



23 April, 2021

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Main Car Park

Please note that the main car park should ONLY be used by parents who have one of the following ESSENTIAL reasons to do so:

- Disabled Access badgeholder
- Other health issue agreed by the school (we will give you a permit)

Please only park in the disabled area if you are a badgeholder.

DO NOT use the car park because you are late!

Thank you for your cooperation

Contact Details

TEL: 01454 866781/2
EMAIL:
admin@stmichaelssg.org.uk

WEB:
www.stmichaelssg.co.uk

Newsletter 6



The pond area is looking fantastic: well done to Mrs Fraser, who is also making sure our new garden area is growing nicely!

Dear parents,

Welcome to the summer term – and what a great start we have had! The weather has been excellent, and it's great to see the children out on the school field throughout the day making the most of our lovely grounds.

As the restrictions slowly ease, we should be able to see certain aspects of school life starting up again, starting with some of our after-school clubs. Please see the website for the list of those available: they are all outdoor clubs at the moment, and it is probably unlikely that indoor clubs will resume this year - but we will see if things continue to improve.

Alongside the usual football clubs we are looking to get cricket going again. There are two opportunities for this: on Monday lunchtime Mr Keating and Mr Freeman will be running a club on the field for children from Y4-Y6. On Friday after school there as a club run by one of our parents (details have been sent out to parents on class dojo).

We are also able to play matches against other schools, and we will be looking to do so as soon as we can find some ready and willing opponents (netball and football). All activities will be risk assessed and will follow the latest government guidelines.

Next week we are starting whole class music lessons: drumming for Y6 and ukulele for Y4. This is another great sign that things are improving, and we hope we will be able to sing again in school very soon. How we miss that!

Dates coming up

A full list of term dates can be found on the next page. It is not clear yet how far parents will be able to come into the school grounds for events such as sports days and leaver performances. These are all scheduled for Term 6, so we will wait and see what the guidance is nearer the time.

As usual there will be a transition days near the end of term 6 to give children more opportunity to prepare for September. We will let you know whether any classes will be mixed by the end of this term.

Mark Freeman, Headteacher

Headteacher News

Thank you for the many good wishes I have had from both parents and children regarding my forthcoming retirement. I find it really hard to imagine not being here next year – and I am determined to savour every moment while I am still here. The governors have started the process of finding a new Headteacher, and they have already met with the Local Authority and Diocese to agree the process and timescale. The first task is to identify the skills and qualities required, and as part of this process the governors would like parent, staff and children’s views. A short survey is being sent out to parents today to get your ideas: please look out for this.

The next stage is the drawing up of the job specification and advert. This will go out by mid-May, and shortlisting will take place in early June. We would hope that a new appointment will be made by the end of June. This will allow some time for me to meet with the new Headteacher while I am still here, although it is unlikely they will be able to start in September as resignation times have to be observed. The governors, together with the Diocese and Local Authority, will of course make sure there are effective arrangements in place for any transitional period, if needed.

We will also be planning some end-of-term events to celebrate my departure: and of course all of our Year 6 who will be leaving. All of the events will be planned to be on the field, so let us hope for good weather at the end of Term 6. The extent of parental (and wider community) involvement will of course be determined by the Covid restrictions for the time: hopefully by then there won’t be restrictions on outdoor numbers. Please see below for details of planned activities.

Dates for the summer

April	Event
Fri 23	St George’s Day; Y4 Viking Day
Wed 28	PTFA Meeting 7.30: all welcome (Zoom)
May	
Mon 3	Bank Holiday: school closed
Mon 10	School photos (classes)
Fri 28	End of Term 5

June	Event
Mon 7	School Restarts: Term 6 Assessment week 1
Mon 14	Assessment week 2
Tue 15 - Thur 17	New Parents Welcome Events (September intake) Zoom meetings
Wed 16	Y6 Transition Day 1 (Olympus Schools): Abbeywood/BSCS/Patchway/W’bourne
Mon 21	Sports Week, including Sports Days (details to be confirmed)
Mon 28	Arts Week Headteacher interviews

July	Event
Fri 2	Y6 Transition Day 2 (Olympus Schools) Reports and Classes out
Mon 12	Swap Day & Reception visits
Tue 13	Swap Day & Reception visits
Wed 14- Fri 16	Inflatables on Field (other events also being planned for these days)
Fri 16	Y6 Leavers’ Party
Tue 20	School Picnic & Farewell event for Mr Freeman
Wed 21	Last day of term

Current issues and future plans for support

SATS and Assessments

As you will be aware, there are no formal SATs or other tests for any children in Primary Schools this years. We will, however, be assessing all children at the start of Term 6 in order that we can give parents a clear idea of your child’s current level of attainment. This will also help inform our school planning next year, and so help identify any significant gaps in learning.

Covid Premium

We have a small amount of extra funding which we will be using over the next two terms to support children who have found restarting school more challenging, as well as to focus on ensuring children in Y6 are well-prepared for their move to secondary school. Extra teaching staff are being used to support all classes in Year 6.

Support next year

Next year we will be able to have some additional teacher and teaching assistant hours to provide extra interventions where needed throughout the school. We would aim to address all gaps and learning shortfalls by the end of next year.

If any parent has particular concerns, please contact your child’s teacher in the first instance for a discussion.

Y4 Viking Day
Great job dressing up: lots of fun and creative activities!

