

St Michael's News



With Jesus we can achieve what we dream and believe.

Autumn Term, 14th November 2025

A note from Mrs Gordon:

Wow, what a brilliant week we have had for Anti-Bullying week 2025. This year's theme is 'Power for Good', and all classes have completed different activities exploring the importance of doing something good to counter the hurt that bullying can sadly cause.

Just to give you a little flavour of what we have been up to (see Class Dojo pages for more details!), we have:

- Worn odd socks to celebrate our differences
- Watched an anti-bullying play and taken part in workshops
- Shown acts of kindness to one another
- Taken part in 'live' lessons with other schools across the country!



This week we have also celebrated Children in Need - thank you for all of your donations. To support this worthy cause, each class has taken part in the CIN Dance Challenge, learning 5 steps each day - ask your child to show you their moves this weekend!

Despite the wet and windy weather, I hope you all have a lovely weekend. Mrs Gordon.



Upcoming events:

- 20/11 - Parents Evening
- 1/12 - 10/12 - Book Fair
- 1/12 - Y3 Advent Assembly
- 4/12 - Whole school book breakfast

St. Michael's Food Bank



We are kindly asking for food donations for our very own St. Michael's Food Bank:

Tinned goods - soup, beans, vegetables

Dry goods - pasta, rice

Biscuits

Cereals

Long-life milk, juice

Teabags and coffee

Please hand in to class

teachers or the school office.



Clubs this half term:

Monday	Chess Club Y5&6 Running Club - KS2
Tuesday	Fun Friends Club Rec Happiness Heroes KS2
Wednesday	Colouring Club Y1 & Y2 Running Club Y6 Girls Football Y5 Creative Writing Clubs Y6 Christmas Book Club Y3 Film Club Y5 Arts and Crafts Club Y2
Thursday	Minnie Vinnies Y5/6 Choir 4/5/6
Friday	LFC Games Y2

Anti Bullying Week



Ms. Gibney
St Michael's Catholic Primary School

13 Nov



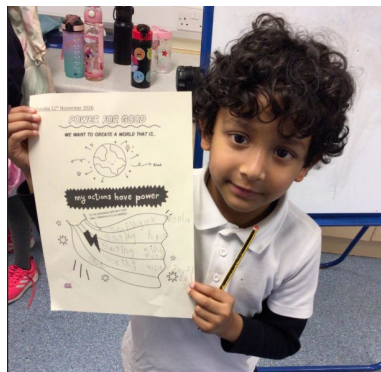
This afternoon we had a special performance from Altru drama company all about bullying. We were reminded that although we may not be the same we are ALL important and valued. 🌟

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Anti Bullying Week



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Weekly Attendance:

R Shining Stars	74%
R Superstars	96.8%
Y1 Quick Thinkers	98.00%
Y1 Record Breakers	94%
Y2 Golden Wonder	95.2%
Y2 World Beaters	92.4%

Y3 Heroes	95.9%
Y3 Olympians	97.8%
Y4 Hotshots	97.3%
Y4 inspirations	98.7%
Y5 High Achievers	98.6%
Y5 High Flyers	93.7%
Y6 Whizz Kids	97.3%
Y6 Champions	96%

Attendance Ladder



Safeguarding:



Mrs Birch

Safeguarding Lead



Miss Sillitoe

Safeguarding Team Member



Mrs Gordon

Headteacher
Deputy Designated
Safeguarding Lead



Jeanette Riley

Safeguarding
Governor



Sarah Reilly

Co- Designated
Safeguarding Lead

If you have any concerns or questions, please speak to a member of the team

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What Parents & Educators Need to Know about AI-GENERATED VIDEOS

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

AI-generated videos are increasingly difficult to spot and easy to share. From fake news clips to deepfake abuse, children and young people face new risks every day online. These videos can imitate real people, spread false narratives or even generate harmful content from scratch. Understanding these dangers is crucial for schools and families who want to protect children in a fast-evolving digital world.

DEEPAKE ABUSE CONTENT

Shockingly, artificial intelligence is now being exploited to create child sexual abuse material (CSAM). These synthetic images and videos are a form of digital abuse, often generated by manipulating real children's photos, including ones shared innocently online. Worryingly, the Internet Watch Foundation (IWF) has identified a sharp rise in this disturbing trend. Whether real or AI-generated, this content causes lasting trauma – and its creation or possession remains a criminal offence under UK law.

BLURRED REALITY

Regular exposure to fake content can erode a child's trust in real-world evidence. If everything can be faked, they may begin to question genuine videos – including actual abuse or injustice. This is known as the 'liar's dividend', where real harm is dismissed as fake news. It can discourage victims from coming forward or speaking up.

USED FOR BULLYING

Deepfake technology is already being used by peers to create embarrassing or explicit clips of classmates. These videos can be edited to appear as though a child said or did something they never did. Once shared, they are almost impossible to delete completely. AI-generated bullying adds a new layer of harm that is deeply personal and difficult to prove.

EMOTIONAL MANIPULATION

AI-generated videos can be used to provoke strong emotions, including fear, anger or guilt. False footage of crying children, injured animals or burning buildings may be created purely for clicks, donations or political influence. Children may feel upset or powerless, unaware that what they are watching has been digitally invented to manipulate their reaction.

DISINFORMATION

AI-generated videos can spread fake news, making it harder for children to separate fact from fiction. False clips may include deepfake interviews, hoax disasters or fabricated health claims. AI is already being used to produce misleading or persuasive material that appears authentic. If they don't develop media literacy, children may accept false content as truth.

IMPERSONATION AND SCAMS

With just a few photos or voice clips, AI tools can imitate someone's appearance or speech. This makes it easier for scammers or bullies to create fake videos of children, teachers or celebrities. These impersonations can be used for fraud, harassment or humiliation – and can spread quickly through social media or group chats, due to the viral potential of video, in particular, on social media.

Advice for Parents & Educators

TEACH HOW IT WORKS

Explain to children that videos can be faked – and show them how. Demonstrating side-by-side examples of real vs AI-generated clips helps to build awareness. Discuss how faces, voices and even movements can be copied by machines. Understanding the technology reduces fear and builds confidence in navigating digital content safely.

TALK ABOUT TRUST

Always keep lines of communication open. If a child sees something upsetting or unbelievable, they should feel safe discussing it without judgement. Create an environment where they know they will not get in trouble for asking questions. This also helps you step in quickly if harmful content has been shared; trust is vital and needs to be nurtured.

ENCOURAGE CRITICAL QUESTIONS

Help children question what they watch. Who made this? Why was it made? Is it trying to persuade me? These habits encourage digital thinking, especially when videos seem too shocking or convenient. Reinforce that not everything shared by friends or influencers is true, even if it looks convincing at first, and that the initial approach should always be one of speculation.

STRENGTHEN PRIVACY SETTINGS

Advise children not to share voice notes, selfies or personal videos on public platforms. AI tools often scrape content from social media to create deepfakes. Use privacy controls to limit who can see their content and turn off facial recognition where possible. Fewer public images means fewer opportunities for misuse.

Meet Our Expert

Brendan O'Keeffe is a headteacher and digital education consultant with over a decade of experience in education. As Director of Digital Strategy across multiple schools and an advisor to The National College, he specialises in digital safety, PREVENT, and pastoral care.



#WakeUpWednesday®

The National College®

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Save the date:

Autumn term 2 dates – 2025/2026

Date	Activity/Event	Time and Location
Tuesday 4 th November	Flu vaccinations	During school day
Thursday 20 th November	Parents' Evening	3:30pm – 6:30pm
Monday 1 st December until Monday 8 th December	Book Fair	3:30pm – 3:50pm in Junior Hall – card payments only
Monday 1 st December	Year 3 Advent One Assembly	9:15am in Junior hall
Thursday 4 th December	Whole-school Book Breakfast	8:15am in Junior hall
Monday 8 th December	Year 4 Advent Two Assembly	9:15am in Junior hall
	KS1 and Reception disco	After school until 4:30pm in Infant hall
Tuesday 9 th December	KS2 disco	After school until 4:30pm in Junior Hall
Wednesday 10 th December	Year 1 & 2 Nativity	9:15am in Junior hall
Thursday 11 th December	Christmas Jumper Day Christmas Dinner Day EYFS & KS1 Father Christmas visit	During school day
Friday 12 th December	Reception Nativity	9:15am in Infant hall
Monday 15 th December	Year 5 Advent Three Assembly	9:15am in Junior hall
	KS2 Christmas Craft workshop	2:15pm in Infant hall
Tuesday 16 th December	Whole-school Pantomime visit No afternoon nursery on this day	1:15pm at Echo Arena, returning to school around 4:15pm (time tbc)
Wednesday 17 th December	KS1 and Reception Christmas Craft Workshop	2:15pm in Infant hall
Thursday 18 th December	Year 6 Advent 4 and Nativity	9:15am in Junior hall
Friday 19 th December	Finish for Christmas Holidays	1:30pm

Please note the change in date for the Pantomime. This will now be on the afternoon of **Tuesday 16th December**.

[Click HERE to give permission and pay](#)



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Term Dates 2025-2026

Autumn Term 2025 Term: Wednesday 3rd September–Friday 19th December

- **Pupils: Autumn Term 1** – Wednesday 3rd September to Wednesday 22nd October
 - **Half term: Thursday 23rd October to Friday 31st October**
 - **Pupils: Autumn Term 2** – Monday 3rd November to Friday 19th December
- Terms ends: Friday 19th December 2025

Spring Term 2026 Term: Monday 5th January – Wednesday 1st April

- **Pupils: Spring Term 1** – Monday 5th January to Friday 13th
 - **February Half term: Monday 16th February – Friday 20th February**
 - **Pupils: Spring Term 2** – Monday 23rd February to Wednesday 1st April
- Term ends: Wednesday 1st April 2026

Summer Term 2026 Term: Monday 13th April to Tuesday 21st July

- **Pupils: Summer Term 1** – Monday 13th April to Friday 22nd
 - **May Half term: Monday 25th May to Friday 5th June**
 - **Pupils: Summer Term 2** – Monday 8th June to Tuesday 21st July
- Term Ends: Tuesday 21st July