



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

School Improvement

It has been a very busy week. On Monday, we had our School Improvement Partner (SIP), Rachel Kirk in school for our Joint Annual Review Visit (JARV). She spent the morning in classes, from Reception to Year 3, with a focus on phonics and writing. We also looked at writing in KS2 topic books, listened to readers, and talked to children in Reception and KS1. The children we had the privilege of talking to were very articulate and keen to share their thoughts about their learning. This was a real pleasure.

During the day on Wednesday, we were lucky to have Mr John Fowler in school, working with children in Reception, Year 2 and 3. He is passionate about learning in general, but especially writing. The children in Sycamore (Rec) looked at the story of Mrs Wishy Washy, Cherry Class (Yr.2) did *The Three Billy Goats Gruff* and Redwood (Yr.3) were looking at the features for a report. Ask the children about their very active English lessons. The staff had some follow up training at the end of the day. John is coming back to St Michael's in February to work with the other classes and staff.



'Readathon' and Sponsored trundle

On Thursday, despite the windy weather, our children in Sycamore (Rec) took part in their Sponsored trundle. It was lovely to see how excited the children were to take part in this event and they all completed 10 laps of the roadway on the

playground. Thank you to all the parents and carers for supporting the event in some very cold conditions. The children were rewarded with certificates and the adults a hot cup of tea or coffee! Thank you to all the reception staff for organising the trundle. Please collect in the sponsor money and either hand into the office or to a member of the reception staff. Miss Tobin has her heart set on a mud kitchen for the children, so let us raise as much money as we can.



The children in Years 1-6 are bringing their 'Readathon' books into school, ready for assembly on Monday. Each book will have a sticker in the front, with the date and name of the child who has donated it. On Tuesday, the children will be engaged in follow up activities throughout the day based on their book. Other children in the class will then be able to use the books. Thank you as always for your support with both these events.

Indoor Athletics Competition

Children from mostly Year 5, with a few Year 4s, took part in an indoor athletics competition on Wednesday of this week, at Gosling Sports Park. There was a variety of events, some of which you can see below. The team came 3rd overall. There were certificates for the boys relay team, Joe, Josh, Jake and Harry, who came 3rd in their race and for the team's Star Performers Freddie and Emily. Well done to all the children who took part and to Mrs Fincham, Mrs Woods and Miss Prentice for supervising this event.





Maths at St Michael's

Please encourage the children in Years 4-6 to log on to Times Tables Rock Stars and practise their tables. Please pass any feedback to teachers, as we are only trialling this at present.



Parents please fill in the form about Maths Workshops, so that we can gauge interest and know the topics you would like to be supported with. Return to the Office as soon as you are able.

St Michael's Orchestra

Mrs Hewitt runs our school orchestra, which meets on Mondays at 8.30am. The cost is £20 for the term (£10 for an additional sibling). If your child is interested, please contact the school office for more information.

Good Work Assembly

Congratulations to the following children, who shared their work in Thursday's assembly. A special mention to our first children in Sycamore (our reception class) to share their good work. The girls were extremely excited and very confident.

Sycamore: Lucy & Emily
Redwood: Ashley & Caitlin
Elm: Joseph
Beech: Jonathan
Oak: Tabby

What's On:

22.1.'18 - 'Readathon' books to assembly please
23.1.'18 - Readathon follow up day
Redwood (Year 3) Roman Day
24.1.'18 - Year 6 SATs meeting in Oak 9am
Indoor Athletics Competition
26.1.'18 - Sycamore (Reception) School Nurse
Road Safety Final Year 6 Team
30.1.'18 - Redwood Trip to the Roman Baths
7.2.'18 - Church Service led by Elm (Year 4)
2:30pm at St Michael's Church
8.2.'18 - Redwood Class assembly 2:45pm
12.2.'18 - 16.2.'18 HALF TERM

Attachments:

Letter from Rev. Dominic Holroyd-Thomas
Golf Lessons at Knebworth Golf Club
Stagecoach Classes
Ultimate Activity Camp
Welwyn & Knebworth Children's Centre Activities