



Message from Mrs Crocker

Happy 'end of a half term' everyone! At least we had approximately two days of 'sunny' weather in the first half of our summer term! However, this has not dampened our moods and we've packed a lot into the previous 7 weeks! We were tremendously proud of our year 6 children who tackled their 'SATs' week with enthusiasm and gusto! I'm sure the focus being the SATs breakfast and end of week trip to Pizza Hut helped spur them on, however they worked extremely hard when they needed to and were all amazing. Well done Year 6!

Staffing

As you're aware, Mrs Flanagan has been teaching in Sapling Class for the majority of this term and will continue after half term too. We're thrilled that in September she will be the full-time teacher for Saplings to cover Mrs Davies' maternity leave. This does mean that sadly Mrs Flanagan won't be able to also continue working in preschool from September, so we're now advertising for a new Preschool member of staff. If you know of anyone who has a level 3 in childcare, please do ask them to get in touch!

New Minibus

We're extremely excited to introduce everyone to the newest member of the school community – 'Gavin' (the children chose the name, not me!!)



This was partly funded by a very generous donation from the PTA which made the purchase possible, and I wanted to extend a very heartfelt thank you to the PTA and everyone who has donated in the last few years to make

this possible. Having a school minibus is a big financial commitment but is invaluable in allowing us to get out and about a lot more and really maximise our 'outdoor ethos'.

PTA

Having mentioned the PTA above, I wanted to propose a plan for the next academic year. For a variety of reasons, recruiting and retaining PTA members has always been a challenge at Michaelchurch, however in the last few years it has felt even more of an issue. Consequently, the hard work has fallen on the shoulders of just a very small number of dedicated and amazing parents who have still managed to put on some brilliant fundraising events. I wanted to thank these few dedicated members for their contributions to help raise funds for the school and bring the wider school community together.

However, I feel it's not fair or possible to continue in this way and, in discussion with the PTA, we've come up with a plan.

Next year we'll provide a plan for about 6 events (roughly one every half term) that the PTA will be responsible for. We'll attach a year group to each of these events and ask that cohort of parents to get together and 'host' the event. After half term I'll write in more detail about this plan and let you know more details! I'm hoping it will spread the load amongst more families and allow a variety of events to take place next year.

Finally...

Sorry for writing so much! I'll just finish by wishing everyone a very happy half term! I hope you have a relaxing time and we all look forward to seeing you all on Monday 3rd June – oh, apart from Oak Class who need to be at Hereford bus station no later than 8:30am for their residential trip to London! How exciting!

Louise Crocker

Pre school news

We've had lots of fun this half term with a mixture of sunshine and showers!

The children have been very busy continuing to plant our garden, this week sunflowers, beans and peas have been planted. Emily (Iries Mummy) kindly brought a wormery into preschool the children enjoyed helping Emily settle the worms into their new home. Forest school was the muddiest yet this week, with Beth hosing the children down before entering preschool much to their delight.

The weather is very changeable here at Michaelchurch, please could all children still have in preschool wellies and waterproofs with a full change of clothes in a bag on their peg as well as labelled suncream and a sun hat!

Our welly walks are proving popular, and we are enjoying showing families how lucky we are to explore the fields around preschool and our warm and inviting setting. The next welly walk is Tuesday 11th June. 9.15 am until 11.00am.

We are encouraging the children who are moving to Reception in September to enter the preschool room independently, parents/ carers are welcome in the cloakroom area and then to leave promptly. This will hopefully ease your child happily into their transition sessions after half term.

Thank you for for your support and wish you all a happy and relaxing half term break.

Julie, Beth and Sophie

Dates- All our upcoming events and important dates can be found on the calendar on our website.

[Michaelchurch Escley Primary School - Calendar \(michaelchurchprimary.com\)](http://michaelchurchprimary.com)