

CHR/SP

18th July 2023



Dear Parent/Carer,

As we come to the end of what has been a jubilant year for St Michael's, may I take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support and cooperation. In January 2023, we were visited by His Majesty's Inspectorate who found that St Michael's continues to be a 'Good' school. Additionally, we are proud winners of the Silver Pearson National Teaching Awards: Secondary School of the Year for Making a Difference. The Gold Award will be judged in November 2023, and I will write to you again to let you know the outcome of this category.

Yet again, St Michael's is a significantly over-subscribed school, and we are proud of the reputation we are building both locally and nationally. This year has been successful in returning to normal off-site visits, trips and residential excursions. I hope you enjoy reading about some of the activities that students have undertaken this half-term in our separate school newsletter, which you will receive this week.

At St Michael's students continue to wear their school uniform with pride and have been a credit to you and our school; our uniform allows them to feel part of the school community and have a sense of belonging. We will continue to be very vigilant about ensuring our students wear their uniform correctly, and attached to this letter is a copy of the school's Uniform Policy to help you when buying school wear over the summer. The school encourages parents/carers to recycle any unwanted school uniform and regularly requests the donation of items that are clean and with plenty of wear left in them. Anyone wishing to acquire items of second-hand uniform should ask at the school Reception.

**Please note, from September 2023; St Michael's will be a mobile-free zone. If your child chooses to bring their mobile phone into school, they must be prepared to hand in their mobile phone during morning registration and it will be returned at the end of the day.**

Whilst we accept that there are rare times when absence from school cannot be avoided, there is an expectation that your child will have 100% attendance and, in line with the government directive, **holidays in school time will not be authorised**. We ask for your support in ensuring that your child attends school every day and that they arrive by 8:35 am for the start of the school day. Evidence shows that students who have excellent attendance and punctuality make far better progress and achieve better grades.

On **Friday 21<sup>st</sup> of July**, all students will leave school at 12:30 pm, following the end of Year Service and form group celebrations. Attached are the term dates for the next academic year and all students will start back on a WEEK A timetable.

Arrangements for the start of the Autumn Term 2023 will be as follows:

- **Monday 4<sup>th</sup> September 2023:** Teacher training day. **The school is closed to all students.**
- **Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> September 2023:** Teacher training day. **The school is closed to all students.**
- **Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> September 2023:** Years 7 and 11 only (arrive at 8:35 am, normal time)
- **Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> September 2023:** All year groups (arrive at 8:35 am, normal time)


Headteacher: **Mrs C Handy-Rivett, BA (Hons), MA, NPQH**

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As a reminder, St Michael's is part of the National School Breakfast Programme, and there will be a free breakfast bagel available at the canteen from Wednesday the 6<sup>th</sup> of September, between 8:00 am until 8.30 am.

May I wish you all a very enjoyable summer, and I look forward to us continuing our work together next year to support your children to flourish and achieve their full potential.

Yours faithfully,



Mrs Christina Handy-Rivett  
**Headteacher**

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