



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 **Alfie, Amani, Billy, Cian, Clementine, Elliot, Erin, Elsie Mae, Fiadh, Freddie, Florence, Gina, James, Joey, Jordan, Karla, Mathilda, Melissa, Noah, Orla, Reuben, Rory and Ruby.**

We would also like to welcome a new member of staff **Charlene O'Brien** who will be undertaking her Level 3 Apprenticeship with us. Also congratulations to **Sue** who successfully completed her Level 3 Senco (Special Educational Needs) training in the Summer term.

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 or Lesley.

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 you will need to let us know and 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 be seen in the Reception area. We do ask new parents to please read the Safeguarding Policies you were given on the Open Day. If you would like a hard copy of any of our policies please ask Maggie or Tina.

Covid-19

As you know the **Government Guidelines for Covid-19** have now changed. We ask all parents to be mindful of personal space. You are no longer required to wear a mask but can do so if you wish. If a child is displaying any symptoms of coronavirus, we will ask you to come and collect them and advise they have a PCR test. If someone in your household has tested positive for coronavirus, we ask that the child/children of that household do not attend the setting. Although children under 18 do not have to isolate they are more likely to become infected if living with an infected person. This decision has been made to protect our staff, children and their families and to prevent any possible temporary closure of the pre-school as a result of staff being off.

Drop Off/Pick Up

We will still continue to welcome your children at the door in the mornings. However, you are now welcome to come into the foyer at pick-up time. If the foyer is looking crowded please remain outside until some parents have left.

No Smoking, Vaping or Mobile Phones

For the safety of the children we wish to remind you that at St Michael's Pre-School our policies state that there may be NO smoking, vaping or use of mobile phones once you arrive through the pre-school gates. Thank you for working with us to keep everyone safe.

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 should be cut into quarters and cocktail sausage are cut lengthways.

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.

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.



Labelling - VERY IMPORTANT

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 blue bag (including trainers/plimsolls if possible). Our cloakroom area cannot accommodate large rucksacks. 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.

Nappies

Please could you only put your child in pull-ups if they are actively toilet-training.

Morning Drop-off



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. Children often find it quite unsettling when they come into the session late.

Book Exchange and Self Registration

We will shortly be letting the children choose a book to take home. This will be on the last day that they attend each week and we ask that you return it the following 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.

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 time/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 six out of our seven staff hold a First Aid Paediatric Certificate and all staff have had up to date Safeguarding training. **Our Designated Child Protection and Safeguarding Leads are Maggie and Tina and our Senco is Susan Salter**

Rosie & Jim Pre-School School Bears

After half term we will be sending home our pre-school bears to spend an evening with the children.

Noticeboards

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

Dates for your Diary:

WEAR PINK FOR BREAST CANCER DAY

Friday 22nd October 2021

FUNDRAISING FOR CHILDREN IN NEED

Friday 12th November 2021

ROAD SAFETY WEEK

15TH TO 21ST NOVEMBER 2021

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 1/2 Sept 2021.

TERM DATES FOR 2020/2021 SCHOOL YEAR

8th September 2020:	ALL CHILDREN RETURN TO PRE-SCHOOL
HALF TERM:	25/10/2021 to 29/10/2021 (Return on Mon 1st Nov)
CHRISTMAS BREAK:	20/12/2021 TO 04/01/2022 (Return on Wed 5th Jan)
HALF TERM:	14/02/2022 TO 18/02/2022 (Return on Mon 21st Feb)
EASTER BREAK:	04/04/2022 TO 19/04/2022 (Return on Wed 20th April)
HALF TERM:	30/05/2022 TO 03/06/2022 (Return on Mon 6th June)
SUMMER BREAK:	LAST DAY OF TERM FRIDAY 15th 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