

St Michael's Weekly Post

Friday 9th January 2026

It has been lovely to be back in school this week and we do hope everyone had a lovely Christmas break.

Elder Class started their weekly swimming lessons this week, which they thoroughly enjoyed and Birch Class tried their hands at gymnastics today, learning shapes and sequences as well as putting the wall bars and ropes to the test! Oak Class also managed to brush up on their dodgeball skills before their tournament next week, good luck Year 6!

We were so sad that the Young Voices concert was postponed today and we will keep you posted as and when we hear any more about potential new dates.

Tree Planting – Tuesday 13th January



We are delighted that the local organic nursery [Asgar Trees](#) have kindly donated around 100 trees/shrubs to St Michael's to help improve our outdoor environment and OPAL provision.

Each class will get their own time slot on Tuesday to help plant some trees so it would be ideal if children could bring in a pair of gloves: gardening or normal – for when digging/planting. They might need an extra layer or two if the weather is cold. They will wear their wellies when heading up to the field so please bring them in if they don't have any in school.

We would love a couple of parent volunteers for each class if possible – please contact the office if you are able to help – thank you.

Below are the timings for each class:

9.15-10am – Year 2

10-10.45am – Year 1

10.45-11.30am – Year 3

1-1.45pm – Reception and Year 6

2-2.30pm – Year 4

2.30-3.10pm – Year 5

Lunch Taster Day – Thursday 15th January

We will be holding a school meal taster day for Acorn, Hazel and Birch Classes next week on Thursday 15th January. This will be a great opportunity for all children to try a school lunch, if they don't usually. Children would be welcome to bring their own packed lunch with them if they don't think they will enjoy the lunch. We are really fortunate that we have amazing kitchen staff and the planned main hot meal is cottage pie (vegan/vegetarian options available) or jacket potato with salad, cheese and/or beans. Ham or cheese sandwiches are also available. We will book all children who haven't already ordered through Lataca a hot main meal. You can of course opt out by emailing the [office](#).

Explorers/Adventurers Club

Explorer and Adventurers lunch time clubs run by Rvd Sue Rodd and Emily Best will begin again next week on Tuesdays and Fridays. No need to book in, just let your children know they are available to join as and when they wish to.

Forest School – January

A reminder below of the new term's forest days:

- ELSA – Wednesday
- Hazel – Tuesday
- Acorn – Thursday
- Rowan – Friday



After School Clubs:

Performing Arts

There are still some spaces left in Performing Arts on Wednesdays for years 3-6. The term will begin again next week. Please contact Yasmin Yazdi on im_yasmin@hotmail.co.uk to book your child in.

New after school club – French language and culture games and activities for Years 5 and 6

We're delighted to announce a new after school French club which will take place on Wednesdays starting on January 14th. The cost will be £12 per term. It will be a chance to brush up on your French language as well as taking part in cultural games and activities. The club is being run by our lovely volunteer Jenny Greaves and will be initially available for Years 5 and 6. Please email admin@stmichaelsaldbourne.co.uk to book your child in.



Mandarin

Mandarin will begin again in a couple of weeks. It will continue on Wednesdays and we are waiting to hear from Marlborough College as to the start date, so we will be in touch.

Picture News



Story: Famous online creators have come together at the 1 Billion Followers Summit in Dubai to talk about how their influence affects people around the world.

Question: Why do people watch videos?

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

Message from the PTA:

Christmas Silent Auction

We would like to say a huge and heartfelt thank you to everyone who supported our recent Silent Auction. Thanks to the generosity of our community, the event was a wonderful success and raised an incredible £3,107.50* for the school (*excluding payment processing fees).

Every donation and every bid, no matter the size, played a part in reaching this fantastic total. We are deeply grateful to all the local businesses and individuals who kindly donated prizes, giving us such a varied and exciting auction. Your support makes a real difference to our school and the opportunities that we can provide for our children. Thank you as well to everyone who placed a bid, shared the auction link

with friends and family, and helped spread the word. A special mention must also go to those who helped behind the scenes, collecting donations, organising items, and ensuring everything ran smoothly.

This was truly a team effort and a brilliant example of what can be achieved when our school community comes together. Thank you all once again for your generosity, time and support.

PTA Gift Amnesty – Can You Help?

As we begin planning our upcoming school events and fundraising activities, the PTA is holding a **Gift Amnesty** and we would love your support.

If you have any **new, unused or unwanted gifts** at home, perhaps duplicate presents, unopened items, or things that are no longer quite right for you, we would be extremely grateful to give them a new purpose. These donations help us stock our raffles, tombolas and future prize draws, all of which raise valuable funds for the school and directly benefit the children. If you also have any Christmas jumpers your children have outgrown, we would love these too.

Suitable items might include:

- New toys or games
- Bottles, gift sets or chocolates
- Books, stationery or craft kits
- Vouchers or experiences
- Any new, unopened gifts in good condition
- Christmas jumpers

Every donation, big or small, makes a difference. If you are able to contribute, please bring items to the school office (or members of the PTA will be at the main school gate in the morning of **Monday 12th January**). Thank you, as always, for your continued generosity and support.

Term 3

Monday 12 th January	PTA Gift Amnesty – please drop unwanted gifts into school	Whole School
Tuesday 13 th January	Tree planting	Whole School
Thursday 15 th January	School meal taster day	Acorn, Hazel, Birch
	Dodgeball tournament, Pewsey Vale School	Oak
Friday 13 th February	Last day of term	Whole School
Monday 16 th February – Monday 23 rd February (TD Day)	Half term holiday	Whole School

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