St Michael's Weekly Post

12th September 2025

Wow what a week our Oak Class have had on their residential in Wales. They have been getting involved in amazing activities including traversing challenging climbing courses, gorge walking, canoeing and heading out on night challenges. A highlight was the caving, where the children were met with the infamous 'letterbox', they climbed up 'the toilet' – an area of the caves where they had to follow a tunnel, submerging themselves in water up to their chins before pulling themselves up through a toilet shaped hole! Everyone showed some serious courage and determination and they were so proud of themselves when they'd finished! We can't wait to hear more about their trip when they return.

Acorn Class (Reception) – Monday 15th September Onwards
As a reminder, Acorn Class will be in school for full days from next week – 8.35am until 3.15pm. Children are collected from the playground after school.

They will start weekly PE lessons on **Monday**, so please send them to school in their kit which consists of a light blue top and navy/black shorts. On cold days, children can wear jogging bottoms but please make sure shorts are put into the children's school bag.

Forest School will start on **Tuesday 23rd (and every Tuesday onwards)** and children will need to come into school in their Forest School clothes – we ask that they please wear trousers and long sleeved tops, as well as a waterproof coat and trousers or all in ones. Please let Mrs Sudlow in the office know if you can **volunteer** – we would like at least two helpers each week.

PE
A reminder for all classes that PE will be on the following days. Children are to come into school in their PE kit please.

Monday – Acorn
Tuesday –Rowan
Wednesday – Hazel, Elder
Thursday – Birch, Cherry
Friday - Oak

Music Lessons

The first brass ensemble will take place on **Tuesday 16th** and then returns to **Wednesdays** from the 24th. Year 3 cornet lessons will commence w/c 15th.

After School Clubs – September

We still have spaces in the following after school clubs, please book on if interested.

Monday – KS2 Art – Helen Cooper, booking link: https://the-studio-ramsbury.classforkids.io
Tuesday – Years 2-6 Dance – Kelly Sutton smart.ksutton@gmail.com
Tuesday – Years 4-6 Sports Club – Sophie Fynn sophiefynn12@gmail.com (starting Tuesday 16th)
Wednesday – Years 2-6 Performing Arts – Yasmin Yazdi im_yasmin@hotmail.co.uk (starting Wednesday 17th)
Thursday – KS2 Swindon Town Football – Link
Friday – Years 1-6 Karate – Matt Ward info@ukkaratefederation.co.uk
Friday – Ultimate Band (Years 1-6) – ultimatetuitionuk@gmail.com

Buddy Service – Friday 26th September, 1.45pm

Acorn and Oak parents are invited to join us at St Michael's Church for our annual "Buddy Service" on Friday 26th September at 1.45pm, followed by tea and coffee in the school hall. We're so proud of our buddy system we offer at St Michael's and this is a great opportunity to welcome new families and chat over coffee and cake. Younger siblings are most welcome – we will have a corner of toys for them!

St Michael's Snack-tember Challenge

As a school, we are be participating in "Snack-tember". This week's healthy snack recipe is an easy one – fruit skewers! A fun way to enjoy fruit and a simple one for the children to get creative make themselves at home!

https://www.bbcgoodfood.com/recipes/rainbow-fruit-skewers

Picture News:

Story: The voting age for UK general elections is set to be lowered to 16. This would bring England in line with Wales and Scotland, where 16-year-olds can already vote in some elections. Schools will soon be giving more lessons on democracy, how voting works, and how the country is run.

Question: Why do we vote?

Virtual Picture News: www.picture-news.co.uk/discuss

Message from the PTA/Aldbourne Carbon Neutral Team: Apple Donations Wanted for School Apple Juice

We are collecting apples to make delicious apple juice for the school, and we'd love your help. This year has been a great year for our fruit trees so we want to put all that extra fruit to good use raising money for our school. If you or a friend/family member have a tree that is dripping in fruit we would love

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it if you could donate us a bag or two! Where to drop off your apples: **Aldbourne Community Garden** – please leave them on the picnic table before **Saturday 20th September or** outside **4, The Downs, Aldbourne**, between **20th and 23rd September.** All varieties of apples welcome but please don't bring any with rot, mould or mud – a slight bruise or blemish is absolutely fine. 👉 Rule of thumb: "If you'd eat it, we'll press it." No apple tree of your own? 🍎 Why not gather some from the community trees instead (see attached map) or join us for the Apple Day at the community garden on Saturday 20th September, 2–4pm. Come along to help pick apples from the garden, enjoy the other seasonal produce or even try your hand at make juice by hand!

PTA AGM – Tuesday 7th October

The PTA's Annual General Meeting is on **Tuesday 7th October at 7.30pm**. Everyone is welcome to attend and find out more about how you can support the PTA in small or large ways. We're looking for new committee members and trustees, so if you would like to join and support the school fundraising, then we'd love to have you. Please let us know in advance by email aldbournepta@gmail.com. Look forward to seeing you there.

Safari Supper – Friday 17th October

Join us for Aldbourne's popular Safari Supper on Friday 17th October. A relaxed and friendly evening of food, conversation, and a touch of mystery as you move from house to house for each course. It's an easy low-pressure way to meet new people or catch up with familiar faces - whether you're new to the village/school or have lived here for years. It works best if most people host, but it really doesn't need to be anything fancy; just a simple meal and a warm welcome. If you don't live in the village, you can still join or host. Please email with any questions: admin@stmichaelsaldbourne.co.uk. Book now to be part of this much loved community event in support of our wonderful St Michael's School. £15 per person to host, £25 per person if not hosting. Tickets can be bought at Aldbourne Post Office or via the following link.

Message from The Aldbourne Children's Book Group:

We would be delighted for you to join us for a garden party to celebrate Roald Dahl Day on **Saturday 13th September at 2pm**. We hope to see you there!

Message from St Michael's Church Aldbourne:

Please see poster attached with more information about what is on for families and children in the Whitton team for this Autumn.

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Discovery Day – Saturday 4th October

As you'll know, our Boat of Blessings, decorated by Aldbourne families during the school holidays, was successfully launched on our Share the Story float at last week's carnival, accompanied by an impressive flock of seagulls. Made especially for Discovery Day on Saturday 4th October it will be a key feature on Discovery Day, with children's story-telling (thanks to Aldbourne Children's Book Group) and some fun games, including "Fish Flash" and "Noah's Pebble Pairs". Lots of things to see and do at Discovery Day - we're looking forward to welcoming you, your families and your friends.

Message from The White Horse Festival:

New local festival the White Horse Festival has two amazing children's sessions coming up.

World-class children's music leader Lucia Vernon-Long and pianist Sam Peña are coming to the Ramsbury Memorial Hall for one day only on 4th October for a stunning creative, interactive musical session for children and their grown-ups. With a bespoke show written specially for the White Horse Festival by musicians straight from the Royal Ballet and Opera, Covent Garden's children's programme, this really is a fabulous morning not to be missed!

The Singing Shell: A Musical Adventure! – for 0-3 year olds

Whale Song – for 4-10 year olds

Tickets are available now from www.whitehorsefestival.co.uk

September 2025 Term 1

Please note the 2025/2026 term dates can be found here.

Tuesday 16th September	Brass Ensemble (Tuesday this week only)	Brass Ensemble
Wednesday 17th September	Performing Arts after school club starts	Years 2-6
Wednesday 17th-Friday 19th September	Braeside Residential	Rowan
Wednesday 24th September	Brass Ensemble (Wednesdays from now on)	Brass Ensemble
Friday 26th September	Buddy Service, followed by tea and coffee, 1.45pm	Acorn and Oak families
Tuesday 7th October	PTA AGM – School Hall, 7.30pm	Whole School Community
Friday 17th October	PTA Safari Supper (ticketed event)	Whole School Community
Wednesday 22nd October	Harvest Festival Service, St Michael's Church, 9.30am	Whole School Community
	Sponsored 'Welly Walk' – more info to come	Whole School
	Last day of term	Whole School
Thursday 23rd October – Sunday 1st November	**Half term holiday**	**Whole School**

Follow us on Instagram and Facebook

St Michael's C of E VA Primary School
Back Lane, Aldbourne, Wiltshire SN8 2BP
01672 540434 - admin@stmichaelsaldbourne.co.uk

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