



Horton St. Michael's CE First School

SUMMER TERM 2019 NEWSLETTER

Easter seems such a long time ago now as we have all been so busy in school.

Standon Bowers

Last week Year 4 went to Standon Bowers for their residential and had an amazing time learning new skills such as caving, archery, low ropes and bouldering. Mrs Martin and Mrs Lowndes were so proud of all of the children who behaved so responsibly and respectfully—well done Year 4!

Ofsted Visit

As you are aware we were visited by two Ofsted inspectors this week. The purpose of their visit was to trial their new inspection framework in a small school. The inspectors were full of praise for our school and said that the children were delightful and they were so impressed with their eagerness to learn. They remarked on the dedication of the staff and how well we knew the children and understood their needs. It was a really positive visit which has been very helpful in reaffirming our belief that we have a fantastic school.

Mrs Thompson

It has been lovely to welcome Mrs Thompson to our teaching staff. Mrs Thompson is working in Sycamore Class three afternoons a week and is really enjoying being with the class. She is no stranger to the class as she has been working voluntarily in there all of this year and has also been working as a mid-day supervisor for quite some time. Mrs Thompson is delighted to be in the classroom again after a break from teaching following having children and I know that she has some very exciting learning planned for the children.

Whole School Topic

In the last half term of the year the whole school is going to be learning together. Our topic this year is 'Our Wonderful World'. As part of this exciting learning we are all going on our whole school trip to Chester Zoo on 6 June where the children benefit from seeing animals up close and learning all about animal conservation. In addition to this we will be busy with end of term activities such as our summer fair, sports day, transition and move up days, leavers' events—its hard to believe that the end of the school year is quickly approaching!

Term Dates 2019

Half-Term: 27-31 May

School Closes for Summer: 19 July

Events/Dates for your Diary

13 May: Friends' Meetings: 9.00am and 7.30pm

24 May: School closes for half-term

27-31 May: School closed for half-term

3 June: School re-opens

6 June: Whole school trip to Chester Zoo

13 June: Friends' Event: Sponsored Run

30 June: Friends' Event: Summer Fair, 12-3.00pm

9-11 July: Year 4 and whole school transition days

12 July: Sports Day (am) - starting at 9.15am

12 July: End of year reports to parents/carers

12 July: Friends' Event: Promise Auction

16 July: Maple Class play dress rehearsal

17 July: Maple Class play evening performance, 6.30pm

18 July: Year 4 Leavers Celebration Day (& Maple Class afternoon play performance)

19 July: School closes for summer

Autumn Term 2019

4 September: School opens for children

More dates to follow as they become available!

**Term dates for the academic year
2019-20 can be found on page 4.**

VACANCY for Lunchtime Supervisor! Please visit the website for more information or contact the office on 01538 306278.

www.hortonstmichaels.co.uk/life-at-horton/vacancies

**Places available in our Nursery for
children age 3+ for September 2019.
See page 5 for more information.
Expression of Interest Form can be
downloaded from our website.
www.hortonstmichaels.co.uk/nursery-2**

After School Clubs - Summer Term

Monday: Football (Reception/Y1) & Cookery

Tuesday: Archery

Wednesday: Netball

Friday: Football (Y2-4) and Kips Animal Club.

Kipling Before & After School Clubs

(ages 4+)

Every day, our **After School Club** runs from 3.10-5.05pm. There are two sessions and the costs are £4.50 for session 1 (3.10-4.10pm) and £4.50 for session 2 (4.10-5.05pm). The price for both sessions is £6.50. To book your child in, please use the booking form under the hall canopy or ring during the day. Please be aware that numbers are limited so you are requested to book your child's place as early as possible. The club is staffed by 2 members of the team who are: Joanna Bridgwood, Angela Golding, Rachel Gregory and Daniella Golding. Parents/carers will be invoiced on a fortnightly basis.

Morning Club is currently available Monday to Friday starting at 8.00am at a price of £4.50 per child per session based on demand. Again, please use the sign-up sheets under the canopy.

Walking Bus

The Walking Bus is operating again on Wednesday and Thursday mornings, leaving from the Hotel Rudyard car park at 8.15am prompt. Further information is available from our Walking Bus Leaders: Ange Woodward, Juliet Thomson, Sharon Cooper and Jackie Eyre.

There's been a keen interest, with 15 children walking to school on Wednesdays and 12 children on Thursdays! There are a few places left. Please check The Friends' Facebook page for updates, cancellations etc.

Transition: Tuesday-Thursday,

9-11 July 2019

Our Year 4's who will be moving to middle schools in September will be spending 3 days at their new school from 9-11 July inclusive. Arrangements will be made for the children in other years to spend time in their new classes.

PE (all children)

Please can all children have suitable outdoor PE kit in school ... for those (few and far between) days when the weather is good and there is opportunity to have PE outdoors. Thank you.

ParentPay

Thank you for using ParentPay to pay for school trips, fees etc. Nursery parents: please note that if your child is starting in Reception Year in September 2019, you will be required to activate a new account for your child at the start of the new school year - we will be in touch with more information and instructions after May half-term.

Personal Data - keeping school informed

We are investigating the use of a new APP called **SIMS Parent Lite** that enables parents/carers to inform school of changes to address, telephone numbers, email address etc. This APP links to the school information management system, SIMS, that we use to input and store such data. We hope to have this in place later in Summer Term and will keep you posted.

Timekeeping and Attendance

Whole school attendance for the period September 2018 to Easter 2019 was 96.31%; thank you for supporting your child's attendance during the Autumn and Spring Terms.

Assessment

We are continually assessing children in school when we mark books and talk to the children about their learning and believe this is the best way to assess children's learning. However we also have to take part in statutory testing in phonics for Year 1 and in SATs for Year 2. We always keep these tests low-key so that the children do not worry. SATs are taking place over the next couple of weeks and phonics testing in June.

Text Messages & Emails

If you've changed your mobile phone number or email address recently, please let us know.



School Uniform

A reminder that school uniform is available from GoGo Designs. Their shop address is 12-14 St. Edward's Street, Leek, ST13 5DS, opening times are 7.00am-5.30pm Monday to Friday. Their telephone number is 01538 381781 and you can also email orders through at: sales@gogodesigns.co.uk

Sun Safety:

In the rare days when we get a sunny day please ensure that your child comes to school wearing appropriate clothing, hat and sun-screen.



School Meals

A reminder that a tasty freshly cooked two-course school meal costs £2.30. Please remember to order direct with FreshStart Catering on the Tuesday before the week that school lunches are required using their online Meal Manager system. If ordering for multiple weeks, please ensure that your order for each week is "confirmed". Late orders need to be placed directly with FreshStart Catering on 01869 226675.

We are pleased to announce that our **Food Hygiene Rating** is once again **5 (top mark)**, following a recent Environment Health visit.

Common Illnesses & Time Off School

Please note the following guidance from the Health Protection Agency:

- *Conjunctivitis—no time off
- *Diarrhoea and/or vomiting—48 hours
- *Chickenpox—5 days from onset of rash
- *Tonsillitis—no time off
- *Head Lice—no time off

More information on common illnesses can be

Useful links:

Free School Meals: www.staffordshire.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals

School closures: www.staffordshire.gov.uk/schoolclosures

Family Information Service: www.staffordshire.gov.uk/education/childcare/families/homepage.aspx

"Stay Connected" service: www.staffordshire.gov.uk/Customer-Alerts/Customer-Alerts.aspx

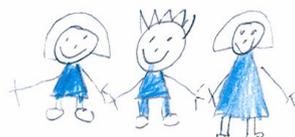
FreshStart Catering: <https://freshstartcatering.uk/>



HORTON ST. MICHAEL'S CE FIRST SCHOOL

Term Dates 2019-20

Autumn Term	
2 September	School open for staff (staff training day)
3 September	School open for staff (staff training day)
4 September	School open for children
28 October-1 November	School closed: half-term
4 November	School open for children and staff
20 December	School closed for children (staff training day)
23 December-3 January	School closed: Christmas holiday
Spring Term	
6 January	School open for staff and children
14 February	School closed for children (staff training day)
17-21 February	School closed: half-term
24 February	School open for staff and children
6 April-17 April	School closed: Easter holiday
Summer Term	
20 April	School open for staff and children
4 May	School closed: May Day Bank Holiday
25-29 May	School closed: half-term
1 June	School open for staff and children
17 July	School closes for summer



Horton St. Michael's Nursery

Rudyard • Leek • ST13 8RU
Headteacher: Mrs Lesley Montgomery

About Us

Based in picturesque open countryside, conveniently located between Leek, Biddulph and Congleton, our popular governor-run Nursery for children aged 3+ opened in September 2016. We are registered to offer the Government's 15 'universal' funded hours of childcare and, subject to eligibility, the 15 'additional' funded hours of childcare, as well as privately paid hours. We are open term-time (equivalent to 38 weeks per year) from 8.45am to 3.10pm, in line with the school day. For 4 year olds attending our Nursery, we also have wrap-around care provided on site by our Kipling Club (subject to a separate charge).

Why choose us?

- *Experience nursery in an Ofsted "outstanding" school (2012-13)
- *Access to qualified & experienced teachers & teaching assistants
- *Child-centred with emphasis on a positive learning experience
- *Follow the Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum
- *Delicious home-cooked meals freshly prepared daily in our kitchen
- *Outdoor play & activities in a magical countryside setting
- *Very active & successful Parents Association (parents have fun too!)
- *Friendly, caring, professional & forward-thinking staff throughout
- *Home from home/family atmosphere
- *Excellent choice of play equipment & learning resources
- *Variety of attendance patterns from 2.5 to 32.5 hours per week
- *In-year admissions, subject to availability

Please contact us for more information or to arrange a visit!

**Tel: 01538 306278 • Email: office@hortonstmichaels.co.uk
Website: www.hortonstmichaels.co.uk**

We look forward to hearing from you.

"My son has loved his nursery class from day one. Very welcoming and very helpful staff. Couldn't be happier as a parent."

Rachel C, parent (April 2019)