriett Beswick	9C	Thomas Blakeway	10H
Tilly Palmer	9A	Danny Totney	10H
Joshua Williams	9M	James Brown	10C
		Haseeb Khan	10A

...and finally

As we come to the end of another school year, we are aware that school uniforms that have become too small are often passed to other family members; however, if that is not possible, many good uniforms can end up being thrown away or recycled as rags.

We would like to encourage you to recycle any unwanted school uniform, particularly blazers, ties, shirts, trousers and PE kit, in order for us to help those families who are struggling to afford the cost. Donations that are clean and with plenty of wear left in them would be most appreciated; please put them in a bin liner/large carrier bag, which can be left at the School Reception during school hours.

Many thanks in anticipation of your help.