



# FAMILY LETTER

SPRING TERM NEWSLETTER

16TH FEBRUARY 2018

## **SCHOLASTIC BOOK FARYE**

**5th March until  
8th March**

SCHOLASTIC  
BOOK FAYRE WILL  
TAKE PLACE IN  
THE HALL  
MONDAY, 5TH  
MARCH UNTIL  
8TH MARCH,  
3.30pm until  
4.15pm.

Please, please  
come and support  
us.

Cash OR cheques  
accepted. You can  
pay via an APP at  
the time of pur-  
chase.

NO CARD  
MACHINE!!

## From the Headteacher

It's been an action packed and fun filled half term, as you will see from this newsletter. Year 6's trip to Shugborough seems like a lifetime ago. Once again the children had an amazing time and were commended for their behaviour and team work. I thoroughly enjoyed the Year 6 Worship where the children showed how they had lived out our school values (Belonging, Friendship, Forgiveness / Team Work , Respect, Courage and Perseverance) during their week of activity.

Last week we had an amazing Story Telling Week. Thanks to Mr Hayward for co-ordinating a wonderful week's worth of stories and to the PTA for funding Peter

Chand's visit to school. The prize for the most humorous anecdote has to go to Mr Freeth. It was lovely to see the children so enthusiastic about stories and engaging with the learning challenges that they encountered.

Our sports teams have been active again and our gymnasts should feel particularly proud of the Bronze medals they returned to school with following the District competition earlier this week. Perseverance was certainly demonstrated by the team members who were here in school practising at 8am on Tuesday morning after a very late night, having performed in Symphony Hall

with the school choir the previous evening. Our School Choir represented Staffordshire as part of a massed choir of schools from across the West Midlands. Their solo item was particularly moving and the children have been commended by the organisers for their beautiful singing.

We are currently completing our annual parent questionnaire. If you didn't pick up a copy at Parents' Evening, please call in at the office to collect one and share your views with us. The feedback from the questionnaires is invaluable in helping us to shape our improvement plan and make

[Cont'd on page 2]

### **WORLD BOOK DAY— Thursday, 1st March 2018**

Children can come dressed as a book character or wear pyjamas and bring a teddy. They can also bring their favourite book. Class teachers will be arranging activities in recognition of the event.

We will also be enjoying a special lunch on this day with some of the children's favourites—a pasta dish, pizza, sponge and flapjack with some accompanying side dishes.

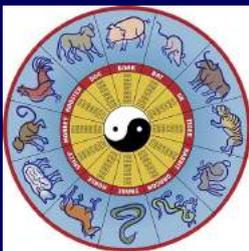
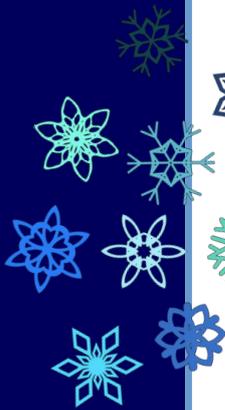
Please take a look at [www.scholastic.co.uk](http://www.scholastic.co.uk)

WORLD  
**BOOK  
DAY**

St Michael's: 'excited about learning'



Reception enjoyed some Winter Wonderland activities and



school an even better place. Your views are very important to us.

I hope that you all have a restful and peaceful half term. The children should feel proud of all that they have achieved again this half term and deserve a good break.

From Mrs Robertson

## Winter Wonderland

Reception have had an incredible half term learning about the wonders of Winter and Chinese New Year.

We had a fantastic 'Winter Wonderland day' where we played with magic snow and explored our very own icebergs, and our trip to the Snow dome was amazing. We had so much fun playing in the snow, making snow angels and riding on the tube rings, not to mention all the excitement of speeding down the ramps on our super fast sledges.



## Chinese New Year

On the 13th February, the children and staff in Reception celebrated Chinese New Year—this year is the year of the dog.

As well as having a lot of fun dressing up in red, making our classrooms look really vibrant, we learned about some Chinese traditions and enjoyed using chop sticks to taste noodles.



Action packed week at Shugborough for Year 6 pupils.

# Shugborough 2018



In January, Year 6 experienced an amazing week at Shugborough. We challenged ourselves to lots of new things, and overcame fears that we had. Some of the exciting activities were: BMX biking, caving, archery,

orienteering, river survey and team challenges. Personally, my favourite was BMX biking as I'd never really done it much. The track—which had been built by the same people who built the Olympic track—was really fun to ride because there were loads of bumps and rollers.

I also really enjoyed caving (although it was quite claustrophobic) because we had to crawl through the tunnels on our bellies.

Overall we loved the trip and would love to go again.

By Ella in 6F

In January 2018, Year 6 went on an incredible trip to Shugborough. There was lots of really fun activities like: BMX biking, the crystal maze, woodland craft and many more!

Shugborough is run by several instructors who run the activities to give us the best and most fun experience. The kitchen staff cooked amazing food for us and there are 3 options for tea and sandwiches for lunch with filling that you can also choose! The dorms are bunk beds and are really comfy! You also get free time very often where you can play football or cards (though you do have to provide the cards!)

There are teams that you are in too, so you can make new friends and have an even better time (if that's possible!)

Shugborough is the best and I would highly recommend it.

By Adam in 6F

# VIKINGS

## Year 6 Viking Day

On the 3rd January, Year 6 had an extraordinary Viking Day and were visited by a fact-filled man called Thorfinn Gunolfsson. Once we sat down Thorfinn introduced himself; we had no idea what he was saying because he was speaking in Norse. First Thorfinn told us all about the Viking countries—Scandinavia—and how they invaded Britain. Before break he told us about making fires, cooking food, instruments, combs and

long houses. In a long house there was only one room with a fire in the middle and one or two small windows. Just before lunch Thorfinn showed us all the armour and weapons the Vikings would have used such as: axe, spear, shield, helmet, sword and chainmail and a small knife. He showed us how the helmet helped by hitting himself on the head with an axe. We also solved riddles and played a game called fox and geese.

After lunch (that we were all waiting to be over quickly) we played some games to test if we were good warriors. 6F was the wolf tribe and 6M the bear tribe. The first game was about strength, next was balance and the last was precision. I took part in this one. By the end of the games we were drawing so we had one last battle and we won.

I thoroughly enjoyed the day and loved dressing up.

By Hannah in Year 6

Viking Top Trump designs

**TOP TRUMPS** Stoki the God of the Sun



**VIKING TRUMP FILE**  
 Stoki is the God of the sun. He moves the sun around the Earth with his bare hands and has the heart of an angel. However he is always worried about what people think of him. Sometimes his lack of self-confidence affects how the sun shines. He has his own original sun & power stone.

Strength: 99  
 Courage: 17  
 Popularity: 59  
 Power: 85  
 Beauty: 89



**TOP TRUMPS** Torthy



**VIKING TRUMP FILE**  
 She's god of farms and animals. She has a passion for turtles and tortoises. She loves watching turtle hatch-ers. If you worship her you will have luck and courage. She rides a chariot pulled by sheep and came to Agard on a turtle and spreads luck and courage wherever she goes.

Beauty: 92  
 Popularity: 89  
 Courage: 56  
 Strength: 32  
 Powerful: 17



## Year 3—Iron Man Day

Year 3 had an Iron Man Day on 1st February. We created our own Iron Man which was linked to our class text 'The Iron Man' by Ted Hughes.

Grayce in 3G said, "I like making the Iron Men because we used all sorts of materials like boxes, bottle tops and plastic cups. We also made a movie of it on the iPads."

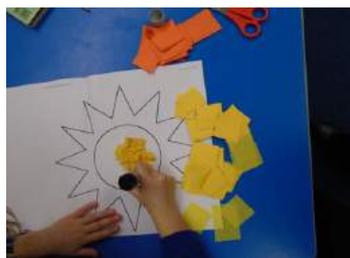


## Bikeability—Year 5

Year 5 did Bikeability this term. It was amazing. We went on the roads and learned to do a U-turn. We earned our Stage 2 Bikeability Badge which is orange. The people training us were the best. We wouldn't have got there without their help. We learned secondary and primary positions and much more.

By Alfie in Class 5RH

## Year 1 Mural



Year 1 have been busy creating a mural to show the story of Creation. They have worked together over a number of weeks to paint, use oil pastels, collage, decorate and glitter different parts. They have learned about team work, patience and creativity.

# Storytelling Week



The whole school recently took part in a full week of activities to celebrate National Storytelling Week. As part of this the children were able to listen to stories and tell their own. A big hit was Story Box Monday in which the children created a setting for their own story. They then used their setting and other props to tell each other their tales! Throughout the week the children were able to listen to each other tell stories but were also treated to being told stories by other teachers and also some brave Year 6 pupils who told stories in houses on Wednesday. However by far the most popular event of the week was the visit of Peter Chand the internationally renowned teller. Peter captivated the children with tales from India but the children's favourite were his riddles. The children and staff would like to thank you all for your support and the support of the PTA who funded Peter's visit.

# Symphony Hall

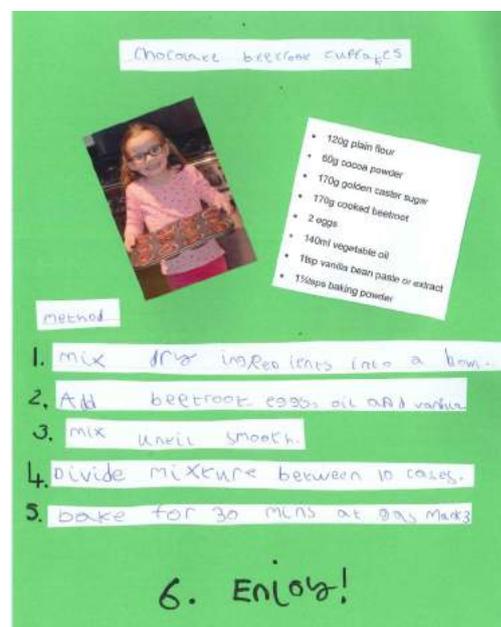
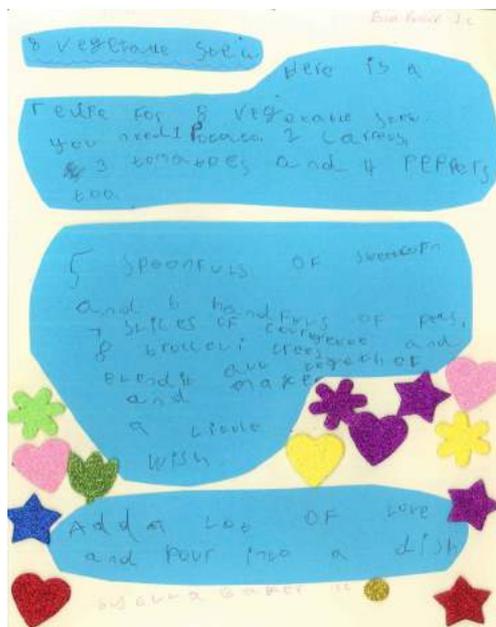


Music Mark West Midlands presented SING! At Symphony Hall this week. After weeks of rehearsals coordinated by Mrs Marsden, St Michael's School Choir performed brilliantly.

The bus collected a very excited choir group just after lunch taking them to Birmingham. Rehearsals took place in the afternoon followed by the most amazing performance by choir groups from all over the West Midlands. St Michael's choir had the honour of singing a solo and pictured left is our wonderful choir performing 'Stars'.



# Gardening Galore



## WINNERS—Ella 1C and Dulcie 1H

Look at these 2 delicious recipes—they were the winning entries from last term's gardening competition. Maybe you'd like to try cooking them for yourselves. If so, let us have some pictures and let us know how tasty they are. You can send any messages or pictures to [contactus@st-michaels-lichfield.staffs.sch.uk](mailto:contactus@st-michaels-lichfield.staffs.sch.uk).

## SPRING TERM COMPETITION: All things bright and beautiful

As the Spring approaches you will notice lots of things changing outside. This term's competition is to list as many things you have noticed about the Spring. Use your senses—your eyes, ears, nose, touch. There are no right or wrong answers so EVERYONE can have a go. Maybe look at your garden over the next few weeks and look at the changes or if you walk to school you might notice things changing en route.

To accompany your entry, please draw a picture, or make a collage (any materials will be acceptable). Use A4 paper/card and make sure you put your name and class on the reverse of the picture. Be as creative with your work as you'd like and send it into the office by **Monday, 12th March.**

# SPORTS NEWS ..SPORTS NEWS ..



## Hi-5 Netball Finals

After a winning performance at their last tournament, one of our Year 6 netball teams represented St Michael's at the Lichfield and Burntwood Schools Netball Finals. The team played brilliantly, defending our goal well whilst also scoring some goals of our own. Zack even came close to making a goal from the centre position during one game! Despite drawing two of our three matches we didn't make it through to the final. A great performance from all, including the supporters braving the freezing temperatures.

## Year 3-4 Football

Following on from the success of our Year 5 and 6 football teams before Christmas, Year 3 and 4 followed suit to form 2 teams of their own to compete against other Lichfield and Burntwood schools. The evening started in unforgettable style, with a roaring display of hail making it nearly impossible to see the ball in both teams first games. After a quick trip inside to warm up under the hand driers, we battled the weather to complete our final games, even competing in a friendly after the tournament had ended. Well done to everyone involved, you showed great football skills and brilliant perseverance to keep playing through the awful weather. It's great to see we've got such wonderful football skills making their way through the school to keep our football success going in the future.



## KS2 Gymnastics

Having come to many early morning gymnastics sessions, some of our Key Stage 2 children performed in a Lichfield and Burntwood Schools gymnastics competition at Erasmus Darwin Academy. All of the children involved had to perform an individual routine, which was judged and scored to give an overall team score. Everybody performed their individual routines brilliantly, showing great confidence and bravery to perform by themselves. Some of the team then performed a dazzling group routine to a song from 'The Lion King'. Despite a little confusion over which way the mats were facing, our group routine went without a hitch, bringing home bronze medals for the girls involved. Another great sporting performance for St. Michael's and lots more sporting talent within school to look forward to seeing more of in the future. Well done to the whole team!

# Out of School Activities

## February Half Term



Monday 19th February 10am—12.00  
 £2 per child. Booking essential. 5yrs+.  
 Families welcome.

Story with Rory

Tuesday 20th February 12.30-1.30pm  
 5-8yrs £3.50 per child Drop in session

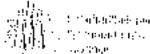
Make me a Mini Hero

Join Story with Rory for tales of adventure and heroism for this interactive workshop where you will get to discover and explore your Inner hero!



Lichfield Library  
 The Friary  
 Lichfield  
 lichfield.library@staffordshire.gov.uk  
 Tel: 03001118000

Tuesday 20th February  
 2pm - 3.30pm  
 Messy afternoon, come in  
 your old clothes and have fun  
 with all things creative!  
 £2 per child. Booking Essential  
 4yrs+. Families welcome



Code Club  
 will run from  
 12-2pm.

**Spin, Pop Boom** – Be amazed when the Mad Scientist is able to defy gravity in this energetic and spectacular special event. Didgeridoo tubes, foaming hands and steaming chemical reactions

Lichfield Library

Saturday 10th March 11am and 2pm  
 £2 per child (5+) Booking Essential



## Tennis



10 WEEK COURSE STARTING IN  
 YOUR LOCAL CLUB!!

FRIDAY MARCH 2<sup>ND</sup>  
 (NOT INCL SCHOOL HOLIDAYS)

AGES 4 - 16 YEARS

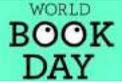
Bring along a friend and receive a  
 FREE holiday camp date!!



MINI TENNIS PROGRESSIONS  
 LOCAL TEAM COMPETITIONS  
 MISS HITS - TENNIS FOR GIRLS  
 LTA COACHES PROVIDING A SAFE ENVIRONMENT  
 ZOE 07871898645  
 ZEDWARDS837@GMAIL.COM

HALLOWEEN TENNIS CLUB  
 HOLIDAYS  
 FREE TRIAL  
 FREE HOLIDAY CAMP DATE!!

# DIARY DATES from Friday 17 February until Easter Break

DATE	EVENT	TIME
Monday 19th February to Friday 23rd February	<b>SPRING HALF TERM</b>	
Tuesday, 27th February	PTA AGM and Committee Meeting	8pm—Watling Room, Brewhouse & Kitchen
Thursday 1st March	WORLD BOOK DAY children invited to come to school dressed as favourite book character and bring into school their	All day 
Monday 5th March to Thursday 8th March	Scholastic Book Fayre in the school hall after school	3.30pm—4.30pm
Monday 12th March	4J Lent Workshop at St Michael's Church	am
Tuesday 13th March	4L Lent Workshop at St Michael's Church	am
Friday 9th March	PTA Non Uniform Day for donations of chocolate for our chocolate bingo	All day
Monday 12th March	Class 2P Visit to Lichfield Library	9.45am
Monday 12th March	Class 2H Visit to Lichfield Library	1.30pm
Wednesday 14th March	Year 6 Blists Hill Trip	All day
Friday 16th March	PTA Chocolate Bingo Evening	6.00pm—8.00pm
Wednesday 21st March	Years 3 and 4 Easter Performance	9.30am—10.30am
Friday 23rd March	Years 3 and 4 Easter Performance	9.30am—10.30am
Monday 26th March	Class 1C Visit to Lichfield Library	9.45am
Monday 26th March	Class 1D Visit to Lichfield Library	1.30pm
Tuesday 27th March	Years 4, 5, 6 Easter Communion at St Michael's Church Family welcome to attend.	9.30am—10.30am
Friday 30th March until Wednesday 11th April	<b>EASTER HOLIDAYS</b>	
Thursday 12th and Friday 13th April	<b>INSET DAYS (staff only in school)</b>	