



St Michael's Catholic Primary School

With Jesus we can Achieve what we Dream and Believe!

Newsletter 7

Saturday 16th October 2021



Contact Us



Guion Street, Liverpool, L6 9DU



0151 263 8460



contact
@stmichaelscatholic
primary.co.uk



@STMTuebrook



The Parents App



https://
stmichaelscatholic
primary.co.uk/

Diary Dates

Monday 25th –29th October
Autumn Half Term –school closed

Tuesday 21st December
Last day of Autumn Term
School closes at 1:30pm



School is closed on Friday
22nd October until Monday
1st November

Keep In Touch

In the interest of your child's safety and well being we need:

- * a named adult that can be contacted at all times
- * at least 3 up to date telephone numbers
- * a call if your child is absent from school (Press 1 to report a pupil absence)

**IMPORTANT
INFORMATION**

Head Teacher Weekly Message

A Visit from Paula Barker (MP for Wavertree) about the Subway



On Wednesday 13th October we welcomed Paula Barker (MP for Wavertree) and Gill Houghton (Team Lead and PA) to school to meet Year 6 pupils, myself, some staff and a school governor.

She was responding to an email I sent in September, about our ongoing serious health and safety concerns about the subway that leads to our school over West Derby Road. At school we spend a great deal of time reporting it to the council and I have shared in person my concerns with various counsellors over the years. However there has never been any sustained action.

As parents and carers, many of you will be aware that the subway is always in a very poor state. Generally it can be a scary and very unpleasant place to use. Many of our families refuse to use it and take the hazardous crossing over West Derby Road where there is no safe crossing.

Head pupils put together a powerful PowerPoint which they shared, supported by all of the Year 6 children, with Paula and Gill. Year 6 had the opportunity to ask Paula questions about being an MP and life as a politician – questions they asked included..... ***'What are the best bits and hardest bits about your job? How did you get into Politics?'***

Paula and Gill were simply amazed by all of the children and how eloquent and informed they are. The whole of the year behaved impeccably and were outstanding ambassadors for our school.

We then took Paula and Gill to visit the subway, led by a group of children. They were shocked at the state of it.

I will keep you updated about any progress we make with the subway. I am very confident that Paula will use all her political power and influence to bring about a positive improvement with this out of date and unacceptable public highway.

How can parents/carers help? You can report to the council your health and safety concerns about the subway by reporting to the council by following this link. <https://liverpool.gov.uk/environmental-problems/rubbish-and-litter/street-cleaning-form/>





This week in **Collective Worship** we have been exploring our school Mission Values - integrity and honesty. Reflecting on feeling and following their conscience.

Be in school!

Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in life, in love, in faith and in purity. 1 Timothy 4:12

Monday 11th October - Attendance Assembly

Our Father 58:7-8
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.

Our Father
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
Thy Kingdom come; thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Amen.

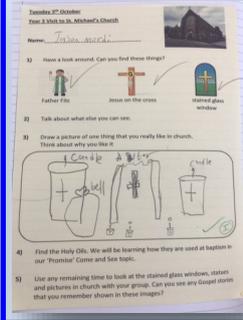
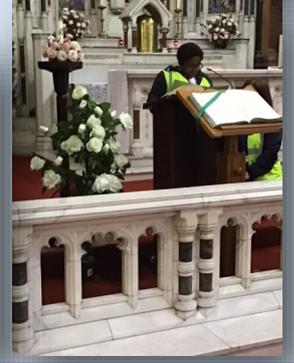
A Story about Homelessness
'Lily and the Paper Man'
Rebecca Upjohn
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=seNeeXyGNIB>

Diversity Equality Aspiration
Diversity Equality Aspiration
My choice of scripture from 'God's Story' or a previous Collective Worship.
Sit quietly for a moment and think about the words from this reading.

Integrity
Be sincere.
Do the right thing.
Treat everyone equally.

Wednesday 13th & Thursday 14th October

On Tuesday Year 3 visited St. Michael's Church. They met Father Fitz, celebrated daily Collective Worship and explored the church.



Prayer Spaces

This week the children have had an opportunity to visit one of 4 Prayer Spaces in school to reflect on how it feels to be homeless, the issues around homelessness and to pray for the homeless. The Prayer Space – A cardboard home – is part of our planned Collective Worship and also part of both our RSHE Curriculum and our SMSC overview. Some classes have Tweeted at #STMRE; further information on Prayer Spaces can be found at prayerspacesin-schools.com.



13.10.2021

Exploring 'A Cardboard Home' Prayer Space



PIC-COLLAG



Read the **Parish of St Michael & Sacred Heart Newsletters** and **The Wednesday Word**

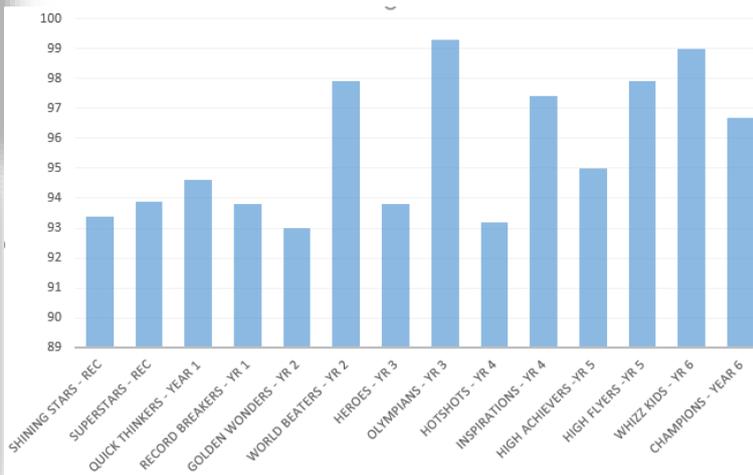
Good News for Families



Another week at Cross Country complete! Wow, wow, wow, we are extremely proud of our talented runners, improving week-on-week and ultimately, never giving up. This week's run was at Clarke's Gardens, and it was a tricky, uphill course, in rainy conditions, but that didn't stop St. Michael's! The children were fantastic sporting ambassadors for our school, striving to do their best and beat their last score. A special mention to Caleb in year 5 who MORE THAN HALVED his place. Simply amazing! Next week's run is on Monday at Newsham Park—please come down and support us if you can. The first race begins at 4:10pm



Attendance – Our attendance is improving but remember our target is 97%!



Well done to the classes who achieved 97% and above and won the mini disco with crisps! Coming soon – Attendance Newsletter



After School Clubs



Monday	Tuesday	Thursday
Football—Years 3 & 4	Football—Years 5 & 6	Dance—Year 2
Dodgeball—Year 6	Choir—Years 4, 5 & 6	Games—Year 3
Music—juniors	Running Club—juniors	Fun Club—Year 2
Fun Club—Year 1		Dodgeball—Year 3
		First Aid—Year 4

Happy Birthday

Khizar Rauf Uzair Sadq
 Reece Carr Isaac Idowu
 Janith Vijay Piper Goodall
 Zuriel Uvwo
 Miss Lawson Miss Higgins

Family Support Dawn Foxon, our school Family Support Worker, is available to talk privately about any concerns or issues.



Call Dawn Foxon 07712235811 email dawn.foxon@liverpool.gov.uk

Is your child in Year 6?

You must complete the online application for secondary school by 31st October.

liverpool.gov.uk/admissions

Click [here](#) for the Transfer Information booklet.

New Secondary School

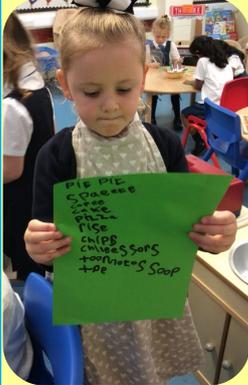




Year 1 Record Breakers



Hello and welcome to the Record Breakers Classroom. We have had an amazing start to our Year 1 journey as a class family. We are loving exploring our new classroom and learning new things every day. Miss McEntee and Miss Ndai are very proud.



Moving from Reception to Year 1 has been smooth as we have continued our journey learning through play. We love exploring the Year 1 shared area and playing in the sand, water, home corner and arts and crafts area.



In Maths we have been exploring how to use a number line. We are super confident with our numbers to 20 and can recognise one more and one less. Using a number line, we have been counting on from one number to the next. We have learnt about greater than and less than and can identify the symbols. We have been practising counting forwards and backwards from 50.



In Art we have been exploring colour and how colour makes our art work pop. We have been sketching, drawing and painting. This week we created our own mosaic designs to display in our classroom.

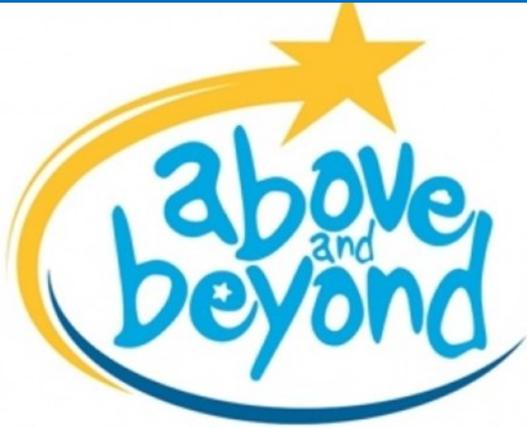
In Science this half term we have spent time exploring our 5 senses. Each week, through practical activities, we have explored one of our senses. We have been tasting, smelling, looking, listening and touching. We have used retrieval practice by making up our own 5 senses song to help us to remember them.



In Geography we have been exploring the 4 countries of the United Kingdom. We are now able to identify England, Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales on a map. We spoke about their capital cities and famous landmarks we would love to visit.



Stay up to date with the Record Breakers class by visiting our class Twitter Page [@RecordBSTM](https://twitter.com/RecordBSTM)



The children below have gone Above and Beyond in school this week. They have been rewarded with a certificate and a hot chocolate with cream, marshmallows and biscuits.

Well done!



Go Green For Harvest!

On Thursday 21st October everyone in school will be invited to wear something green as we celebrate Harvest Festival. We will be asking for a small donation for the CAFOD 'Go Green for Harvest' campaign, which supports communities around the world who are protecting our planet. Watch the clip [here](#) for more information.



CAFOD Catholic Agency for Overseas Development
Watch on YouTube

no one
beyond reach

Eyes Of
The World



Miss Deans interview by prefects Dom and Hewa



What is the best thing about being a teacher?

Making people smile.

What is your favourite subject?

Maths



What do you least enjoy about your job?

When coffee goes cold as I have forgotten to drink it.

What is your favourite colour?

Everton Blue!



What is your favourite movie?

Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs.



What is your favourite sport?

I like watching football and I like to dance.

What is your favourite book?

Alice in Wonderland



SUPPORTING CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH

10 Conversation Starters for Parents

Talking about mental health to children is sometimes hard. To the point that we can put off raising the subject, not wanting to unearth problems or raise overwhelming subjects that we perceive our child is too young or not ready for. But rather than keeping children in the dark, this guide is designed to help you confidently talk about mental health, so they feel comfortable talking about their own worries and end any stigma before it begins.



National Online Safety®

#WakeUpWednesday



1 LISTEN

This sounds obvious, but it is not something we are always great at. Active listening is where we listen without interrupting or making judgements and shows interest in what is being said. If your child feels listened to in the 'smallest of problems' they will become confident that you will listen when the 'biggest of problems' arise.

2 ASK TWICE

The campaign from time to change is great. <https://www.time-to-change.org.uk/support-ask-twice-campaign>. Be tenacious about your child's wellbeing. Children instinctively know when your questions and support come from a place of wanting to help and care.



Are you sure?

3 THERE IS NO SUCH THING AS A STUPID QUESTION

This advice also relates to the first point. If your child can ask you any questions about the smallest of things and you listen and answer without shaming or belittling, then they will have more confidence to ask the biggest of questions.



4 BE OPEN AND HONEST

Children appreciate honesty, particularly if you are having to share information or talk about a difficult subject. For example, you may be talking about death or loss; 'It's very sad that Nana has died' or 'I feel sad that Nana has died'. How you talk about a subject will differ depending on their age and developmental maturity. Talking about death to a younger child for example will be different to that of an older teen, as their experience and understanding of death is different.

5 KNOW WHEN TO SEEK HELP

Assess the severity of the mental health difficulty you are noticing. Is the difficulty making it hard for your child to function regularly throughout everyday life? How frequently is your child affected, how long does it last and how persistent is it? Are they having problems controlling the difficulty? Talk to your child about your concerns and that it is likely they will need further support beyond family and friends.



6 TALK ABOUT MENTAL HEALTH NATURALLY

Speak about mental health as part of everyday life, so that talking about our feelings and those of others is normalised. If the usual 'are you ok?' is not creating an opportunity for dialogue then say something like 'I know when something like that has happened to me I felt like this... is that how you are feeling or are you feeling something else?'

7 EMPATHISE

'It makes sense that you would feel this way, it is understandable'. Children often worry about things that we, as adults, might see as trivial or silly. However, for them at their age and stage it is a big concern and they need our kindness and care when they show their vulnerability and share their worries.



8 HELP YOUR CHILD FEEL SAFE

Teens particularly feel that by talking about their worries or concerns that this will make things worse. Reassure your child that you will discuss a plan of action together and what may or may not need to happen next. If they are a younger child, it is likely you will need to lead the conversation and explain next steps.



9 MIND YOUR LANGUAGE

Be mindful of the language you use at home to describe and talk about mental health. Stigma often arises from misconceptions and a choice of language which is harmful. Using the word 'mental', 'man-up' or other such words in a derogatory way won't encourage your child to talk about their mental health for fear of being belittled.



10 IT IS OK TO SAY 'I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO NEXT'

Adults do not have all the answers but often children think they do. It is ok to acknowledge that what your child is experiencing is not something you have come across before or know anything about, but that you will work it out together and seek help together.



Meet our expert

This guide has been written by Anna Bateman. Anna is passionate about placing prevention at the heart of every school, integrating mental wellbeing within the curriculum, school culture and systems. She is also a member of the advisory group for the Department of Education, advising them on their mental health green paper.



Sources of Information and Support

Your GP

Young Minds <https://youngminds.org.uk/>

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/stress-anxiety-depression/>

<https://www.actionforchildren.org.uk/news-and-blogs/parenting-tips/2016/november/a-simple-guide-to-active-listening-for-parents/>

<https://www.themix.org.uk/mental-health>





Liverpool
City Council

Dear Parent or Guardian

The #OPAL holiday activity programme is a packed half term programme bursting with great activities and delicious meals every day.

Children and young people will be able to access hundreds of activities throughout the half term holidays, including specific provision available for children with SEND or additional needs, at no cost to you. Many of the activity providers are holding Halloween themed week of activities as well as **boxing, trampolining, football, pony riding, music, dance, circus skills, cycling, cooking, climbing, films, gardening, arts and crafts, forest school, photography, trips out, yoga, djing, ice skating** and many other exciting opportunities.

To find out where your nearest scheme is please click on this link - [October Half Term Play and Activities \(OPAL\) – Merseyside Play Action Council](#) or visit www.Merseyplay.com and click on the OPAL link.

When you have chosen an activity, you will need to contact that organisation to book a place. If your child has any additional needs or dietary requirements then please discuss this with the organisation when you book.

Liverpool City Council is working with local schools, voluntary and community organisations, and childcare providers to provide the OPAL programme.

Included is information regarding additional support available for residents who may have been affected by recent events such as changes to benefits, energy price increases, furlough ending or for anyone struggling to make ends meet.

Regards *Sally Dobbing* Sally Dobbing - HAF Project Manager

Additional Support

Benefits advice

Request benefits advice or get help with Universal Credit claims today at www.liverpool.gov.uk/bms or check if you qualify online at www.gov.uk/benefits-calculators. You can also call freephone 0800 028 3697 or visit any One Stop Shop. You can also speak to your landlord if you're a social housing tenant.

Debt

Your local Citizens Advice can help you deal with debt. You can book appointments with the city centre money advice team on 0151 233 2771. Call 0344 848 7700 or visit www.citizensadvice.liverpool.org.uk to find your local office. For details of other organisations go to www.liverpool.gov.uk/debt

Council Tax—Call us today on 0800 028 3686 if you're having problems paying your Council Tax, have Council Tax arrears, are struggling to pay back overpaid Housing Benefit or owe other debts to the council.

Free school meals—Apply today at www.liverpool.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals or call free phone 0800 028 3697 and your family could save over £400 per year and your child's school can receive up to £1,900 additional funding for every eligible child.

Housing—Housing Options provides help and advice if you are homeless or threatened with homelessness. Call us on freephone 0800 731 6844. Visit any of our One Stop Shops – www.liverpool.gov.uk/onestopshops or call 0151 233 3000

Fuel - Our Healthy Homes team can provide free help and advice if you're struggling to pay your fuel bills, and energy saving hints and tips to help keep you warm and your bills low. They may also be able to help with replacement boilers and windows. Visit www.liverpool.gov.uk/housing/fuel-poverty-and-energy-efficiency/ or call them on freephone 0800 0121 754.

Council Tax Support

Council Tax Support helps you pay some of your Council Tax if you are on a low income or claiming certain benefits. You can claim whether you own your home or rent, or whether you're working or unemployed.

Find out more: www.liverpool.gov.uk/benefits/housing-benefits/council-tax-support/

Discretionary Housing Payments

Discretionary Housing Payments (DHP) can give you short term help to pay your rent when Housing Benefit or Universal Credit does not meet your rent in full. You can apply if you receive Housing Benefit or the housing cost element of Universal Credit or there is a shortfall between your rent and benefit entitlement.

Find out more: www.liverpool.gov.uk/benefits/housing-benefits/discretionary-housing-payments/

Liverpool Citizens Support Scheme

If you find yourself in crisis you can apply for support to get food and basic necessities for you and your family including gas and electric vouchers (urgent needs) and furniture and household essentials (home needs). An emergency or crisis might be a fire or flood, or you have had to move due to violence or fear of violence, or you are leaving care or prison and need support to stay in the community.

Find out more: www.liverpool.gov.uk/benefits/help-in-a-crisis/liverpool-citizens-support-scheme/

Foodbanks in Liverpool

Your local foodbank can provide at least three days' emergency food and support to people in crisis. You can get a voucher from your: health visitor, social worker, local citizens advice or charity organisation and take your voucher to your local Trussell Trust foodbank to receive your emergency food. Your local church or community centre may have their own system and you may not need a voucher.

Find out more: www.liverpool.gov.uk/benefits/help-in-a-crisis/foodbanks/

Short-term benefits advance

If you're waiting for your first benefit payment and don't have enough money to cover food and essential items such as rent, gas and electric you can ask your local Job Centre for a short-term advance.

Find out more: www.liverpool.gov.uk/benefits/help-in-a-crisis/short-term-benefit-advance/



Action for Children's Service Update

Date: 14th October 2021

P1) Places available for children to access the Merseyside Junior Mentoring programme within the north of Liverpool.

We are pleased to report that we have places available on our Merseyside Junior mentoring programme for children aged 5 -12 who are of primary school age. Please see the attached link for details of the what the programme entails. We are currently commissioned to deliver the mentoring programme to children who live in the North of Liverpool area. Please contact Julie Riccio (Service Coordinator), details are below if you have a child in mind whom you feel would benefit from the programme.

Please see link for further details: <https://careers.actionforchildren.org.uk/vacancy/senior-volunteer-coordinator--5681-liverpool/5699/description/>

We are recruiting volunteers who would like to mentor a child for 3 to 4 hours a week.

Induction Training dates:

Wednesday: 03/11/21 - 10am till 2pm

Thursday: 11/11/21 – 10am till 2pm

Venue: **To be confirmed**

Lunch Provided: Please specify any dietary or allergies if face to face training is agreed

To apply to be a Volunteer Mentor for Merseyside Junior Mentoring please click [here](#)

Action for Children Parent Talk

Action for Children's support and resource site, providing information, as well as a 1:1 chat function, offering parents and carers the opportunity to speak with one of our Parent Advisors.



parents.actionforchildren.org.uk

Contact: Julie Riccio: Julie.riccio@actionforchildren.org.uk

Mobile: 07866 137784



St Michael's Catholic Primary School

Term Dates 2021-2022



Autumn Term 2021

Term: Thursday 2nd September to Tuesday 21st December 2021

Half term: Friday 22nd October to Friday 29th October 2021 (school closed)

Terms ends: Tuesday 21st December 2021



Spring Term 2022

Term: Wednesday 5th January 2022 - Friday 8th April 2022

Half term: Monday 21st February – Friday 25th February 2022 (school closed)

Term ends: Friday 8th April 2022



Summer Term 2022

Term: Monday 25th April to Tuesday 19th July 2022

Half term: Monday 30th May to Monday 6th June 2022 (school closed)

Term Ends: Tuesday 19th July 2022

May Bank Holiday: Monday 2nd May 2022 (school closed)

Staff Development Days (School closed for pupils)

Wednesday 1st September 2021

Friday 17th September 2021

Friday 22nd October 2021

Monday 28th February 2022

Two extended twilight sessions

Guion Street, Liverpool, L6 9DU. 0151 263 8460 michaels-ao@st-michaels.liverpool.sch.uk



*'With Jesus we can **achieve** what we **dream** and **believe**'*