



Our value for the month of December is 'Love'  
'For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.' John 3:16

#### St Michael's Choir sings with Knebworth Community Chorus

On Saturday 9th December 2017, our choir joined Knebworth Community Chorus for their 'Carols for Christmas' concert. They sang beautifully, and received many compliments from both the audience and the Community Chorus. Thank you to Mrs Hewitt and Mrs Wadey for all their hard work in training the children. Thank you to all the parents who supported them. In the second half, there were performances from some of St Michael's instrumentalists, Isabelle



and Harriet played a recorder duet, by Vivaldi, William played two pieces on the piano and Megan two pieces on the violin. It was lovely to welcome back a former St Michael's pupil Erine, now in Y7 at Monks Walk, who performed a flute duet with Mrs Hewitt. The children played very well and received terrific applause from the audience!

Thank you St Michael's choir, who have had a very busy couple of weeks, singing at the Winter Wonderland, both Carol Services, the above concert and this week they performed in a community concert at Monks Walk School.

#### Website

Please look at the website for more photos of Christmas events over the past couple of weeks.

#### Cup Stacking Team from Elm Class (Year 4)

Last Friday, Miss Prentice and I took two teams to a cup stacking competition to decide which school would represent the County. St Michael's were representing the Monks Walk Partnership Team.

Speed stacking is an individual and team sport that involves stacking plastic cups in specific sequences in as little time as possible. The cups are designed to allow for fast times and in the Welwyn and Hatfield finals last week there were children completing 3-3-3 and 3-6-3 stacks (plus demolition) in just 3 seconds! Our teams were placed in 5th and 7th but (as you can see from the photos) their precision and focus could not be faulted. Another strong team performance, well done! Thank you to Miss Prentice for organising the event and thank you to the parents that helped with lifts.



#### Severe Weather Conditions Reminder

It was very useful on Sunday evening to be able to use the County Notification System and I know that many of you signed up for this. It is a good system to be part of and covers all schools that your children go to, primary and secondary. The process is very simple and only takes a few minutes, but please follow the instructions carefully and select your children's schools individually.

Sign up now to receive messages via the Everbridge Schools Closure Notification System:

<https://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/services/schools-and-education/at-school/emergency-school-closures/emergency-school-closures.aspx>

Thank you to all of you for your patience in the challenging weather conditions we have experienced. Our aim is to keep both children and staff safe, which is why we had the slightly different start to the day on Tuesday.



#### Nativities and Carol Service



It has been a very busy, but enjoyable week. Despite the 'snow day' and icy pavements, Reception and KS1 put on fantastic performances at the Village Hall. The Year 2 children spoke clearly and all the children sang beautifully. KS2 had their final Carol Service yesterday evening. The Year 6 children led the service confidently and all the children sang their class songs brilliantly. The highlight for many of us was the rendition of 'Gloria' sung in a round and unaccompanied, just wonderful. The collection after the service totalled over £180 and we will be donating this to the NSPCC, as a thank you for the assemblies and workshops earlier this term. The Christmas Post donations will also be sent to the NSPCC. Money collected at the Nativity Performances will be used to buy new costumes for next year.

Thank you to all parents and carers for their support and help at this very busy time of year. We are very grateful and of course happy to take feedback on all our Christmas events.

#### Hanukkah in Redwood

Redwood Class were very lucky to have Mrs Hewitt come in to class to share the story of Hanukkah. This is a Jewish



celebration which started this Tuesday and continues for eight nights. Mrs Hewitt talked to us about the Hanukkah and Rachel showed us the candles which they light. Jewish people celebrate the miracle of the oil and eat fried foods - we all shared doughnuts! Thank you Mrs Hewitt.

A very Happy Hanukkah to all our Jewish families.

#### Thank you

I would like to say a personal thank you to all the staff for their hard work this term. It has been a long term and I am sure, like the children, we are ready for a rest and re-charge. Thank you to Governors and parents for all your support this term as well.



Have a very Happy Christmas and I look forward to welcoming you all back in 2018!

#### Good Work Assembly

Congratulations to the following children, who shared their work in Thursday's assembly.

**Willow:** Olivia & Isla

**Redwood:** Zion

**Elm:** Grace

**Beech:** Jasmine

**Oak:** Leo & Harriet

#### Afternoon Tea

The following children will be joining me for afternoon tea on Monday:

Zia & Oscar (Sycamore), Dawoud & Harry T (Willow), Lucia & Edward (Cherry), Jared & Isla (Redwood), Samuel & Kenan (Elm), Lois & Amy (Beech), Matthew & Abbi (Oak).

Congratulations to these children for achieving the most gold stickers in their classes this half term,

#### What's On:

**18.12.'17-Music Assembly (9:15am)**

**19.12.'17-School finishes at 1:30pm**

**4.1.'18-School begins**

#### Attachments:

Dates for Spring Term

Clubs for next term

Dance Club form

Football Club form