

Half Term ending Friday 24th October 2025

Head and Deputy's Messages

Even though an eight-week term can take its toll on everyone, all in all, it's been a good half term and start to the 2025-26 school year. We have welcomed 11 new children in Reception, and all have settled well.

We are also still looking for members of the community to join our Local Governing Body (LGB). The LGB meet with me six times a year, and they monitor information and data about the school, and ensure the school is providing a safe school environment and a rich and broad curriculum. They also oversee pupil voice and wellbeing together with staff development and wellbeing. If you would like to find out more about joining the Governors please contact the school office and they will pass your details to the chair of Governors Mrs Angela Smith.

I often get asked by parents what you could do to support the school and your child with their personal and intellectual development – my response is always to foster a love of learning. Learning can take many forms and children will have their own preferences. Developing a love of learning from an interest is always a good start. Otherwise, it's simply enjoy reading together and talking about the book. It doesn't have to be a story book, it could be about history, football or a Haynes manual, any reading is beneficial. Otherwise just enjoy the time you have with them. They grow up so quickly. Next term culminates with Christmas. Please check the date sheet and event dates and times which will be added to the calendars after half term. This week we have been learning how to stay safe, so please take care of yourself and each other. **Mrs Haines**

This has been a very busy half term but we have lots coming up—do check the dates page of this newsletter. A huge thank you to the Friends for organising a fantastic Halloween Disco last night, I think everyone had lots of fun. Next half term we will be taking part in the unveiling of the new village sign (details to follow after half term) for which we have put together a time capsule to be buried by the sign, and leading the Community Act of Remembrance on 11th November (just year 5 and 6). We will then turn our thoughts to Christmas and will begin our play practices, again more info to follow. Last year we carried out an overhaul of all our costumes and found some that were beyond repair. If there is anyone who would be willing to sew some replacement costumes for us (we have the fabric) please let me know.

We have been learning this week about personal safety and have thought especially about being out at night and being seen clearly in the dark, please bear this in mind if you are out trick or treating or at Bonfire parties over half term so we all have a lovely, safe break. See you back on Monday 3rd November. Mrs Turk



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Information

Vaccinations On Friday 7th November we have the vaccination team in school to administer the nasal flu vaccine to those who have responded to say they wish their child to be vaccinated. Below is a link to a video from NHS Scotland that shows what will happen on the day. We would encourage you to share this with your child during half term and talk to them about what is going to happen so that they are not anxious or frightened by the process. School staff will sit with a child if they want them to, but are always in the room and on hand to encourage and support them. If a child refuses to let the nurse administer the spray then you will be contacted to arrange an alternative appointment for them. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wu01KW4PrEk

Children are asked by the Nurse for their date of birth or age and the first name of the parent who completed the flu permission form. Please can you practice this information with your child as we are not allowed to help them with this.

Menu

The new menu for Winter and Spring begins on the first day back. The menu can be found on the school website.

We start on Week 3 of the menu.

Clubs

Please contact Tim Courridge directly to book sports club places. There is NO FILM CLUB on Thursday 13th November. Sports Club will still run.

Parent's Evenings

Don't forget to sign up for parent's evening appointments via the school office. These are 10 minute appointments to discuss how your child has settled into this year and how they are coping with the learning. Please respect the 10 minute slot to help us stick to time, and if you need more time, please ask the class teacher for a follow up appointment on another day.

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Save the date!

November	
Friday 7th	Flu vaccinations—please ensure you have completed the online form to give or decline consent.
Friday 7th	Class Cake sale in hall—Eagle Class to provide cakes on the theme of Bonfire Night
Tuesday 11th	Year 6 Height and Weight checks Reception Height, Weight, Vision and Hearing checks
Tuesday 11th	Year 5 and 6 are leading the Act of Remembrance at St Michaels. All are welcome to attend. Only Year 5 and 6 will be attending this service.
Week beginning 10th	Antibullying week with
Monday 10th	Odd Sock Day for Antibullying week
Tuesday 11th and Thursday 13th	Parents Evenings. NO FILM CLUB (All other clubs running as normal)
Wednesday 12th	Kestrel class multiplication table parent café 9-10am
Friday 14th	Children in Need wear something spotty.
Friday 21st	Non-Uniform for Christmas Hamper items
Wednesday 26th	Eagle class parent café 9-10am
December	
WB Monday 8th	Play week. Details to follow after half term.
Wednesday 17th	Save the Children "Christmas Jumper Day" and Christmas Lunch
Friday 19th	Christmas Service at Church (School only) Carols round the tree—all welcome to sing carols at 2.30pm on the playground—hot drinks will be served by the Friends. Last day of term
Monday 22nd December —Monday	/ 6th January— Christmas Holidays (Monday 5th is INSET—Children back Tuesday 6th)

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Attendance

There is room for improvement to be made with pupil attendance at school. It is a legal requirement that your child attends school everyday unless they are genuinely unwell. IF YOUR CHILD IS ABSENT FROM SCHOOL FOR ANY REASON, YOU MUST INFORM THE SCHOOL ON EACH DAY OF ABSENCE before 9.00am. In most cases there are very simple explanations for absence, but if you do not tell us, your child's absence has to be recorded as unauthorised.

Our attendance:

Attendance target: 96%

This half term's attendance: 97.09%

Class with the best attendance: Owl with 98.05%

Late pupils this half term: 9 children arrived after the 9am closures of registers during the half term.

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