

Dear Parents and Carers

Spring has definitely sprung, and alongside the buds on the trees and the daffodils coming into flower, learners at St Michael's have been springing into action with both learning and play over recent weeks.

Here are some highlights:



We had a “Monster” World Book Day! Learners engaged in a fabulous day of activities organized by our Reading Lead, Mrs Duly.

Thank you to all the parents and carers for organising such amazing costumes and such a fabulous array of cushions. It really was a day of reading for pleasure!



Love – Honesty – Forgiveness – Respect
Do to others a you would have them do to you – Luke 6:31

Explorers and Enquirers learned about China and Chinese New Year – for a clip of the wonderful “dragon dance” head to our Facebook page.

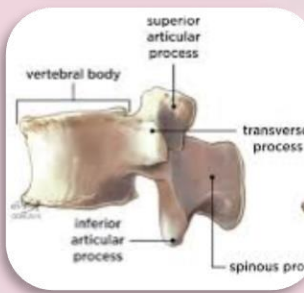
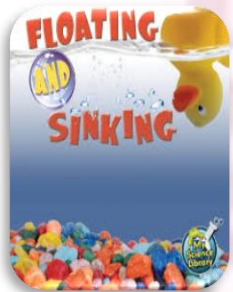


They were lucky enough to try a range of Chinese foods at their New Year feast. They enjoyed noodles, prawn crackers, fortune cookies and dried seaweed – what a culinary adventure!



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The whole school took part in a Science Day, led by the Primary Science team, learners completed online lessons before undertaking experiments with their peers. Much fun was had learning about floating and sinking in Explorers and Enquirers, whilst Investigators and Innovators learnt about skeletons.



It was a rich day of collaborative and sometimes surprising learning. Thank you to Mrs Whittle for organising such a great day.



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Once again we took part in the Big Bird Watch. Remarkably, we managed twenty minutes of quiet on the playground, during which learners worked together to spot the birdlife present in and around the grounds.



They saw gulls, finches, starlings, black birds and a solitary robin.



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The observant amongst you will notice that this is the “Term 4” Newsletter. Moving forward, I will be publishing a newsletter like this each term. In addition to this I will email a weekly “Head’s Up”. This will be a brief email with any news on dates or requests for assistance etc. Hopefully, this will give a good balance between information and school news. I will of course continue to post news on our Facebook page.

On another note, I recently read an article about the benefits of walking to school on learners not just in terms of their fitness, but also the impact it has on readiness to learn once the classroom door is open. With this in mind, and acknowledging that walking to school is not an option for the majority of learners, we are making some changes to our morning routine. The school gates will now be open at 8.35am up to 8.55am. Learners are invited to arrive at 8.35 and take part in a physical activity for ten minutes before heading to class. This might be a kick about, time on the playframe or a straightforward walk or jog around the playground (and field in good weather). This short exercise session will be overseen by school staff, enabling learners can get some air and exercise before heading into their classrooms. So, from April 13th when we return this new start to the school day will begin. I hope we see all learners arriving that little bit earlier to boost their wellbeing and head into class ready for learning.

I have updated the Dates for Your Diary, see below, so please check these carefully and add them to your calendars.

I have once again appended the reminder about Road Usage. Please continue to be mindful, there have been a number of incidents and near misses in the road recently – please let's not get to the point where a person is injured to due to careless road use.



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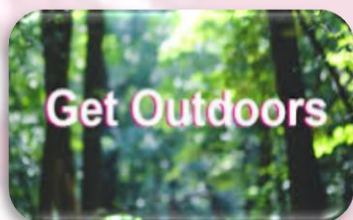
Finally, we have created the Club sign up opportunities for Term 5. These are now bookable through Arbor. Clubs next term are:

MONDAY



Games, construction, computers, drawing and painting and much more....

TUESDAY



Planting, growing, den building, fire lighting, outdoor art and much more....

WEDNESDAY



Football drills, skills and games with Mr Mendes

THURSDAY



Rugby skills, discipline and games with Theo

FRIDAY



Fun and games for a Friday with Mr Mendes



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Tomorrow, Friday 27th March is the final day of this spring term and will see us visit St Michael's for our Easter Service, all parents, carers and members of our wider community are invited to share in this important moment in the Christian calendar.

I'll close with the words of Cardinal Basil Hume:

The great gift of Easter is hope

In a world where we need hope, these positive words are a fresh lens to look through as we head into the Easter holidays.

Regards

Fay Churchill



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Dates for your diary

Event	Date	Time
PSA Easter Event	Thursday 26 th March	3.15pm
Easter Service in St Michael's Church, Playden	Friday 27 th March	1.30pm
Last Day of Term 4 – collect from church	Friday 27 th March	Pick up from 2.45pm
First Day of Term 5	Monday 13 th April	All day
Celebration Afternoon	Wednesday 15 th April	2pm
Parents' Evening	Thursday 23 rd April	1pm – 6.30pm
Parents' Evening	Friday 24 th April	1pm – 4.30pm
SATS week –breakfast for Year 6 Mon–Thu	Monday 11 th – Thursday 14 th May	All day
Rye Watersports Day – Innovators	Thursday 21 st May	All day
Rye Waterporst Day – Investigators	Friday 22 nd May	All Day
Last Day of Term 5	Friday 22 nd May	All day
INSET Day	Monday 1 st June	All day
First Day of Term 6	Tuesday 2 nd June	All day
Climate Change Programme – Innovators – Rye Harbour	Friday 5 th June	All day
Alliance Football Tournament @ Peasmarsch – Innovators	Monday 8 th June	1pm – 2.45pm
Diocesan Leaver's Service (Year 6 pupils only)	Tuesday 16 th June	10.30am
Sports Day – held on Peasmarsch field	Friday 19 th June	1.30pm
Peasmarsch Chamber Music Festival – Performance @ St Mary's Rye	Friday 26 th June	10.30am – 2pm
Secondary Transition Week	Monday 29 th June – Friday 3 July	All day
"Moving up morning"	Tuesday 30 th June	AM
Innovators Class End of Year Production	Tuesday 14 th July	All day
Leavers' Service @ St Michael's Church, Playden	Tuesday 21 st July	1.30pm – 2.30pm
Last Day of Term 6	Tuesday 21 st July	All day
INSET	Wednesday 22 nd July	All day



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PE Timetable

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
		Investigators	Investigators	Innovators
Innovators	Explorers & Enquirers	Investigators	Explorers & Enquirers	Innovators

Extra-Curricular Provision

Please note that access to Extra-Curricular Provision is only available by booking through Arbor.

Activity	Day	Provider	Time	Cost (if applicable)
Breakfast Club	All	School	7.50 - 8.35	£4.50
Youth Club	Monday	School	3.30 - 4.30	£4
Get Outdoors Club	Tuesday	School	3.30 - 4.30	N/A
Sports Club	Wednesday	School	3.30-4.30	N/A
Rugby Tots	Thursday	Rugby Tots	3.30-4.30	N/A
Multi-sports	Friday	School	3.30 - 4.30	N/A

Contact emails:

head@playdenschool.com

office@playdenschool.com

If you have any concerns regarding safeguarding please speak to:

- Designated Safeguarding Lead
- Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead
- Fay Churchill
- Vicky Isted



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Road Usage

This statement is for vehicle drivers who use the lane outside school.

- Parking directly opposite the school gate, adjacent to staff cars, either partially or wholly, creates a pinch point at the site where pupils need to access and exit the school. Any double parking is not permitted.
- Parking on the Yellow lines or in the bus stop is not permitted.
- Careful navigation, at an appropriate pace, is necessary to ensure the lane is a safe environment for all users.
- All who use the lane do so considerately and with the safety and wellbeing of pedestrians as our utmost priority.

An accident outside school or in the lane could, potentially, be fatal.

Thank you for your continued support in this matter.

School Uniform

At St. Michael's we take pride in our uniform and expect all children to wear the correct school uniform as follows:

General uniform:

- Burgundy jumper or cardigan (school badge preferred, but optional)
- Grey skirt, pinafore or culottes
- Grey trousers or shorts
- White polo shirt (school badge preferred, but optional)
- Black shoes with appropriate fastening. No trainers, sling-backs or boots.

Summer wear:

- Red gingham dress
- White polo shirt (school badge preferred, but optional) and grey skirt or shorts

PE kit:

- Coloured T-shirt according to the pupil's House assignment. May be blue, green, yellow or red (school badge preferred, but optional)
- Black shorts
- Black joggers
- Black plimsolls or sports trainers