



30th October 2023

Dear Parent/Carer,

Matthew 22:34-40

The Greatest Commandment

34 Hearing that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees, the Pharisees got together. **35** One of them, an expert in the law, tested him with this question: **36** "Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?"

37 Jesus replied: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.'[a](#) **38** This is the first and greatest commandment. **39** And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'[b](#) **40** All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments."

God is love and everything he does comes from his love for us. He puts us first in His thoughts and worries. He first loved us. Our love for Him is a response to His infinite goodness. So the love of God comes first. Love of neighbor, however, is firmly rooted in it. The more we are aware of God's love, truth, and goodness, the more we love what He loves. He wants His love to direct and guide our thoughts, intentions, and actions toward others. Love is a gift when we give ourselves to another, when we are with everything directed towards him, for his good and benefit.

Mrs Collins

Welcome to Mrs Collins who joins us this week as the new Office Manager in the school office.

Poppy Appeal

We have poppies available in the school office. We are asking for a donation of 20p for a poppy, which will go the Royal British Legion.

As I am sure you are aware, Poppies are worn as a show of support for the Armed Forces community.

The poppy is a well-known and well-established symbol, one that carries a wealth of history and meaning with it. Wearing a poppy is still a very personal choice, reflecting individual experiences and personal memories. It is never compulsory but is greatly appreciated by those who it is intended to support.

All Saints Mass

The children will be attending Mass for All Saints on Wednesday, 1st November 2023 at 10:30 am; parents and carers are warmly invited to attend.

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.

Parents' Conference Meetings

We will hold parent conference meetings for nursery to year 6 on Wednesday, 8th November, and Thursday, 9th November, if you have not already done so please book an appointment to see your child's class teacher to see how he/she is settling into the academic year on School Ping.

Anti-bullying Week

During the week beginning 13th November, we will be marking Anti-Bullying Week. The theme this year is 'Make a Noise About Bullying'. We know that:

- Too often, we are silent when we see bullying take place, silent about the hurt bullying causes, and silent when we hear bullying dismissed as 'just banter'. It doesn't have to be this way.
- Of course, we won't like everyone and we don't always agree, but we can choose respect and unity.

At St Michael's during Anti-Bullying Week, we will come together to have discussions about what bullying means to us, how banter can turn into something more hurtful, and what we can do to stop bullying. We know that, together, we can make a difference and take a stand against bullying.

We will start the week with Odd Socks Day on Monday, 13th November. We ask that all children wear odd socks of any colour to school that day to show their commitment to standing up against bullying.

From the playground to Parliament, and from our phones to our homes, let's make a noise about bullying.

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 welcome to attend.

We will celebrate the work that **Class 5** are doing in Religious Education with a class assembly on **Friday, 24th November at 9:15 am**. Parents of children in this class are warmly welcome to attend.

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 to 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 biscuits containing nuts
- Condiments, e.g. satay sauce
- Cakes containing nuts

- Some snack pots containing nuts

You must check the labelling of food products before sending your child into 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.

God Bless,



N. Scott

Acting Executive Head Teacher