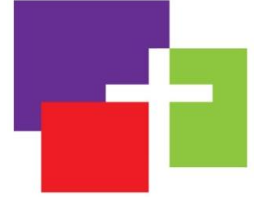


St Michael's CE Academy

Newsletter



Friday 9th November 2018

Dear Parent/Carer,

I hope you all had a lovely half term holiday. We have made a good start to the new half term and there is one key message I would like to share with you in the days that lead up to Christmas.

I am aware that around this time of the year, parents will be considering buying Christmas presents for their children and I wanted to share some concerns with you. We have recently conducted a pupil interview at our school about computing. We generally ask the children about their understanding of computing and how well they are learning about this subject at school. We were quite alarmed by the results, some of which I will share with you:

- A lot of children, especially boys seem to have access to violent and otherwise inappropriate games. We were surprised at how some of our youngest children have accessed games that are certified for 12 or 18 year olds.
- Some of the children, particularly boys, commented about hurting females and how they have been able to do this in games.

As you can understand, it is worrying how much impact these games can have on the way children speak and interact with each other. I thought I would share this with you before you buy any presents so that you can vet any games you buy for age appropriateness. These games can sometimes be quite deceptive in the way they are marketed so please look into them. Also, if you are buying computers, ipads or phones for your children – please make sure that you can apply appropriate controls to the machines you purchase and remind your children about how they must be used.

At some time in the New Year, we will organise a cyber-safety workshop for parents during which you can share your own experiences and difficulties with technology. Meanwhile, if any of you want to speak to us about any issues you are facing regarding this type of thing, please do not hesitate to make contact.

Thank you.
F. Islam
Headteacher



After the success of last year's morning time maths session, we are very excited to be holding this again. Please return reply slips to your class teacher. We hope to see lots of parents at the sessions.

All sessions other than Nursery are 9.15am – 10.30am

Nursery	26th November 8.30am – 10.00am 12.15am – 13.30pm
Reception	15th November
Year 1	22nd November
Year 2	21st November
Year 3	28th November
Year 4	19th November
Year 5	20th November
Year 6	27th November

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Year 5 – Museum WW2 Visit – Wednesday 14th November

5S – morning session

5B – afternoon session

Lunchtime not affected

*Please ensure you have given permission and paid via Parentpay or using the barcoded letter.
This needs to be done by Monday 12th November*



Friday 16th November – Children are invited to come to school dressed in as many colours as they can! We are asking for a minimum donation of **£1** which will go towards the 2018 Children in Need Appeal.



Cinderella Pantomime

Theatre Royal – Wakefield

Years 3 and 6 on Monday 26th November

Years 2 and 4 on Tuesday 27th November

Years 1 and 5 on Wednesday 28th November

We are asking you to contact school only if you do not wish your child to take part.