



Message from Mrs Crocker

Welcome back and Happy New Year! I hope everyone had a lovely Christmas holiday. I always find it such a busy but fun holiday, so it was great this year having a bit of extra time after the New Year to 'relax'!!

This Spring Term is such a short term, so it feels like we're back into the swing of things straight away. It is great to see the children looking refreshed and ready to learn so they are well prepared for the activities and events coming up.

Attendance

This week I met with the local authority's 'School Attendance and Enforcement Officer'. She is helping us review our attendance and punctuality and offer any support. This was a very positive meeting and she was impressed with our overall attendance in school. Thank you everyone! She recognises that there are times when it's not possible for children to be in school (e.g. illness) and was pleased that this was the main reason for absences (rather than taking holidays in school time – I didn't mean she was pleased the children were ill!). I'm sure you're all very aware, but I wanted to just remind you, that we will always take great care of your child if they're not feeling 100% (and administer medicines if necessary with consent), so if you're in any doubt about whether to send them in, please do give us a call and we can help you make that decision. Obviously things like sickness/diarrhoea there is the 48hours period when they need to be at home. If you want any more information, this is a handy website: <https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>

School of Sanctuary

In November I sent some information that the school and preschool had begun the process to become a School of Sanctuary. The reason we're committed to apply to become a School of Sanctuary is because we want to build on the good work we're already doing and embed and formalise our processes for welcoming all children and adults to our school. We also recognise that Michaelchurch lacks diversity and feel becoming a School of Sanctuary will help support and focus on these crucial areas for development.

Huw Evans is our School of Sanctuary co-ordinator and he will be in school on the afternoon of **Wednesday 24th Jan** to work with Sapling and Oak class. After school we will hold a meeting for any adults who are interested in finding out more.

Louise Crocker

Headteacher

Governor Vacancies

Michaelchurch Escley Primary and Preschool's are looking for some more recruits to join the Governing Board!

Do you know ...

...someone who is enthusiastic about education?

...has some time to spare?

If so, they may be just the person we need!

A co-opted governor **doesn't** have to be a relative of the school – in fact, it's better to have a range of backgrounds and experiences on the governing body. It could be a friend, neighbour, work colleague or someone you know outside of school.

If you would like to find out more about how you (or someone you know) can contribute to governance at our school, or have any questions about being a governor, then please contact the school office. They will then arrange for a governor to contact you to have a chat.

Dates for your Diary

Date	Event
Weds 17 th Jan	Oak class trip- Knighton Space Activity
Fri 19 th Jan	Acorn class- Wateraid workshop
Weds 24 th Jan	School of Sanctuary Parents meeting 3pm
Tues 30 th Jan	Acorn class- Visit to Waterworks
Mon 12th Feb-Friday 16th Feb	HALF TERM
Weds 28 th Feb	Oak class Gloucester Mosque visit
Tues 5 th March	Acorn class Safari trip
Weds 6 th March	World Book day
Mon 25th March-Fri 5th April	EASTER HOLIDAY