

ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH OF ENGLAND HIGH SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Date: Thursday, March 21, 2024
Issue: 030
SPRING 2, 2024

Dear Parent/Carer,

This term, we celebrated our 10th nomination for the Birmingham Children's Hospital 100 Heroes Award. I would like to extend my thanks and appreciation to all parents, carers and the school community for enabling us to support charitable causes.

During Lent, we have been focusing on our school challenge of 'giving up thinking of only ourselves' by collecting items for a range of local charities. I am proud of the efforts made by our pupils, families and staff. As a Church of England school, we will always seek opportunities to support the wider community; enacting our value of love, care and kindness to all.

Easter is such a special time of the year. It offers us a chance to reflect upon our spiritual journey and allows us to realise that we are not alone, as we face the challenges of life. In the lead up to Easter, a time for new beginnings and hope, we think of our Year 11 pupils, who have been busy undertaking their mock examinations. As we begin our preparation for supporting Year 11 in the final countdown to their GCSEs, can I remind Year 11 parents of the Easter School revision programme that we are offering (details on page 4).

Thank you all for the continued staff and parental support, enabling our young people to flourish. I wish you all a peaceful and relaxing Easter holiday. God Bless.



Mrs Handy-Rivett, Headteacher

UPCOMING NEWS & EVENTS:

Friday 22 nd March	Students break up
Monday 8 th April	Students return to school
Monday 15 th April	Y8 exams start
Thursday 18 th April	Y10 Parents' Evening
Monday 29 th April	Y8 HPV Immunisations
Monday 6 th May	Bank Holiday
Thursday 9 th May	Y11 exams start

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 C Handy-Rivett, BA (Hons), MA, NPQH

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VISION STATEMENT
To show love, care and kindness to all in our community.
To value what we have and to share with others.
To enable everyone to achieve their full potential.

BEAUTY FROM ASHES

As we approach the time of Easter, we begin to reflect and consider the story of Jesus' death and resurrection. I always try to put myself in the shoes of the disciples in this story, who have been following Jesus for the past three years. In Jewish culture, to follow a Rabbi is considered a huge honour, being able to spend time with Him every day, learning from Him and seeing Him perform incredible miracles. So, when it comes to the day he is arrested, I can only imagine the anxiety, the confusion, and the sense of loss they must have felt. They must have thought at this point that all was lost and maybe the last three years had been for nothing. However, when the impossible happens and Jesus is raised to life again, history is changed forever; their journeys have not ended but are in fact just beginning. Jesus' death was a necessity that led to the restoration of the relationship between God and His creation.

The theme of our end of term Easter service this year is 'Beauty from Ashes'. This is taken from a verse in the bible from Isaiah 61, "Give them bouquets of roses instead of ashes, messages of joy instead of news of doom, a praising heart instead of a languid spirit". As we approach Easter, let us think of it as a time of new life, of new beginnings, and a time we can all take to reflect on things in our own lives that may have to die in order for something new, something beautiful to emerge from the Ashes.

There is a recent song by Celine Dion titled Ashes; it is a theme tune to a recent Marvel film. One of our incredibly talented students is going to perform this song at our end of term Easter service. I pray that these words encourage you as you read them.

Ashes by Celine Dion

<p>What's left to say? These prayers ain't working anymore Every word shot down in flames What's left to do with these broken pieces on the floor? I'm losing my voice calling on you 'Cause I've been shaking I've been bending backwards 'til I'm broke Watching all these dreams go up in smoke</p> <p>Let beauty come out of ashes Let beauty come out of ashes And when I pray to God all I ask is Can beauty come out of ashes?</p>	<p>Can you use these tears to put out the fires in my soul? 'Cause I need you here, whoa 'Cause I've been shaking I've been bending backwards 'til I'm broke Watching all these dreams go up in smoke</p> <p>Let beauty come out of ashes Let beauty come out of ashes And when I pray to God all I ask is Can beauty come out of ashes?</p>
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God Bless, Mr Dix, Lead on Ethos.

DIOCESE SENIOR LEADERS CONFERENCE

On Friday 1st March, Mrs Handy-Rivett, Mr Dix and Mrs Whitehouse attended the Birmingham Diocesan Senior Leader Conference. It was a really positive day, which provided lots of inspiration in terms of enhancing the Christian distinctiveness of St Michael's.

The theme of the conference was working in partnership and representatives from Student Voice presented. They were amazing, with many people providing them with a standing ovation.



JJ O'Meara, Lily Marlow, Sophie Gleadall, Sofia Thorp, Jack Whiteman and Freddie Hadley




YEAR 11 EASTER REVISION

We are delighted to announce the commencement of our Easter School sessions tailored specifically for Year 11 students. As the exam season draws near, these sessions present a valuable opportunity for your child to enhance their academic knowledge and enhance their confidence.

On the dates identified below, our dedicated staff will provide comprehensive revision materials, targeted exam techniques, and personalised support to ensure each student maximises their potential.

We urge you to encourage your child to participate in these sessions, as they are designed to equip them with the skills and knowledge necessary to excel in their upcoming examinations. **Could we please ask if your child attends more than one session during a day, that they are provided with lunch/snacks as our canteen facilities will not be open.**

 EASTER BOOSTER SESSIONS 2024						
	Monday 25th March	Tuesday 26th March	Wednesday 27th March	Thursday 28th March	Tuesday 2nd April	Wednesday 3rd April
9am - 10:30am	Religious Education or Geography	Art & Textiles	Maths	Enterprise	BTEC Sport Exam	Health & Social Care
10:30am - 12noon	Maths or English	Science	Art & Textiles	Hospitality (Invite Only)	History BTEC Sport (Year 10)	Child Development
12noon - 1:30pm	IT & Computer Science	Music (Invite Only)	Art & Textiles	Spanish		

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MATHS CHALLENGE

We had a smaller cohort of students entering the maths challenge but we still received some fantastic results. Three students achieved a Silver certificate, top 20% of students nationally, and ten students achieved a Bronze certificate, top 40% of students nationally, with two students missing out by just one mark.

Silver:	Bronze:		Participation:
Jack Smith, 76	Japji Bajwa, 59	Manpreet Singh, 51	Asma Alguwear, 46
Fionn Smith, 71	Christiano Mersini,	Matthew Comery, 50	Mustaga Yasir, 46
Astle Holloway, 61	56 Kaitlin Hogan, 52	Luke Flavell, 50	
	Tyler Hoccom, 51	Jerin Joji, 50	

YOUTH PARLIAMENT ELECTIONS: ENGAGING OUR FUTURE LEADERS



We are thrilled to inform you about the recent events at St Michael's surrounding the Youth Parliament Elections. As a school committed to nurturing responsible citizenship and active participation in democratic processes, we were proud to facilitate an opportunity for our students to engage with candidates and exercise their right to vote.

On Thursday, February 29th, we hosted a Student Election Fayre where candidates vying for positions in the Youth Parliament had the chance to interact directly with our student body. It was inspiring to witness our students engaging with the candidates, asking pertinent questions about their manifestos, and discussing the issues that matter most to them. This event provided a platform for our young leaders to voice their concerns and aspirations for our community and beyond.



Following the Election Fayre, on Friday, March 1st, our entire student body participated in casting their votes at our polling stations for their preferred candidates. This was not just a vote for individuals but also an opportunity for our students to express their views on the topics they believe should be prioritised by the Youth Parliament this year.



The enthusiasm and engagement displayed by our students throughout this process were truly commendable. We are incredibly proud of their commitment to shaping the future and making their voices heard in matters that affect them directly. We extend our gratitude to all the candidates who put themselves forward for election, as well as to the students who took the time to vote and engage in discussions about the future of our community. Together, we are empowering the next generation of leaders who will strive to make a difference.

YEAR 7 REWARDS ASSEMBLY

Year 7 Warrior

Recognised for continued values of Strength, Resilience, Hard-working, Discipline.

Awarded to
Phoebe Partridge, 7A



Congratulations
TO OUR

SPRING TERM

'CHAMPION'

ISAAC

MORTON-WILLIAMS

7C

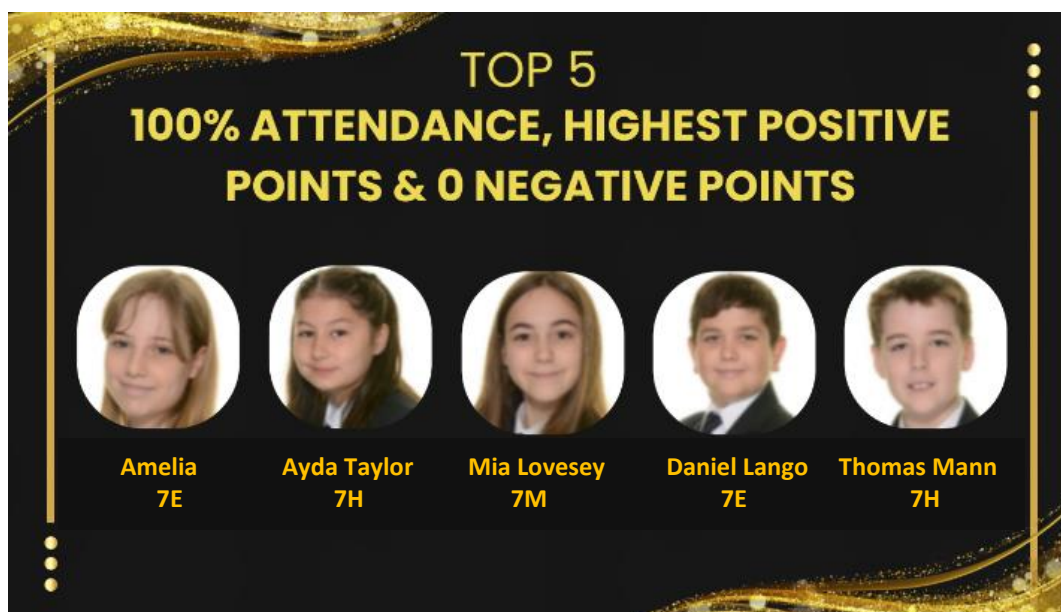


Year 7 Champion

Recognised for continued values of Excellence, Strength, Championing others, Perseverance, Respect.

Awarded to
Isaac Morton-Williams, 7C

Year 7, Top 5 Students





TOP 10
100-97% ATTENDANCE, HIGHEST POSITIVE POINTS & 0 NEGATIVE POINTS

Tristan Adams, 7L	Logan Peters-Williams, 7M
James Andrews, 7M	Joshua Scrivens, 7M
Dulcie Bates, 7A	Isaac Taylor, 7I
Jack Johnson, 7H	Delta Tether, 7H
Aneel Kang, 7H	Corey Woodhouse, 7L

TOP 20
100-97% ATTENDANCE, HIGHEST POSITIVE POINTS & 0 NEGATIVE POINTS

Lilly Abbott, 7E	Broly Holmes, 7S
Riley Ball, 7M	Darcy Hitchins, 7A
Zoe Davis, 7M	Ezme Johnson, 7H
Katrina Dhutty, 7E	Harveer Moman, 7I
Armani Gill, 7M	Jairaj Moman, 7H

TOP 20
100-97% ATTENDANCE, HIGHEST POSITIVE POINTS & 0 NEGATIVE POINTS

Khadijah Pereia-Campbell, 7S	Mia Simpson-Maczkowski, 7H
Ryanna Pilkington, 7H	Ella Thorp, 7M
Alfie Postin, 7H	James Ward, 7M
Lewis Poyner, 7L	Edward Willetts, 7M
Lily Spencer, 7M	

Mrs Faulkner and Miss Preston would like to congratulate all of Year 7 for working tremendously well during the **spring term** and we look forward to an amazing final term after Easter with lots of **summer term** themed activities and rewards to be earned.

STUDENT VOICE

Student Voice would like to take this opportunity to say a HUGE thank you to you all for supporting our fundraising journey. On Sunday 3rd February, we accepted the Birmingham Children's Hospital 100 Hero's award on behalf of our whole school community. Your ongoing commitment to help other through donations of time, money and enthusiasm is nothing short of outstanding.



DRAMA

Year 8 is currently learning about the role and responsibilities of a set designer in their Drama lessons. Part of their homework project is to make a model box of their set designs of a well-known children's story. Rhyley Preston in 8A made a fantastic model box of a famous scene from 'Charlie and the chocolate factory.' Mrs Croft has been blown away by how much effort students in Year 8 have been making.

MUSIC

Reegan Jenkins, Year 11, was selected to perform as principal cellist with the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra on Sunday, the 25th of February at the Symphony Hall. To put this into context, the CBSO is one of the best orchestras in the world. This was a prestigious honour and a wonderful opportunity for Reegan as a classical performer.



ART

Mr Murphy's Artist of the Month for:

January

- Year 7 - Luca Polvere, 7C
- Year 8 - Belle Horton, 8H
- Year 9 - Evie Basterfield, 9A

February

- Year 7 - Lottie Jones, 7A
- Year 8 - Sabrina Radu, 8I
- Year 9 - Navroop Kaur, 9I

SCIENCE



Our Science Technician recently visited Dudley Museum at the Dudley Archives, which has a small but impressive exhibition of local fossils and archaeological discoveries. For anyone interested in dinosaurs and prehistoric history, this is a gem within our local community and completely free to visit. Little ones can do a dino-bone rubbing to take home as a souvenir and enjoy having photos next to a sabre tooth tiger skull and various dinosaur models. Maybe follow up your visit with a walk around Wren's Nest, another local site that has been renowned for fossil finding.



WORLD BOOK WEEK 4TH MARCH – 8TH MARCH



On Thursday 7th March, we took part in World Book Day (WBD); however, we spent the whole week celebrating! This event is a fantastic way to celebrate books, authors, illustrators, and it also encourages students to discover the pleasure of reading and enjoy our mutual love of reading.

With so many staff filling the school corridors dressed as book characters, students were bound to ask their friends who they saw and want to find out more. WBD generates conversations around books, characters, and reading. This often leads students to collect books from the library they would not normally read.

Throughout the week, the library hosted various activities including a Book Swap, mystery book giveaway, how many books are in the library, and much more! Throughout the week, we gave away 100 new books as prizes and in the mystery book giveaway.

ST MICHAEL'S STAFF ENJOYING WORLD BOOK DAY



Mr Pearce was the staff World Book Club winner for being the King of Hearts, and Mrs Faulkner was second for being Cruella De Vil.



Competition Winners

Congratulations to Emily and Chloe who won the Valentine's Day competitions.



Easter in the Library



Leading up to half term, there will be various competitions and activities in the library for students to get involved in and win some Easter goodies. There will also be an Easter raffle (pictured) of £1 a go and the winner drawn at random will receive all of the contents. Your child can bring £1 into the library for their ticket up until break time on Friday 22nd March.

ST MICHAEL'S LENT CHALLENGE

This year, our Lent Challenge is to 'give up thinking of only ourselves'. Thank you to staff, pupils and families for your contribution. The collected items will be donated to Black Country Women's Aid and a soup kitchen run by Champions Church in Netherton. The challenge is open to both pupils, families and staff with any donated items, big or small, being very gratefully received.

If you would still like to donate any toiletries or non-perishable food items, we would be happy to receive these after the Easter holiday.

Mrs Rose, Head of RE



**LOOK IN LOOK OUT
FOR LENT**

**"I'M GIVING UP
ONLY THINKING OF MYSELF!"**

26th February – 1st March

**Donate toiletries for men,
women and children**

4th March – 8th March

**GIVE AN EASTER EGG TO
CHILDREN IN REFUGE**

11th March - 15th March

**Donate non-perishable food
items for food bank**

18th March – 22nd March

**Donate non-perishable food
items for food bank**

DROP-OFF LOCATION is reception/community office

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PE

GIRLS BIGGEST EVER FOOTBALL SESSION



On Friday 8th March, the girls were invited to a Football Fun Event for 'International Women's Day'. This event took place at the WBA Academy Dome and over 300 girls participated in the event. Our student's had a very fun and interactive day taking part in a range of activities, meeting some of the ladies first team players, the ladies first team coach, finishing off with some 3v3 tournaments.

Fifteen Year 7-9 students attended the event for 'International Women's Day' and the event was a great success. All girls thoroughly enjoyed the event and demonstrated the school values throughout the day. The girls were brilliant and were a credit to the school. Well done, girls! A big well done to Ashanti Timmins who had her details taken by an England scout. The students involved were: Ruby Colclough, Shanice Clayton, Courtney Collins, Phoebe Danks, Emily East, Miley Hadley, Alexis Hemmings, Isabelle Lawrence, Edi Ledbrook, Erica Nartey, Sophia Sealy, Ashanti Timmins, SJ Tolley, Layla Wells, and Kiera Williams-Hazell.





Any girls interested in free football sessions, please look at the poster, and contact Mrs Wright for more details.

SIGN UP FOR TERM 3 NOW!

GIRLS SESSIONS (AGES 13 - 18)

DAY	VENUE	TIME	AGE
STARTING TUESDAY, APRIL 24, 2024			
TUESDAY	FUN 5-A-SIDE Goals Drilling Cotnamore Hill, Rensley Fields, B&B 0208	5:00pm - 6:00pm	8 - 17
STARTING WEDNESDAY, APRIL 17, 2024			
WEDNESDAY	GIRLS SKILLS CENTRE Ormeauon Sandwell Community Academy Lower City Hill, Thoresby, Gt. Bentley B&B 0208	4:45pm - 7:45pm	8 - 17
THURSDAY	GIRLS HUB - MULTI-SPORTS WBA Community Sports Hall Holford Hill, West Bromwich B71 4LD	6:00pm - 7:00pm 7:00pm - 8:00pm	8 - 12 13 - 17

SIGN UP AND PLAY

FREE Football For All

SCAN ME

Girls Football Squad

For the first time this year, the England Football Association have teamed up with #LetGirlsplay and invited us to the Girls ever biggest football event. The ambition is to give girls equal access to football. The Squad Girls Football Programme is trying to get more girls involved in local sessions. With regular sessions taking place close by, the programme is welcoming girls in Years 7-9 who currently do not play football outside of school, but who want to enjoy playing in a fun friendly environment. Mrs Wright has fifty Squad Girls football packs, so if you would like to get involved in football outside of school, please come to the PE office to collect a pack.



PE STAR STUDENTS FOR TERM

A massive well done the star students for the spring term. These students work hard every week showing great enthusiasm and effort in all lessons. The students are:

Lily Abbot	Amelia Gadd-Furlow	Edi Ledbrook	Lacey Overton
Presley Chitumbura	Jess Greaves	Amelia Ludlow	Charlie Owen
Skye-Sienna Conlon	Harry Hadley	Amelia Marshall	Harmony Prescott-Nelson
Alfie Emery	Elias Hussein	Erica Nartey	Maja Serafin
Pere Esite	Ahmed Ishag	Fred Nkeumeteu	Yusuf Sulaiman
Luke Finan	Isabelle Lawrence	Logan Otto	Suryans Tiwari

PE EXTRACURRICULAR – SUMMER 1

	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri
After School 3:00 – 4:15 pm	Fitness All years Suite Mrs Wright	Netball All Years Upper Muga Mrs Faulkner	Cricket All years Astro Mr Trewartha/ Mr Ducket	Fitness All years Fitness Suite Mr Trewartha	Football Year 7 only Astro Mr Gibbons
	Badminton All Years Sports Hall Mr Duckett	Boys Football Cup fixtures only (Please see your teacher)		Table Tennis All years DT Hub Mr Mole	Football Year 8 only Muga Mr Tolley
		Rounders All years Field Mrs Wright/ Mrs Faulkner		Rounders All years Field Miss Usefnia	



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