St Michael's Weekly Post

26th September 2025

It was lovely to see many Acorn and Oak parents in St Michael's Church this afternoon for our annual 'Buddy Service'. We are so proud of our buddy system in school and the bonds the children create with each other is so special. Today the Acorns were given their painted butterflies from their Oak buddies and were officially welcomed to St Michael's School, all enjoyed tea and cake back in the hall after. Thank you all for coming!

Acorn Class also had a wonderful first afternoon adventuring in the forest this week, exploring all there is to do including clambering over twisted tree roots, singing on the swings and relaxing in hammocks!

Rowan and Oak Classes had a brilliant trip to the Marlborough Literature Festival this morning, hearing a talk by **AF Steadman**, all about her books 'The Skandar Series'. A huge thank you to Barnes Coaches for putting on the bus to take them to and from the interesting talk, they all had a great time.

Thank you so much to all who donated apples to the PTA for the incoming school apple juice! We will keep you posted when it will be ready to buy!

Celebration Assemblies

Our weekly celebration assemblies will return on Friday 14th November. For those new to the school, all parents are invited to join us on a Friday morning after drop off in the hall for these assemblies. Each week a learner and a writer of the week will be announced. All are welcome. Please see our writers of the week here for this week, they are displayed in our reception so please do pop in to have a look.

House Day – Friday 3rd October

We will be linking with the church's 'Discovery Day' for our first house day of the year on Friday 3rd October. Children are invited to come into school in their own clothes, with a touch of their house colours. A reminder of the houses and colours are: **KENNET (yellow), RIDGEWAY (red), WINTERBOURNE (blue)** and **FOUR BARROWS (green).** Please do not go and buy anything special for

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this, it could be something as small as sock or a hair clip, etc. If you are unsure of your child's house, please check with their class teacher.

We would love any **junk modelling donations** for this day. The children will be making boats so anything particularly good for that would be most appreicated! Please bring bits in on the day.

Acorn – Phonics Workshop for parents - Monday 6th October at 8:45am
We would like to invite all Acorn parents/carers to come in to meet with Miss Mearns for a Phonics Workshop on **Monday 6th October at 8:45am** to learn more about our approach to teaching reading and to enjoy a tea or coffee. Please come into school via the main entrance.

Key Rings
We would like to politely ask you that children do **NOT** have keyrings on their school bags please. These are proving to be a distraction, are taking up space in corridors and we cannot guarantee that these will be kept safe from damage or indeed getting lost. Thank you for your cooperation on this.

PTA Second hand uniform sale - 6th October
We're excited to let you know that our next **Second-Hand Uniform Sale** will be taking place week commencing **6th October**. It's a great chance to pick up some bargains and give pre-loved uniform a new home! We're collecting **good quality** (the kind you'd be happy for your own child to wear):

- Jumpers
- Cardigans
- PE kit
- Branded uniform pieces

When to donate:

- **Monday 29th September**
- **Tuesday 30th September**

There will be a clearly marked donation box just **outside the main entrance** on both days for you to pop things into. At the sale, all items will be just **£1 each**, with every penny going directly to the PTA to support school projects and activities. Thank you so much for your support and for helping to reduce waste.

Secondary School Applications – Deadline 31st October
A reminder for Oak parents/carers that the deadline for your secondary school applications for September 2026 is **12 midnight on 31st October 2025**. Applications are made online at www.wiltshire.gov.uk (or the relevant Council if you live outside of Wiltshire) or via a form that is available from all Wiltshire Council Offices. For any enquiries please contact Wiltshire Council directly on 01225 713010.

Mandarin After School Club
Marlborough College will once again be running a Mandarin after school club in school on Wednesday afternoons from 3.15-4pm. This is available for KS2 children. Please email the office to sign your child up. Thank you.

St Michael's Forest School Stay and Play – Friday 17th October

Do you know any children who might be due to start school in September 2026? We are hosting a Forest School stay and play session on Friday 17th October from 9.30am-11am. Please see the link to RSVP and please pass on to anyone that might be interested!

Picture News:

Story: Running charity, parkrun, has announced a new project called parkrun primary, which is bringing junior running events closer to primary schools.

Question: Can sport bring people closer together?

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

St Michael's Snack-tember Challenge

As a school, we are be participating in "Snack-tember".

This frozen yoghurt bark is an easy, healthy protein snack ready in 20 minutes for a quick bite. It can be adapted with any toppings you love. https://www.theconsciousplantkitchen.com/frozen-yogurt-bark/#how-to-make-frozen-yogurt-bark

Messages from the PTA:

AGM – Tuesday 7th October, 7.30pm

Calling all parents, did you know you are all members of the PTA at St Michael's simply by being a parent! As a result, we would love to host you at our AGM on the 7th October at 7.30pm. We appreciate it is bath and bed time, but think how glorious it would be to miss that for a great cause!
Come to learn more, see why we need your help to fundraise, share skill sets, and become more involved.

Safari Supper – Friday 17th October

Join us for Aldbourne's popular Safari Supper on **Friday 17th October**. 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 St Michael's Church Aldbourne:
Discovery Day – Saturday 4th October
As well as our church being a ship to carry us through the journeys - sometimes stormy - of life, Aldbourne has a surprising number of maritime connections: come and discover these at Discovery Day on Saturday 4th October, through displays and trails. Lots of things to see and do at Discovery Day - we're looking forward to helping you to navigate them.

Noah's Ark Pet Service
Join us with your furry, feathered or scaly best friends to thank God for the blessing of their love at 11am on Sunday 12th October on the Green.

Noah's Ark Pet Service

Join us with your furry, feathered or scaly, best friends to thank God for the blessing of their love
11.00am on Sunday 12th Oct
on the Green (or in church if wet).
Have your Prayer Boat from Discovery Day blessed and floated on its way!

September 2025 Term 1
Please note the 2025/2026 term dates can be found here.

Thursday 2nd October	School meal taster day	Acorn, Hazel, Birch
Thursday 2nd October	TriGolf Festival, Marlborough Golf Club (9am)	Selected Elder
Friday 3rd October	Discovery/House Day (own clothes)	Whole School
Monday 6th October	Phonics Workshop, 8.45am	Acorn Parents/Carers
Tuesday 7th October	PTA AGM – School Hall, 7.30pm	Whole School Community
Thursday 9th October	KAPLA Workshop	Whole School
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' pm	Whole School
	Last day of term	Whole School
Thursday 23rd October – Sunday 1st November	**Half term holiday**	**Whole School**

Term 2

Friday 28th November	Christingle Service in St Michael's Church, 2.30pm	Whole School Community
Tuesday 16th December	Nativity (2pm and 5.30pm)	Whole School Community
Wednesday 17th December	Panto, Newbury Corn Exchange	Whole School
Friday 19th December	Last day of term	Whole School

Follow us on Instagram and Facebook

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