



**Our value for the month of January is Peace.  
'Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall  
be called children of God.' Matthew 5:9**

### New Year Challenges

I set the children some New Year Challenges this week and we had a competition in assembly where six brave children were challenged in pairs on word association based on; Winter, New Year and Time. It was like 'word tennis' and lasted for 1 minute, which is a long time when you are in front of the school, thinking hard! Well done to all the children who took part.

We considered the challenges that faced Moses and the Israelites whom escaped from Egypt, leaving their lives as slaves and servants behind. I was impressed with the children's knowledge about this.

### Great Fire of London Day

On Tuesday, Cherry Class (Year 2) took part in a Great Fire of London workshop. They all dressed up and were transported back in time, to 4am on 2nd September 1666. They learnt all about The Great Fire of London and became apprentices for the day. They had opportunities to make bread, candles, use quills to write, make button moulds and work as an apothecary (chemist). During the afternoon, the children had to dig for some of the treasures buried and explore which shops they might have belonged to. They found out many interesting facts. The class would like to thank all the parent helpers who supported them in their fantastic day. These living History days do really bring to life and immerse the children in the period they are studying.



### Year 4 Indoor Athletics Event

Some children from Elm class went to Gosling to take part in an indoor athletics festival. All of the children tried their best at a variety of track and field events and they certainly excelled at cheering for their friends! Thank you to Miss Prentice, Mrs Cox and Mrs Golding for accompanying the children. The children who stayed in school helped in Willow Class (Year 1) for part of the afternoon with a variety of reading activities. Thank you to them.



### Maths at St Michael's

Yesterday we sent out a ParentMail about Maths Workshops. We would like these to be of value for you and are therefore asking for your input before we begin to plan the sessions. Please return the form as soon as you are able to.

Years 4-6 have access to an online times table website called 'Times Table Rock Stars'. We are trialling this now and would appreciate your feedback before deciding whether to purchase it. Children in these year groups have been given details of how to logon, so please encourage them to begin practising.



### Termly Curriculum Overviews

These have been sent out as paper copies, via the children. They will also be on the website

### Our New Post Box



I trust you have located our new post box, outside the front entrance! We hope that this will lessen the queuing at the School Office. If you need to drop off slips/money please put them in an envelope with the information written clearly on the front and post them in the box. It will be emptied at regular intervals during the day.

Just a reminder that when your child is absent, the office need a phone call/message left first thing in the morning to give a reason.



### 'Readathon' and Sponsored Trundle

This week on Thursday, our children in Sycamore are taking part in their Sponsored Trundle. Weather permitting; the event will take place at 9:15 am on the roadway on the playground. We will be serving tea/coffee for parents and carers afterwards in the hall and the children will be presented with certificates.

The following Monday the children in Years 1-6 will bring their 'Readathon' books into school. On the Tuesday, children will be engaged in follow up activities throughout the day to do with the book they have been asked to read and donate to their class.

Thank you for your support with both these events.

### What's On:

- 17.1.'18 - Beech Class (Year 5) Indoor Athletics
- 18.1.'18 - Sycamore Class (Reception) Sponsored Trundle (am)
- 22.1.'18 - 'Readathon' books to assembly please
- 23.1.'18 - Readathon follow up day
- 24.1.'18 - Year 6 SATs meeting in Oak 9am  
Oak Class (Year 6) Indoor Athletics
- 26.1.'18 - Sycamore (reception) School Nurse  
Road Safety Final Year 6 Team
- 30.1.'18 - Redwood Class trip to Welwyn Roman Baths
- 8.2.'18 - Redwood Class assembly 2:45pm
- 12.2.'18 - 16.2.'18 HALF TERM

### Good Work Assembly

Congratulations to the following children, who shared their work in Thursday's assembly. We enjoyed seeing their drawings, poems and writing.

- Willow:** Tom
- Cherry:** Zach
- Elm:** Jake
- Beech:** Emel
- Oak:** Phoebe & Elvin

Congratulations to the following children in **Redwood** who were given their pen licences:  
Megan, Josh, Lucas, Zion & Daisy

Congratulations to the following musicians who have passed Grade 1 flute or descant recorder exams: Tabby & Harriet (flute), Aleks & Gracie (descant recorder)

### Attachments:

- Scam Warning
- Lego Masters