



## ***St Michael with St Thomas C of E Primary School***

*Newsletter – Friday 18<sup>th</sup> October 2024*

### **Congratulations Miss Chip!**

A huge congratulations to Miss Chippendale! We are delighted to announce a new member of our school family, Oscar, arrived on Tuesday weighing 8lb 2oz. I am sure you will all join us in sending lots of love to Miss Chip and her family. We can't wait to share photos of his first visit to school!

### **Parent Insight Afternoons**

Thank you to all the parents who attended the parent insight afternoons this week, and for the amazing positive feedback we have received. We are so pleased that you all found the sessions so interesting and how seeing the ways reading is taught in lessons helps you to support your child's reading at home.

### **Autumn Disco Reminder**

**Last shout out** - don't forget to book your place on Arbor for the Autumn Disco to be held on 24<sup>th</sup> October 2024. Please make payment on Arbor **before the 15.00pm, on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> October** to enable us to place a food order. Payment is £5.00 and includes the disco, drinks and a hot dog. There will also be a tuck shop available if children want to bring a small amount of money for extra treats.

**Reception, Y1, Y2 and Y3** disco is from 3:15pm to 4:15pm (children can bring their party clothes to school and get changed in the classroom). Please collect children at the 4:15pm from their usual classroom collection point.

**Y4, Y5 and Y6** disco will be from 4:20pm to 5:20pm and all children will need to be collected by adult at the end of the disco.

**All afterschool clubs, except for wraparound care, will not be running due to the disco.**

### **School Photographs**

Tempest Photography will be visiting our school next week on Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> October. Please can all children come to school in full school uniform and bring their PE kit in bag to change into after their photo if they have PE that day.

### **Poppies**

Remembrance Sunday is a national opportunity to remember the service and sacrifice of those who defended our freedoms and protected our way of life. Y6 will be selling Royal British Legion poppies and snap bands at break and lunchtimes next week.

### **Recycle Week**

The Eco Educators are also asking for lots of plastic bottles and bottle tops for the Art club and are pledging to reuse these to create pieces of artwork and make poppies for Remembrance Day displays. Thank you for your help and support

### **Half Term Reminder**

Just a quick reminder that school finishes for half term next Friday 25<sup>th</sup> October 2024, with all afterschool clubs running as normal during the last week. The second half of the Autumn term begins on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> November 2025. Details of afterschool clubs for the new half term will be sent out, and will be available to book onto on Arbor, from next week.

### **Reception Welcome Blessing**

Parents of Reception children are invited to our Reception Welcome Worship in school on 24<sup>th</sup> October 2024, starting at 9:15am, where we will be officially welcoming our Reception children into our school with a special blessing from Reverend Linda.

### **Reminder – We are a Nut Free School**

Please can we again remind all parents to check what is being put in children's lunchboxes, as we have a child with a severe nut allergy. If children have items containing nuts in their lunchboxes, they will be kept safe by staff and handed back to parents at the end of the day and pupils will be offered lunch from the kitchen. Thank you for supporting us with this.

Looking Ahead:

Here are some important dates for your diaries to help you plan for the next few weeks:

- 21st October – Y5 Parent Insight Session 2:15pm
- 22<sup>nd</sup> October – School Individual Photographs
- 24<sup>th</sup> October – Reception Welcome Worship in School @ 9:15am
- 24<sup>th</sup> October – Autumn Disco
- 25<sup>th</sup> October – End of Term
- 4<sup>th</sup> November – Start of Term
- 7<sup>th</sup> November – Y3 Science and Industry Museum Trip
- 11<sup>th</sup> November – Odd Socks Day
- 14<sup>th</sup> November – Y5 Slavery Museum Trip
- 15<sup>th</sup> November – Children in Need
- 18<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> November – Y5 Bikeability Level 2
- 19<sup>th</sup> November – Reception Balance Bikes
- 19<sup>th</sup> November – Y6 Ancient Egypt Museum visit
- 20<sup>th</sup> November – Y4 Family Worship – Thankfulness 9:00am
- 20<sup>th</sup> November – Y4 Bikeability Level 1
- 22<sup>nd</sup> November – Inset Day
- 27<sup>th</sup> November – Y5 Family Worship – Advent 9:15am
- 27<sup>th</sup> November – Opening Evening 3:30pm and 5:30pm
- 4<sup>th</sup> December – Rec/Y1 Parent Pupil Progress Meetings
- 5<sup>th</sup> December – Y6 Christingle
- 10<sup>th</sup> December – Y5/Y6 Parent Pupil Progress Meetings
- 11<sup>th</sup> December – Y2/Y3/Y4 Parent Pupil Progress Meetings
- 12<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas jumper and dinner day
- 13<sup>th</sup> December – Enterprise Fair
- 16<sup>th</sup> December – Breakfast with Santa (EYFS and Y1)
- 17<sup>th</sup> December – Breakfast with Santa (Y2 and Y3)
- 17<sup>th</sup> December – KS1 Panto and Party
- 18<sup>th</sup> December – KS2 Panto and Party
- 20<sup>th</sup> December – End of Term
- 6<sup>th</sup> January – School Opens

*Please note, these dates are subject to change – please ensure you check them each week for any amendments or additions.*

# Living Our Values

Our Christian Value for this half term is:

**Perseverance**

*"Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart"*

□

FOR YOU HAVE NEED OF ENDURANCE, SO THAT WHEN YOU HAVE DONE THE WILL OF GOD YOU MAY RECEIVE WHAT IS PROMISED.

*Hebrews 10:36*

## St Michael with St Thomas Church

Come and join the Sunday services at our beautiful church! See times below.

Don't forget Children's Church on the first Sunday of every month.



## Holy Communion Service

🕒 Every Second, Third, Fourth, Fifth Sunday at 10:30 a.m. for 1 hour

## Let's Talk About Rights!

This week our Article of the week for you to discuss at home is: Article 31 Every child has the right to rest and play

What does this mean?

- How do children access this right?
- How can duty bearers help to ensure children have this right?

## Article of the WEEK



# Ready, Respectful, Safe!

## Ready



**We are ready to learn,  
ready to listen and ready  
to embrace  
opportunities.**

**We respect our friends,  
our teachers, our visitors  
and all members of our  
community.**

## Respectful



## Safe



**We know how we can  
keep ourselves safe and  
make sure we do all we  
can to keep our school  
family safe.**

Quotes from Miss Slingsby's  
#Positivegossip Book this week:

- Choir for singing so beautifully and giving Dave a wonderful reminder of his brother who loved John Denver, Country Road was his favourite.
- Jack, Toby, Sonny, Niall, Lydia, Alfie, Archie H and Sophie R for being superb role models in worship and demonstrating the actions superbly – Mrs Hogan
- Arthur and James M for being extra sensible during the fire drill yesterday – Mrs Fisher
- Evie F for being so kind & helpful with the younger children. What a role model! – Miss Slingsby
- Y4 for being positive role models during the fire drill
- Paul for doing good and sensible dancing in worship – Mrs Hogan

## Headteacher's Award Winners:

Rec – Logan for super engagement in all lessons

Y1 – Lewis for helping his peers in their learning this week

Y2 – Joseph for always being ready, respectful, and safe

Y3 – Penelope for writing a fantastic narrative sequel

Y4 – Alexa for stunning handwriting and presentation in our writing lesson

Y5 – Annie for the most magnificent use of historical evidence

Y6 – Iyana for such a fantastic first week in Y6 showing such amazing enthusiasm and positivity

## Lunchtime

## Superstars

Rec – Oakah

Y1 – Alayna

Y2 – Noah

Y3 – Penelope

Y4 – Willow

Y5 – Carter

Y6 – Iyana

# Attendance Counts!

#momentsmatter

Whole School Attendance – this year:

96.7%

Whole school attendance – this week:

96.1%

Class attendance winner:

99.4% - Y1

Class Attendance:

Rec – 97.1%

Y1 – 99.4%

Y2 – 94.4%

Y3 – 94.2%

Y4 – 97.8%

Y5 – 93.2%

Y6 – 97.4%



# What Parents & Educators Need to Know about HORROR FILMS & AGE RATINGS

The 'on-demand' availability of streaming platforms in many homes creates extra possibilities for young viewers to be exposed to age-inappropriate content. Material which features horror or violence can cause anxiety and nightmares for children, especially since it can be hard for young ones to grasp that what they're watching isn't real.

## CLASSIFICATION BREAKDOWN

The British Board of Film Classification has the following age ratings:

U: Suitable for all ages

PG: For children aged 8 and above; this content shouldn't unsettle them

12A: Children under the age of 12 should not watch without an adult; this content potentially features bad language, nudity or sexual references

15: Suitable only for 15-year-olds and above

18: Exclusively for an adult audience, with potentially explicit themes of violence, nudity or sex

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

### STREAMING IS EVERYWHERE

Modern mobile devices make it very easy for children to watch streamed films without the need for a TV. The availability of inappropriate content has risen significantly on streaming platforms, almost all of which host 18-rated content. If not restricted by parental controls, this could be viewed by children who aren't quite ready for such adult themes, concepts and imagery.

### FACT VS. FICTION

Many children have no trouble separating fact from fiction. However, with modern day technology making pretend violence and horror look ever more realistic, it's becoming harder for youngsters to tell the difference. For instance, consider remakes of older films, where dated special effects (making it easy to discern that something wasn't real) have been replaced by far more convincing monsters and gore.

### PEER PRESSURE

Friends encouraging each other to watch the latest film featuring violence or horror can lead to children consuming content that they're not ready for. As 18+ content is available on many streaming platforms, youngsters can watch these together – potentially without their parents' or carers' knowledge.

TOO SCARED?

### CHILDREN SCARE DIFFERENTLY

It can be difficult to decide what content is appropriate for children. What's fine for one child could be extremely frightening for another. As many children admit to not sharing or discussing the content they watch with their parents, encouraging an open dialogue around the kind of media that young people consume can help avoid exposing them to any inappropriate content.

### PSYCHOLOGICAL IMPACTS

Horror prides itself on its ability to startle or induce genuine fear in the viewer – so it's no surprise that this genre isn't usually intended for children. A natural side-effect of this is that 'jump scares' or a creepy, suspenseful atmosphere can have lasting effects on younger minds. The resulting anxiety can impact a child's sleeping patterns or eating habits.

## Advice for Parents & Educators

### WATCH THE FILM FIRST

If you're concerned that a film might be unsuitable for children (whether it's their first dive into the horror genre or a step up in age classification), then take a look for yourself. There's no better way to judge whether this content is something you'd deem appropriate for a child – and if a parent, for example, has actually seen the film (or at least a portion of it), they can construct a far more credible case if they decide it's inappropriate.

### REMEMBER – IT'S NOT REAL

Emphasise to children that the content they're viewing is entirely fictional and has no chance of affecting them in real life. If a child is upset after watching a film, try to understand what exactly has unsettled them; this can help you approach the topic in a healthy and informative manner, to dispel any fears or anxieties they may have.

### DISCUSS THE CONTENT OF FILMS

If a child has seen a film that you think may have exposed them to potentially uncomfortable themes and ideas, don't shy away from talking about it, and answer any questions they may have. This is especially important if they watched the film without an adult present. Ask them to summarise the story for you, as this will give you an understanding of what they've learned from watching it.

### USE PARENTAL CONTROLS

Most streaming platforms have the option to put age ranges on children's accounts. This means that films and shows that are inappropriate for children won't be advertised while they're browsing and won't even appear if a child specifically searches for them. This can be changed any time at parents' discretion, but it's wise to protect these settings with a password, so a child can't alter anything on their own.

### Meet Our Expert

John Insley is an assistant principal at a secondary school. He has been involved with e-safety in schools for over 10 years, writing policies and supporting various schools in developing their e-safety provision. John has introduced a range of strategies at multiple schools aimed at helping parents to better support their child in the ever-changing digital world.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

Source: See full reference list on guide page at: <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/horror-films-and-age-ratings>





**St.Michael with St Thomas CE Primary School**

## *Open Evenings 2024*



**Tues 1<sup>st</sup> October at 3:30pm & 5:30pm**  
**Weds 27<sup>th</sup> November at 3:30pm & 5:30pm**

We are open to all parents & carers  
of children whose **birthday falls between**  
**1/09/2020 and 31/08/2021** and are  
therefore eligible for a Reception class  
place in September 2025



# ***Autumn FUN DAY!***

**SATURDAY 19TH OCTOBER  
11.00-1.00PM**

St Michael with St Thomas Church,  
Ditchfield Road, WA8 8XR

***Stalls, Cakes, Raffles & Snacks***

***FREE Childrens Crafts,  
& Pumpkin Patch!***

