



12th October 2023

Dear Parent/Carer,

Matthew 22:1-14

The Parable of the Wedding Banquet

22 Jesus spoke to them again in parables, saying: ² "The kingdom of heaven is like a king who prepared a wedding banquet for his son. ³ He sent his servants to those who had been invited to the banquet to tell them to come, but they refused to come.

⁴ "Then he sent some more servants and said, 'Tell those who have been invited that I have prepared my dinner: My oxen and fattened cattle have been butchered, and everything is ready. Come to the wedding banquet.'

⁵ "But they paid no attention and went off—one to his field, another to his business. ⁶ The rest seized his servants, mistreated them and killed them. ⁷ The king was enraged. He sent his army and destroyed those murderers and burned their city.

⁸ "Then he said to his servants, 'The wedding banquet is ready, but those I invited did not deserve to come. ⁹ So go to the street corners and invite to the banquet anyone you find.' ¹⁰ So the servants went out into the streets and gathered all the people they could find, the bad as well as the good, and the wedding hall was filled with guests.

¹¹ "But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing wedding clothes. ¹² He asked, 'How did you get in here without wedding clothes, friend?' The man was speechless.

¹³ "Then the king told the attendants, 'Tie his hand and foot, and throw him outside, into the darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'

¹⁴ "For many are invited, but few are chosen."

The parable of the wedding in today's gospel was spoken when Jesus saw that his own people were moving to reject him. The story is symbolic. But the invitation to us is a real one. It is an invitation to aim at the good life. The invitation to the kingdom of heaven is cast wide, yet we are free to say yes or no. No matter how low a stature I seem to have in life, I am welcome. I will shake off the rags of my injustice, my less good self and dress in the clothes of a new, more loving person.

I ask God to help me to respond as best I can to this real invitation.

Feast of St Michael's

The Feast of St Michael's was a fantastic day! It was lovely that we were able to come together as a community. Thank you to all the parents who volunteered and supported by attending Mass or the mini fete after school.

Individual and Sibling Photos

The children will be taking their individual and sibling photos on Thursday, 2nd November 2023, please ensure that your child is wearing the correct school uniform.

Miss Cahill and Mrs Riste

Sadly, we will be saying good-bye to Miss Cahill and Mrs Riste during the half term break as they move onto another role and retirement. Miss Cahill and Mrs Riste have been at St Michael's for several years and we are grateful for their service and commitment to the school. We pray that God will continue to bless both Miss Cahill and Mrs Riste in all that they do.

We will write to shortly to let you know who the new staff in the office will be.

Class Assembly

We will celebrate the work that **Class 6** are doing in Religious Education with a class assembly on **Friday, 10th November at 9:15 am**. Parents of children in this class are warmly welcomed to attend.

Black History Topic - Windrush

For our Black History topic this year, we are focusing on the 75th anniversary of the Windrush arriving at Tilbury Docks.

The study of the Black History topic will culminate in a performance for parents and carers for years 1-6. Please see the information below on the performance dates and times:

Thursday, 19th October 2023 at 2:30 pm -Years 1, 3 and 5

Friday, 20th October 2023 at 2:30 pm - Years 2, 4, 6

Half Term Break

The school will be closed for half from Monday, 23rd October to Friday, 27th October; school will re-open as normal on Monday, 30th October.

Nuts in School

Just a reminder that St Michael's does not allow food containing nuts in school; we have an increasing number of pupils in our school who have nut allergies. Anaphylaxis (allergic reaction) can occur as a result of digestion, inhalation or any other contact with nut-based products. For their safety, all nut-based products have been banned from the school premises.

Please do not send your child into school with any nut-based product for packed lunch or for a special birthday treat- this includes products that may contain traces of nuts.

Potential allergens could include the following:

- Spreads, e.g. chocolate spread
- Cereal bars
- Some types of biscuit containing nuts
- Condiments, e.g. satay sauce
- Cakes containing nuts
- Some snack pots containing nuts

It is important that you check the labelling of food products before sending your child in to school with them - it is not always apparent that products contain nuts or traces of nuts.

Due to the severity of the allergy, if any pupil is found with a nut-based product, the school will confiscate it and contact parents straight away.

We appreciate your continued support to ensure that our children remain safe.

School Uniform

The children are looking very smart in their uniforms. Please see below for a reminder about the uniform expectations.

Please ensure that your child is dressed in full school uniform.

Nursery

- Navy jumper
- Navy jogging bottoms
- White polo T-shirt
- Black shoes/trainers with no laces
- St Michael's school bag

Reception

- White Polo shirt
- Burgundy jumper with school logo (**boys compulsory**)
- Burgundy cardigan with school logo (**girls compulsory**)
- Mid grey trousers/tailored shorts (boys)
- Mid grey pleated skirt/pinafore/trousers/tailored shorts (girls)
- Sensible black shoes (**No boots**)
- Grey socks (boys)
- White socks - Grey tights may be worn in the winter months only (girls)
- A plain black or navy top coat/anorak (no logos)
- Woollen winter hats with or without school logo
- Hair ribbons/bands in school colours
- School bag with or without logo

Year 1 to Year six:

- White school shirt
- School tie (Burgundy & gold stripe)
- Burgundy jumper with school logo (boys optional)
- Burgundy cardigan with school logo (girls optional)
- Mid grey trousers/tailored shorts (boys)
- Mid grey pleated skirt/pinafore/trousers/tailored shorts (girls)
- Sensible black shoes (**No boots**)
- Grey socks (boys)
- White socks - Grey tights may be worn in the winter months only (girls)
- **Blazer compulsory**
- A plain black or navy top coat/anorak (no logos)
- Woollen winter hats with or without school logo
- Hair ribbons/bands in school colours
- School bag with or without logo (Yrs 1 & 2)
- School backpack with or without logo (Yrs 3-6)

PLEASE MARK CHILDREN'S CLOTHING CLEARLY WITH THEIR NAME - items of clothing cannot be returned unless they have a name printed inside them.

Important: Please note, these items are not permitted in school:

- Jewellery including earrings
- Nail varnish
- Hair gel, hair dye or razor markings
- Trainers

For health and safety reasons, long hair must be tied back using plain ribbons, bands or hair slides in school colours.

PE Kit:

- White round necked P.E. T-shirt
- Plain navy blue shorts
- Plain navy blue track suits with/without school logo
- Black plimsolls (indoor PE)
- Swimming costume and swimming hat (Yrs 3-5 only)

God Bless,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'N. Scott', enclosed within a thin black rectangular border.

N. Scott
Acting Executive Head Teacher