

# St. Michael's C. of E. Primary School

Friday 29<sup>th</sup> November, 2019

www.stmichaelscofe.co.uk



Pre-Order  
Week 3  
£2.00 per day

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## Showcase

Done and dusted. The Dance Shows finally arrived this week as did a number of parents way before the opening times - I hope your eagerness was rewarded and the children's performances made up for the time you put aside. I was really proud to see the Year 6 hosts grow in confidence, to speak to you all to open the show and most of all, in how the children committed to their dances.

It would be unfair of me to single any dance out for individual praise but it is fair to say that they took me, and hopefully you, on a journey of emotions. As pleasing, was how I could clearly see progression from Foundation Stage to Year 6 in the choreography, interpretation and presentation of the themes and music.

This brought us to Wednesday when we welcomed a new speaker to lead Assembly. The theme was Advent but this was introduced by way of a number of items which could be grouped in some way. From the first instruction, I understood this to be one group to include them all and so to end, I explained my thinking and invited the children to offer their suggestions as to how to fit a "star" into my group of "Bs". As I dismissed the children, a number of them - in almost all year groups - were keen to tell me their thoughts on this: bright, blinking, Bethlehem, Bible were just a few of the interesting, and by my reckoning, correct responses. A sign that these children are able to think laterally and have the confidence to share their thoughts.



A last minute addition – if your child comes home today telling you that there was a new chef in the kitchen, they are half correct. Because we were a staff member down, I stepped in to serve and was amazed how many times I heard my name called from the line. It was if they had never seen me! But lovely to have the chance to speak to well over 200 children today.

## Andrew Cumpstey

A parent has indicated that some of you may want to contribute to a leaving gift for Mr Watts, our guitar teacher. If this is something that appeals to you, please leave any contributions with Mrs Ford in the office and she will liaise with the parent who is arranging something.





## Free Books

As some of you may be aware, The Sun are giving away books to schools. We have registered for this and now need your help collecting tokens. Each school must collect 3,500 printed tokens from The Sun and The Sun on Sunday from Saturday, 23<sup>rd</sup> November, 2019 - Saturday, 18<sup>th</sup> January, 2020 to qualify for the free books. There will also be bonus tokens printed so please keep your eyes open for them too.

All tokens to be handed to your class teacher or the office.  
Thank you.

## Book Fair

A big thank you to everyone who bought books at our recent event. You have helped raise £844.60. This gives us £ 446.76 to spend on free books for our children to read. Well do

## Eco Bag Collection

Don't forget our Eco Bag collection is on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> December, 2019. Any plastic bag can be used not just the Eco Bags. Please bring your donations to the small hall or leave them in reception.

Many thanks Madame Betteridge.

## Basketball Year 5/6

Please note that Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> December will be our last Basketball session.

This week's winning  
House Team was

**Thompson**

Congratulations to the  
winning house captains:

**Kelsy Ayiteyfiio &**

**Samuel Lincoln**

and their whole team

We would like to say a huge well done to all the **Year 5** children who took part in our swimming programme. They worked (swam) really well and all have completed the course with a certificate of achievement. An amazing feat as some of the children started off as non-swimmers. We even conquered Black Friday madness at Freeport, finding a spot to park the minibus that only Mrs Mattin knew about. Congratulations to all.  
Mrs Mattin and Mrs Coulthard.



# Baby Stuff Braintree

This Christmas we have decided to support **Baby Stuff Braintree**.

Baby Stuff Braintree is a baby bank, similar to a food bank, which provides clothing and other essentials to families in the Braintree area. They have drop-in sessions at the Carousel Family Hub on the first and third Thursday of the month, which anyone can attend. They also work with Health Visitors and Healthy Family Support Workers to support families in the community. Your gifts will be given to these families, who are in particular need. The items will be distributed throughout the year so, please, **no Christmas themed items**. Also, there is no need to wrap them.

**In particular, Baby Stuff Braintree need the following new items:**

## **Boys & Girls clothing items**

**age 1 - 5 years**

Pyjamas

Vests

Knickers, Pants

Socks, Tights

## **Other items**

Baby Wipes

Sudocrem

Muslin squares

Bibs

Baby towels

Or, a donation of cash



Please bring items to the school, to be left in the study where Mrs Griffiths can collect them.

## **Christmas Disco - Tues 3<sup>rd</sup> December**

Reception & KS1: 3.30pm - 4.45pm

KS2: 5.00pm - 6.15pm

Please note - We are now electronic for these payments via ParentMail.

The cost is £3 and your child will receive a squash and a biscuit.

Please advise us (a note in the FOSM box in the foyer) if your child has any allergies.



# The Present Room

## Just a reminder of times and details...



It's that time of year again where we give the children the opportunity to buy the people in their life a small gift for Christmas.

This year the Present Room will be held in the Small Hall during lunchtimes on the following days:

Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> Dec	- Year 2
Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> Dec	- Years 3 & 4
Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> Dec	- Years 5 & 6
Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> Dec	- Everyone

Reception and Year 1 children will also visit us on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> December.  
(Those at Forest School that day will visit us on Weds 4<sup>th</sup>)

On these days the children can bring in money to buy presents for family members.

Presents cost £1.50 each and there is a maximum of 2 per child (only 1 of which can be chocolate).

**\*Please note** - This year they will be able to buy a **glass** item which is thoroughly bubble wrapped, however please be conscious that it may break if roughly handled.\*

Please send money in with your child either in an envelope or purse/wallet in their book bag on the relevant day.

**Please do not give money to class teachers or the office as this can cause confusion on the day.**

With Christmas round the corner, no doubt you are busy online shopping...

Whenever you buy anything online you could be collecting **free donations** for us -

The Friends of St Michael's School - Braintree.

### Do you shop in any of these places...?

There are over 3,000 shops and sites on board ready to make a donation and it doesn't cost you a penny extra!

It's as easy as 1, 2, 3...

1. Head to

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/stmbraintree/> and join for free.

2. Every time you shop online, go to easyfundraising first to find the site you want and start shopping.

3. After you've checked out, that retailer will make a donation to your good cause for no extra cost whatsoever!

**There are no catches or hidden charges and we would be really grateful for your support 😊**



## Letter to Santa

**Braintree Library**  
Saturday 30 November, 11am-3pm

Write a letter to Santa and receive a reply from the North Pole (remember to bring a stamp)



## Christmas Crafts

**Braintree Library**  
Saturday 21 December, 2-4pm

Join us for Christmas crafts, a trail and other fun, festive activities

Fancy dress welcome