



St Michael's Pre-school - Newsletter

We hope you have all had a wonderful summer break and are looking forward to what's planned for your children at St Michael's Pre-school for the Autumn Term. May I also take this opportunity to welcome all our new children and their families to our pre-school.

Pre-school Telephone Number

The pre-school telephone number is - **07501 656410**. Please contact this number for anything to do with pre-school. This mobile phone will be held by either Maggie or Tina.

Please call this number when your child is not attending session, if you are going to be late to pick up or have made alternative arrangements for your child's collection. **Please remember if somebody else is picking your child up they will need the password you have given on your child's registration form.**

Pre-school Email Address

The pre-school email address is: preschoolstmichaels@outlook.com

Absence

If your child is absent and we do not receive notification from you, for Safeguarding reasons we will contact you after 10 am. If we cannot get hold of you we will on the second day of absence contact the Emergency contact that you have supplied us with. As set out in our Absence policy, holidays, festival days etc are all treated as Authorised Leave.

Fees

As outlined in our Parent Agreement fees are payable even if your child is unable to attend due to holiday/sickness. Please ensure your child's name is part of the reference details when making payment by transfer. This helps in identifying payments made.

Lunch Club

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Helping children to develop social skills, to learn through play and be caring to others

Lunch club is held on Monday, Wednesday and Thursday from 12.15pm to 1.15pm. All children are welcome. Please speak to Maggie or Tina if you would like your child to try lunch club or if you have any questions.



We can only provide lunch club if there are two or more children staying. If your child is entitled to 15 hours government funding, lunch club will be included in those hours. If your child is not funded they can still stay for an extra £5 per lunch club.

Please can we ask that you provide your children with a healthy packed lunch i.e. a sandwich/pasta, a piece of fruit and a yogurt. Water will be available at all times.

PLEASE NOTE: We do have a child with a nut allergy attending the setting so it is extremely important that you do not put any foods/drinks containing nuts in your child's lunchbox . We would also ask you to try and refrain from giving your child any food containing nuts for breakfast on the days they are attending pre-school. We apologise for any inconvenience this may cause but the safety and well-being of all our children is of the utmost importance to us.

Snack

We would appreciate a weekly contribution of £1.00 to help towards giving the children a healthy snack. Please put this in the box in reception.



Labelling

Please label children's sweatshirts, coats, wellington boots and hats.

Suitable Clothing and Footwear



We kindly request that children attend the session in suitable clothing for messy play activities and self-toileting (i.e. easy to pull down and up). We also request that they wear appropriate footwear; trainers are ideal.

Please provide a spare set of clothes in the named yellow bag. This is in case of toileting accidents but also children may get wet from water play. The bag **MUST** be taken home each week as the hall caretaker does not want personal belongings left in the hall over the weekend/holidays. We do like to let the children play outside in all weathers (unless very extreme) so would very much appreciate it if you could leave a pair of named wellies for them at pre-school. These can be stored away over the weekend,

Morning Drop-off



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Parents/carers need to make sure children are dropped off to pre-school at 9.15am. We will be starting our morning mat time where children sit on the carpet to say hello, talk about the pre-school 'rainbow rules' and find out what activities are available for them.

Book Exchange and Self Registration

Please encourage your child to choose a book from the box in the kitchen in the morning as well as find their photo and post it into the post box. This helps them to develop independence as well as getting them ready for nursery/reception where they will be expected to find their name and self-register.



Parent Consultations

At St Michael's Pre-School we operate an **OPEN DOOR POLICY**. This means, you should feel comfortable in approaching your child's key worker/Maggie or Tina to share information about your child. The Learning Journey is for you to see what your child is achieving at the setting, you are welcome to take the Learning Journey home to share with family/friends - all we ask is that you let the key worker know, take good care of it and return it so that the key worker can carry on working on it.

As well as the above you are welcome at any time to make an appointment with your child's key worker to have a parent consultation. The appointment will be arranged for a mutually convenient day. All consultations will be on a day your child attends the setting. You will have time to speak with the key worker whilst your child is occupied in session.

Facebook



As some of you may be aware St Michael's Pre-school now has a Facebook page. This will be regularly updated with key dates and events happening in pre-school. From time to time we will put pictures up of various activities that your children are involved in. For those of you who are not on Facebook you will be kept regularly updated via email.

Communication

Please keep an eye on emails/facebook as we tend to mainly communicate any messages or updates through this media. As stated you are always welcome to talk to any one of us at any time. However, if it is just a general query please feel free to email as these are checked regularly. Please do not hesitate to speak to a member of staff if you have any queries or concerns.

ROSIE & JIM - OUR PRE-SCHOOL BEARS

Your child will at some point during this half term be given Rosie or Jim to take home overnight. Both bears have pyjamas and a tooth brush and your children are encouraged to look after them during their visit. We do provide a book for you to maybe write a short note of what the bears have done during their visit or your child could just draw a picture. Please do not feel under pressure to write an essay! I know you all lead very busy lives.

ACTIVITY BAGS

We have five activity bags which will be given out to children on a Thursday for them to keep over the weekend and bring back Monday. These will contain maybe a game to encourage Maths or playdough to encourage fine motor skills etc.

Dates for your Diary:

THURSDAY 26TH SEPTEMBER 2019 - MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING

We will be holding a Macmillan Coffee Morning at the pre-school. This will give you an opportunity to meet up with other parents whilst supporting a good cause. Further details to follow.

ROAD SAFETY WEEK

WEDNESDAY 18TH NOVEMBER TO TUESDAY 24TH NOVEMBER 2019

Working together with the charity BRAKE, the children will be taken out in small groups and taught how to keep safe when crossing the road. Further details to follow.

Term Dates - This is an 8 Week Half Term

AUTUMN TERM: Open Day/Settling In for New Children 4/5 Sept 2019.

TERM DATES FOR 2019/2020 SCHOOL YEAR

9th September 2018:	ALL CHILDREN RETURN TO PRE-SCHOOL
HALF TERM:	28/10/2019 TO 01/11/2019 (Return on Mon 4th Nov)
CHRISTMAS BREAK:	23/12/2019 TO 03/01/2020 (Return on Mon 6th Jan)
HALF TERM:	17/02/2020 TO 21/02/2020 (Return on Mon 24th Feb)
EASTER BREAK:	06/04/2020 TO 17/04/2020 (Return on Mon 20th April)
HALF TERM:	25/05/2020 TO 29/05/2020 (Return on Mon 1st June)
SUMMER BREAK:	LAST DAY OF TERM THURSDAY 16th JULY 2020

TRAINING

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Seven out of our eight staff hold a First Aid Paediatric Certificate and all staff (apart from our new employee Sophie) have had up to date Safeguarding training. Sophie will be undertaking her training within the next couple of months. Our Designated Safeguarding Leads are Maggie, Tina and Lesley and the Designated Leads in Child Protection are Maggie and Tina.

NOTICEBOARDS

Please do check our noticeboards situated in the Reception area for information.

Finally, we pride ourselves on the close relationship we have with our parents/carers, so please if at any time you have any worries or concerns please feel free to come and talk to us. We will always make time for you.

With thanks

Maggie & The Pre-school Team