



St Michael's Pre-school - Newsletter

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome all our children back to pre-school. It is so lovely to see you all and we are so impressed at how well you have all settled back into pre-school life. We would also like to welcome our new children **Ada, Amber, Amelie, Brooke, Caelan, Dylan, Edward, Lacey, Lawson, Nicola, Ruby, Ryan, Sophia and Willow.**

We also have a new member of staff **Susan Salter (Sue)**. Sue previously worked at St Michael's Pre-School from 2008 to 2017. She left to explore pastures new but decided that she missed the children (and the staff!) too much ☺ Sue is an experienced Pre-School Practitioner and will be a real asset to our team. Sue will also be the setting's Senco (Special Educational Needs Co-Ordinator).

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.

Policies and Procedures

Our policies and procedures are on our website and hard copies can normally be seen in the Reception area. However, as you are currently unable to enter the premises these will be available for you to see outside from next week in our new Reception area (Gazebo)! You will all have been sent a copy of our Covid-19 Policy and Risk Assessment, please do read this as it does contain some important information. If you require a hard copy of any of our policies please ask Maggie or Tina.

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

Lunch club is held Monday - Friday from 12.00pm to 1.00pm. 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.



If your child is entitled to 15 hours government funding, lunch club can 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. For extra safety, grapes, cherry tomatoes, cocktail sausages etc should be cut into quarters.

We do not currently have any children with a known nut allergy attending but we do ask that you refrain from giving your child any foods containing nuts in their lunch box.

Drinks Bottles

Due to the Coronavirus and the need to keep children as germ free as possible we are asking parents to bring in a **NAMED** bottle of water for their child which will be available for them throughout the session.

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 on the table in the Reception area (Gazebo).



Labelling

Please label children's sweatshirts, coats, wellington boots and hats. Many children have the same coats etc and it does make our job incredibly hard trying to find out what belongs to who.

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 (with Velcro) are ideal.

Please provide a spare set of clothes in the named yellow bag (including trainers/plimsolls if possible). 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,

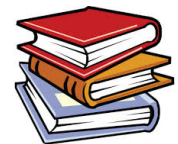
Morning Drop-off



I do understand that currently some of the children have siblings at schools with staggered start times. However, where possible please drop your child at pre-school for 9.00 am. 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

Sadly due to the current pandemic parents are not allowed into the pre-school. We do not want this to disadvantage the children in any way so we will be starting a self-registration system with the children over the next few weeks. 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. We will also be encouraging them to choose a reading book to take home once a week



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. We have just started to use a new online system (Tapestry) for sharing information with parents. Further details of this will be sent out shortly.

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. We would very much appreciate it if you would like to leave a review on our page

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.

Staff Training

Currently five out of our eight staff hold a First Aid Paediatric Certificate and all staff have had up to date Safeguarding training. Further Paediatric training for all staff will be undertaken in December 2020. Our Designated Child Protection and Safeguarding Leads are Maggie and Tina.

Rosie & Jim Pre-School School Bears/Activity Bags

Due to the current situation we are not sending home the Pre-School Bears or Activity Bags but we are hoping to re-start this after half-term.

Noticeboards

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

Dates for your Diary:

**NATIONAL NURSERY RHYME WEEK
MONDAY 16TH TO FRIDAY 20TH NOVEMBER 2020**

Also that week is:

**ROAD SAFETY WEEK
MONDAY 16TH TO FRIDAY 20TH NOVEMBER 2020**

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 7 Week Half Term

AUTUMN TERM: Open Day/Settling In for New Children 4/5 Sept 2020.

TERM DATES FOR 2019/2020 SCHOOL YEAR

7th September 2020:	ALL CHILDREN RETURN TO PRE-SCHOOL
HALF TERM:	26/10/2020 TO 30/10/2020 (Return on Mon 2nd Nov)
CHRISTMAS BREAK:	21/12/2020 TO 01/01/2021 (Return on Tues 5th Jan)
HALF TERM:	15/02/2021 TO 19/02/2021 (Return on Mon 22nd Feb)
EASTER BREAK:	29/03/2021 TO 09/04/2021 (Return on Mon 12th April)
HALF TERM:	31/05/2021 TO 04/06/2021 (Return on Mon 7th June)
SUMMER BREAK:	LAST DAY OF TERM FRIDAY 16th JULY 2021

Finally, we pride ourselves on the close relationship we have with our parents/carers. 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