

St Michael and All Angels CE VA School Newsletter

Friday 20th December



Dates for your Diary

Monday 6th January – School re opens 08:40

Wednesday 15th January – KS1 Trip Panto 'Sleeping Beauty'

Thursday 30th January – Candlemas Service in Church 11am parents/cares invited

Friday 14th February – School closes 15:20

Monday 24th February – School re opens 08:40

Wednesday 5th – Tuesday 11th March – Book fair in school

Thursday 6th March – Lent service in Church 11am parents/cares invited

Tuesday 11th March – Parents Evening 15:30-18:00 – Bookings will open w/c 24th Feb

Thursday 20th March – Parents Evening 15:30-18:00 – Bookings will open w/c 24th Feb

Thursday 3rd April – Church Service in Church 11am parents/cares invited

Friday 4th April – School closes 13:30

Tuesday 22nd April – School re opens 08:40

Wednesday 23rd April – KS2 Palace Theatre Trip Manchester 'Mary Poppins'

Thursday 24th April – Easter Service in Church 11am parents/cares invited

Thursday 1st May – Year 5 Trip Tropical World

Monday 12th May – Sports Day PM

Wednesday 14th May – Year 3 Trip Grosvenor Museum Chester

Thursday 15th May – Reserve Sports Day PM

Tuesday 20th May – Year 4 Trip Bolton Abbey

Friday 23rd May – School closes 15:20

Friday 6th June – School re opens 08:40



As we approach the festive season, St Michael and All Angels Primary School has been abuzz with excitement and activity. Our pupils have been engaging in a variety of wonderful events that truly capture the spirit of the season.

Our Key Stage 1 pupils worked tirelessly to perfect their nativity performance. The dedication and enthusiasm they've shown during rehearsals have been truly heartwarming. It's always a joy to see our youngest pupils shine on stage, bringing the timeless story to life with their innocent charm and boundless energy.

The anticipation of Christmas has been palpable throughout the school, with Christmas parties bringing laughter and merriment to every classroom. The highlight, of course, was a very special visit from Father Christmas himself! The wide-eyed wonder and beaming smiles on our pupils' faces as they met the jolly man in red were simply priceless.

In keeping with our school's strong connection to our local church, we held our annual Christmas service. It was a beautiful opportunity for our school community to come together, reflect on the true meaning of the season, and enjoy the festive atmosphere. The service reminded us all of the importance of kindness, compassion, and gratitude - values we strive to instil in our pupils every day.

Our Year 6 pupils spread some Christmas cheer beyond our school walls with a heartwarming visit to a local care home. They delighted the residents with a selection of Christmas carols, showcasing not only their musical talents but also their empathy and community spirit. It was touching to see the joy their singing brought to the elderly residents, bridging generations through the power of music.

Meanwhile, our Year 5 and 6 pupils have been demonstrating their commitment to our local environment by participating in a litter-picking initiative. Their efforts to keep our community clean and tidy are commendable, showing that even small actions can make a big difference. This activity not only benefits our local area but also instils a sense of civic responsibility in our pupils.

As we reflect on these events, it's clear that our pupils continue to embody the values and ethos of St Michael and All Angels. Their enthusiasm, kindness, and community spirit shine through in everything they do. We're immensely proud of their achievements and the positive impact they're making, both within our school and in the wider community.

As we head into the Christmas break, I'd like to thank all our pupils, staff, and parents for their hard work and support throughout this term. Your dedication and enthusiasm make our school the vibrant, caring community it is. Wishing you all a joyful Christmas and a happy New Year!

Staffing Update

I am writing to share some important staff changes that will take place next term at St. Michael and All Angels.

As we move forward, we must say goodbye to several valued members of our team. Firstly, I would like to express gratitude to Mrs. Adams for her support in Year 4. We wish her all the best as she embarks on an exciting new role at a nursery.

We also bid farewell to Janet McAvoy, who has been an integral part of our Year 3 team alongside Mrs. Coffey for the past few years. Janet's sense of humour and unwavering dedication will be greatly missed. We wish her a joyful retirement filled with the joy of looking after her two new twin grandchildren!

Finally, we extend our warmest wishes to Mrs. Farrar as she begins her new journey running a café in Ilkley. We are sorry to see her go, as she has demonstrated commitment and enthusiasm in her role. We wish her the very best in this exciting new chapter of her life and her future endeavours.

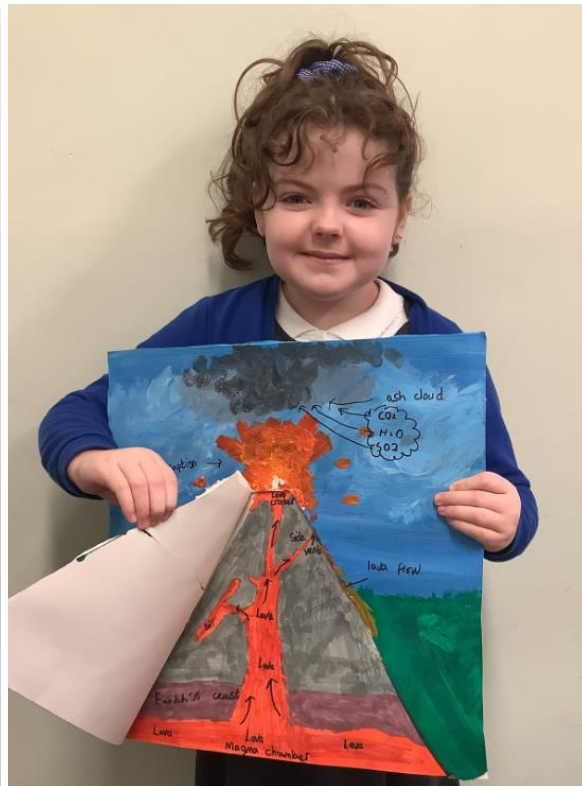
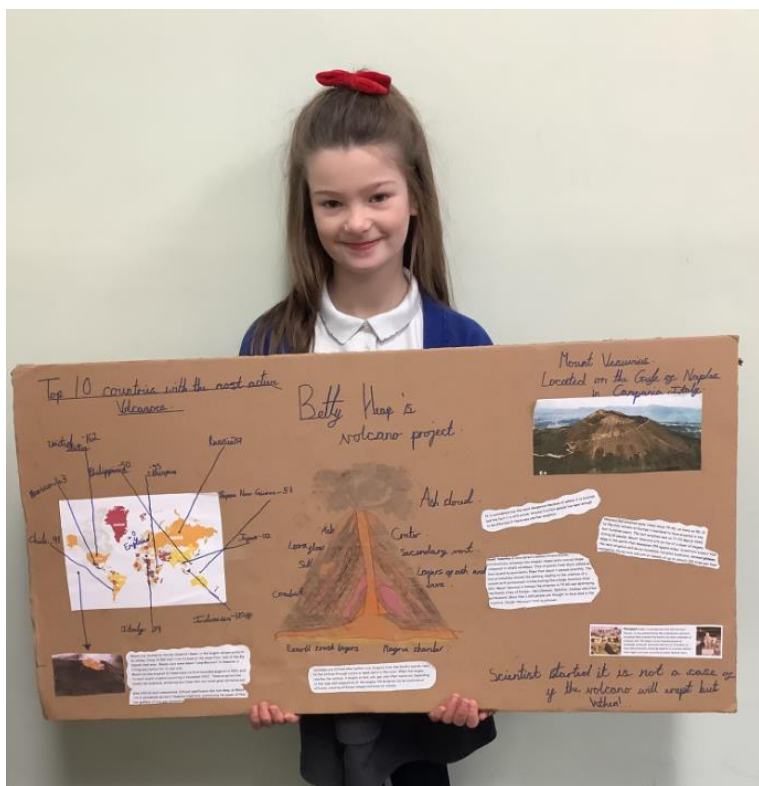
In light of these changes, I am pleased to announce that Mrs. McFarlane will be increasing her time in school to cover the departure of Mrs. McAvoy in Year 3.

Additionally, we are excited to welcome Mr. Liam Fyldes, who will be joining us to teach Year 2. We are excited to welcome him into our school community and look forward to the positive impact he will undoubtedly have. Currently, Mr Fyldes teaches Year 6 at a primary school in Rossendale. The children and parents of year 2 have already had the pleasure of meeting Mr Fyldes on numerous occasions. His positivity and enthusiasm will undoubtedly contribute to our ongoing commitment to enhancing the experience of being a pupil at St. Michael and All Angels School.

Thank you to our "litter busters" who helped tidying the lane and pavements around school



The absolutely outstanding learning logs on volcanoes from year 3! We are so proud of them all!





OPAL Programme

As we wrap up our first term with the OPAL Outdoor Play and Learning Programme, I wanted to extend my heartfelt thanks for your unwavering support. Your efforts in providing wellies and outdoor clothing have been instrumental in allowing our pupils to fully embrace our wonderful grounds, come rain or shine.

I'm particularly grateful for your patience and understanding when your children have returned home with muddy coats and trousers! Starting this project during the most challenging time of the year has been quite an adventure! We've been working diligently to train our pupils on when it's appropriate to play in muddy conditions and when it's best to stay on drier ground and will continue to work on this. I hope the exciting, creative activities your children have participated in at dinnertime have outweighed the task of cleaning the coats!



Representatives from year 6 have been to sing Christmas carols with the residents at Favordale care home in Colne. It was lovely to see the smiles they brought to everyone's faces.





OJ's

Christmas Holiday Dates:

Saturday 21st December Monday 23rd December
 Saturday 28th December Monday 30th December
 Thursday 2nd January Saturday 4th January

We are a charity for children and adults with *autism, learning difficulties and additional needs*. We have a whole family approach and welcome siblings and carers to our sessions.

We run our sessions every other Saturday, plus additional week days in the school holidays.

To book and for more information, visit:

www.ojscare.org



**IT'S SLIME FOR FUN
SEN SESSIONS**

Break Time Sessions
Child / Young Person with SEN only

WHO
Children & Young People with SEN
Age 4-18

WHAT

- Feel good fun
- Crafts, cooking, outdoor play, games
- Acquiring life skills
- Boosting self esteem
- Sense of belonging

Building relationships

US
Experienced Team
- Fellow SEN parents

School Holiday sessions
Saturdays in Term Time

Whitewell Bottom Community Centre
Burnley Road East
Whitewell Bottom
Rossendale
BB4 9LB

Call Klair on
07841744020
or email
slimeforfuninfo@gmail.com

TIME
Break Time and Break Time Plus
Provider

VENUE
Lancashire County Council

BOOK



What is the MyTime to Thrive service?

Barnardo's MyTime to Thrive is an Emotional Health and Wellbeing service working alongside mental health partners using the Thrive model of care for all children in Lancashire and South Cumbria.

OFFERING short term therapy for children and young people struggling with their mental health and wellbeing.

SUPPORTING ages 5-18 and up to the age of 25 for those with additional needs.

DELIVERING counselling and therapeutic interventions, in person, online, individually and in groups.

Find out more

T 01772 505138
 W barnardos.org.uk/get-support/services/lancashire-and-south-cumbria-thrive-service
 E thrivesc@barnardos.org.uk

barnardos.org.uk

Working in partnership
BARNARDOS



**Family
AUTISM
Service**

Is your child seeking or has an autism diagnosis?

Do you live in East Lancashire or Blackburn with Darwen?

Is your child/children under 25 years old?

Are you a parent/carer looking for information, advice and support?

Come along to our:

- Parent Support Group
- Autism Awareness Sessions and workshops
- Cygnet Course
- Social Activities (for families, young people, siblings)
- Emotional Health and Well Being sessions

MAKE A REFERRAL

For more information:
 ☎ 01254 244706 | ✉ autism@canw.org.uk | www.canw.org.uk

Santa's Grotto

Pop into your local Family Hub to meet Santa and collect your free gift


Friday 20th December 1pm - 4pm	Monday 23rd December 12.30pm - 1.30pm	Monday 23rd December 3pm - 4pm
Colne Family Hub Walton Street Colne, BB8 0EL	Nelson Family Hub The Zone, Leeds-Road Nelson, BB9 8EL	Brierfield Family Hub Tunstall Square Brierfield, BB9 5GZ



FAMILY HUBS NETWORK

Warm and Welcome

Starts 11th November



Drop into one of our Family Hubs for free toast and a brew. Chat to other parents in a warm, safe environment, while your children play and read.

Drop in from 9am-5pm

Mondays
Nelson Family Hub/The Zone
Leeds Road, BB9 8EL

Tuesdays
Brierfield Family Hub,
Tunstall Square, BB9 5GZ

Thursdays
Colne Family Hub
Walton Street, BB8 0EL

Drop in from 9am-12pm

Tuesdays
Whitefield Family Centre
Maurice Street, Nelson, BB9 7HS

Or

Barnoldswick Family Hub
Gisburn Road School, Barnoldswick,

We don't turn anyone away. If you need a warm space and a hot drink, please call into any of our centres at any time during our opening

LOOKING FOR THINGS TO DO THIS WINTER?

ARE YOU OR IS YOUR CHILD IN RECEIPT OF FREE SCHOOL MEALS?

HOLIDAY ACTIVITY AND FOOD PROGRAMME 2024

WINTER IN LANCASHIRE: EAT, PLAY, REPEAT!



There's so much to do across Lancashire



Scan me to find out more, or call in to your local Family Hub.

lancashire.gov.uk/events

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Lancashire
County Council



Attendance Matters



Attendance research shows that pupils who attend school regularly are more like to do well in the future. Regular attendance helps children to develop their confidence and to make and keep lasting friendships. Punctuality is also very important. School opens at 8:40am and children must be ready to learn by 8:50am each morning.

Did you know, that being just 15 minutes late each morning means that your child would miss 10 days from school each year?

If your child is absent, please ring school at your earliest opportunity and leave a message on the answerphone. If the attendance of a pupil is low or they are persistently late, parents will be contacted and asked to meet with school staff to see how this can be improved. Support will be offered to both parents and pupils as required. Thank you.

Should I keep my child off school?

Yes

Until...

Chickenpox	at least 5 days from the onset of the rash and until all blisters have crusted over
Diarrhoea and Vomiting	48 hours after their last episode
Cold and Flu-like illness (including COVID-19)	they no longer have a high temperature and feel well enough to attend. Follow the national guidance if they've tested positive for COVID-19.
Impetigo	their sores have crusted and healed, or 48 hours after they started antibiotics
Measles	4 days after the rash first appeared
Mumps	5 days after the swelling started
Scabies	they've had their first treatment
Scarlet Fever	24 hours after they started taking antibiotics
Whooping Cough	48 hours after they started taking antibiotics

No

but make sure you let their school or nursery know about...

Hand, foot and mouth	Glandular fever
Head lice	Tonsillitis
Threadworms	Slapped cheek



SCAN ME

Advice and guidance

To find out more, search for health protection in schools or scan the QR code or visit <https://qrco.de/minfoc>.

COPING AT CHRISTMAS

The Added Pressures of Christmas can be Tough, but it's Important to know there's always Someone you can Talk to...



Call 111 & select option 2 to speak to the NHS Mental Health Crisis Response Service 24/7

Nhs.uk/mental-health



Under 35s can Call 0800 068 4141, Text: 88247 or Email: pat@papyrus-uk.org 24/7

Papyrus-uk.org



Call 116 123 to talk to Samaritans, or email: jo@samaritans.org for a reply within 24 hours

Samaritans.org



Call MIND's Mental Health Helpline 9am to 6pm, Monday to Friday on 0300 102 1234

Mind.org.uk



Text "SHOUT" to 85258 to contact the Shout Crisis Text Line, or text "YM" if you're under 19

Giveusashout.org



Mental Health Forum & Chat for Men from 5pm - midnight every day Call or Whatsapp 0800 585858

Thecalmzone.net

ChristmasCountdown.uk



Safeguarding Concerns

The wellbeing of our children is of paramount importance to all staff. Should any person have a concern regarding a child's wellbeing, please inform one of the school's designated safeguarding team.

DSL Lead Sara Richardson
Deputy DSL Michelle Coffey
DSL Rebbecca Lamb (SENCO)

NSPCC Support

Click on the link for information to support your child regarding mental health.

<https://learning.nspcc.org.uk/research-resources/leaflets/parent-leaflets>

SEND News



British Dyslexia Association

Ten percent of the population are believed to be dyslexic, but it is still often poorly understood. With the right support, the strengths and talents of dyslexic people can really shine.

<https://www.bdadyslexia.org.uk/dyslexia>

Autumn Term 2024
Second Half

The Christian virtue
focus this half term is
trust.



The Growth Mindset
focus is challenge.



"I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life." John 8:12

