St Michael's Weekly Post

Friday 5th December 2025

Acorn Class had great fun in their PE lesson this week, using the wall bars and ropes for the first time! The children had an amazing time exploring the equipment, climbing, hanging, balancing, and testing their strength and bravery.

Elder Class have been exploring how pneumatic systems work and investigated the places we use them in everyday life – from bus doors and dentist chairs to fairground rides and more. After developing their understanding, they were tasked with designing and creating a toy, using pneumatics to entertain a small child. It has been great seeing their ideas come to life!

Oak and Acorn Class decorated our lovely Christmas tree this afternoon, so we are starting to feel festive in school. A huge thank you to Dave at Eastbury Growers for donating the tree – he is open this weekend if anyone is yet to buy theirs!

We hope to see you all at the Santa Dash this weekend. If you would like to purchase a ticket please follow the link. There is more information below but there will be brunch back in the hall after and gingerbread medals for all who take part. Don't miss a visit from Father Christmas as well as singing from the children! The silent auction is now live, so do check it out.

Well done to our Learners of the Week!

Please note this was our last celebration assembly of term – thank you.

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LOTTERY FUNDED

The Times Top 1,000 Primary Schools in England

We thought you'd like to know St Michael's was included in The Sunday Times Parent Power Guide 2026 which features the top 1,000 primary schools in the country. St Michael's was listed as number 1 in Wiltshire, number 10 out of all of the primary schools in the South West and 320th in England! – a huge achievement!

Acorn Cardboard Creations – We Need Your Junk!

In Acorn Class this term, we are developing our cutting and joining skills through a series of **cardboard creation projects**. To help bring the children's ideas to life, we are collecting **clean cardboard** from home.

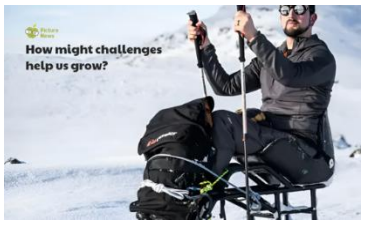
We would be grateful for items such as:

- Small cardboard boxes (cereal, tea, snack boxes)
- Cardboard tubes (kitchen roll or cling film tubes)
- Light cardboard packaging and trays
- Lids or other small card pieces

These materials are perfect for supporting imaginative building and design in the classroom. If you are able to send any in, please drop them off with your child at morning drop-off. Thank you for your continued support!

Elfridges – Friday 12th December

By popular demand, the Elfridges shopping experience at St Michael's is back! For those new to the school, Elfridges is a particular festive highlight for the children! During the school day, they are invited to browse, choose and buy gifts for their **adult family members**. The gifts come wrapped, and the children are given a label to personalise and attach. They will then bring the gifts home with them ready to give at Christmas! If your child would like to take part, please fill in the following form by **Wednesday 10th December** with who you would like them to buy for. Children will need to bring cash in on **Friday 12th December** (unfortunately no change is available, so please bring whatever you would like to spend or donate – thank you).



Picture News:

Story: An adventurer named Darren Edwards, who is paralysed from the chest down, is preparing to travel 137 miles across Antarctica using a sit-ski.

Question: What happens when it snows?

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

Parent Workshop – Friday 19th December

As a reminder, in addition to the information below, we wanted to let you know that your creative task for our Christmas parent workshop this year will be to make a **Christmas decoration** during the session. Please bring your own crafty bits in (**no glitter please**). For those new to the school, this is a wonderful morning that we do hope you can join us for! Parents are invited to stay after drop off with the children to start the day with a Christmas story performed by our brilliant teachers! You will be then tasked to add to the story by creating your Christmas decorations, the classrooms and

halls buzz with you all crafting away before being called back to the hall to finish the teacher's tale.
The children (and parents!) adore seeing their favourite teachers take centre stage, it is guaranteed to make you laugh and we really hope to see many of you there! Siblings are very welcome to join you too. **It will finish at around 11.30am**.

As a reminder, here are our festive activities that will be happening in school in the run up to Christmas:

Sunday 7th December	**Brass Ensemble & the School Choir** (Year 2 upwards) to perform at Aldbourne Brass Band Concert at 4pm (please drop children at 3.30pm). Annually, we are invited to sing with the brass ensemble and the Aldbourne brass band at their Christmas concert. Tickets will need to be purchased if you wish to stay and watch or alternatively you are able to drop your child and collect after. There is a discount code that can be used for **school parents only please.** The code is SCHOOL which can be used when purchasing via the following link. **Children are invited to wear Christmas jumpers if they have!**
Tuesday 16th December	Our **Nativity** Performances in the Church – 2pm and 5.30pm. All children are to arrive back at school (through the main entrance) at **5.10pm** to get ready for their evening performance. Children are to then be collected from school after, at a time TBC. The PTA will be raising money, selling drinks & mince pies. Could we please ask that younger children attend the 2pm session if they wish to see the nativity, rather than the evening performance.
Wednesday 17th December	**Pantomime Trip.** We will be taking the whole school to the Newbury Corn Exchange to watch the performance of Robin Hood. The payment will be available to pay via Weduc payments next week. Children are to be in school uniform and it will take place in normal school hours.
Thursday 18th December	**School Christmas Lunch.** Please book this for your child on the Lataca ParentMail app. In the morning, children will be making hats out of newspaper. If you have any newspaper for recycling, we would love to have it in school. Children are invited to come in non-school uniform with a 'touch of Christmas' (if they wish!)
Friday 19th December	**Parent Workshop 8.45am – 11.30am & early finish for the last day of term 2, at 1pm**. We would like to invite you all into school for a morning of festive fun with your children. The parents session will be finished by **11.30am**.We realise that not all children will have a family member available to join us. We therefore ask if there are children without a family member that you include them in your group. Thank you. **We will be finishing our last day of term early at 1pm.**

Message from the PTA:

Santa Dash – Saturday 6th December

We're so looking forward to seeing you all tomorrow morning dressed with a touch of Christmas! The best dressed kids and adults will receive a prize. Year 6 sports leaders have perfected their warm-up will be eager to start promptly at 9.30am. You can still buy tickets today or on the day. We do appreciate Christmas is an expensive time of year, so please don't let the cost put you off - if funds are short come along anyway as we won't be checking tickets. It would be fantastic if you could bring a reusable cup for tea/coffee and if your child has a favourite mug they would like a hot chocolate in, bring that too. See you all tomorrow.
Click here to buy your family ticket now!

Please see the silent auction is now live: https://app.galabid.com/christmas-2025/items

Message from the Aldbourne Post Office

Please join us tonight until 6pm for the Christmas Shopping Evening. A chance to get your tree, order your turkeys and pick up some delicious Christmas treats and wonderful presents!

Message from The Aldbourne Book Group

The Children's Book Group Committee invite you to cosy up with us around the church Christmas Tree for classic Yuletide stories on December 12th and 14th. Volunteers have picked out favourite extracts, stories and picture books for you. The sessions include a chance to make your own Christmas decoration and of course mulled wine, hot chocolate, gingerbread and
mince pies. This year, the sessions are split into a morning weekday session for our pre-school members and a second Sunday afternoon story time, open to everyone. The dates and times are:
Preschoolers: Friday 12th December 10am
All welcome: Sunday 14th December 3pm
It's all happening at St Michael's Church and so come and celebrate with us!

Term 2

Saturday 6th December	PTA Santa Dash (9.30am)	Whole School Community
Sunday 7th December	Aldbourne Brass Band Concert (4pm)	Birch upwards
Monday 8th December	Cricket Festival, Marlborough Leisure Centre	Birch
Friday 12th December	Elfridges in school	Whole School
	No Celebration Assembly	Whole School Community
Tuesday 16th December	Nativity (2pm and 5.30pm)	Whole School Community
Wednesday 17th December	Panto, Newbury Corn Exchange	Whole School
Thursday 18th December	Christmas lunch in school, non-school uniform with a 'touch of Christmas'	Whole School

Friday 19th December	Last day of term Parent Workshop in school (8.45-11.30am) **Term finishes at 1pm**	Whole School

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