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Little People... Big Beginnings...

Dear Parents, Carers and Friends,

This week, we're handing our newsletter over to some of the littlest members of our St Michael's family... our wonderful Pre-School children! 🌟

We know that choosing a Pre-School is a huge decision. You want somewhere your child will be happy, safe, nurtured and known, but also somewhere that will spark their curiosity, build their confidence and give them the very best start to their learning journey. That is exactly what we aim to provide at St Michael & All Angels.

Through play, exploration, conversation, music, movement, outdoor adventures and lots of wonderful sensory experiences, our children are encouraged to explore, communicate, create, make friends and become increasingly independent.

So this week, rather than simply telling you about our Pre-School, we thought we'd show you! 📷

And if you know a family in Shelf or the surrounding community looking for the right Pre-School for their little one, please share this newsletter with them. We would love to welcome them into our St Michael's family. ❤️

Mrs Berry



Talking Around the Table

"What is something you can do now that you once found really difficult, and what helped you to keep going?"

You might like to share this over dinner, on the journey to school, or before bedtime. It is a simple question to spark reflection and connection together.



What Matters To Us In Preschool?

🧡 Building Positive Relationships

It all begins with belonging.

We want every child to feel **safe, happy, valued and known**. Through playing, talking and learning together, children begin to form friendships, build trust with adults and learn those all-important early social skills.

🌱 Outdoor Learning

Big adventures start outside!

Our outdoor environment gives children wonderful opportunities to **explore, investigate, discover and learn through first-hand experiences**. Whether they're getting messy, noticing changes in nature or simply having the freedom to explore, outdoor learning is an important part of Pre-School life. We are blessed with a wonderful nature garden too! Look at what fun we have.....



Gross & Fine Motor Skills

Move. Climb. Balance. Grow.

Running, jumping, climbing, balancing and moving aren't *just* great fun. They help children develop **strength, coordination, confidence and control of their bodies**, building important foundations for their next stages of development.

Sensory Experiences

Little hands. Big discoveries.

Squishing, pouring, dressing up, mixing, digging, building, touching and exploring...

We provide opportunities for children to discover the world through their senses. These playful experiences encourage **curiosity, concentration, creativity and lots of wonderful language**.



🎵 Singing & Music

Finding our voices... and sometimes making lots of noise! 🎵

Songs, rhymes, rhythm and music bring so much joy to Pre-School. Singing together encourages children to **listen, join in, remember patterns and words, develop confidence and enjoy being part of a group.**

💬 Language Development

Every conversation counts.

Talking sits at the heart of so much that happens in our Pre-School. Through stories, songs, imaginative play and everyday conversation, our adults encourage children to **listen, express their ideas, learn new words, ask questions and find their voice.**



🌈 **COULD ST MICHAEL'S BE THE START OF YOUR CHILD'S STORY OR SOMEONE'S CHILD WHO YOU KNOW?**

Pre-School places available!!

We are so proud of our lovely Pre-School, where your child can **play, explore, discover and thrive. We do still have some places available.**

So, come and discover what makes St Michael & All Angels such a special place to begin your child's learning journey. 🧡

“The school's Pre-school & Reception class
provide secure foundations
for children's future learning”



Reminders & Support



We would like to take this opportunity to share a few important reminders and highlight the support available to all our lovely families.

 We are fortunate to have a wide range of **pre-loved school uniform**, all in **excellent condition**, available in school. This is a great way to support families and reduce waste. Please visit the **school website** for full details on how you can access this.

Attendance Reminders

Attendance remains a **high priority** at our school, as we know how important regular attendance is for children's learning, wellbeing and sense of belonging.

We kindly remind parents and carers that:

- Any child absence must be reported **before the start of the school day**
- This must be done **by telephone**
- Parents and carers must **speak directly to a member of staff**
- Absences **cannot be reported by email**

Thank you for your continued support in helping us maintain clear and consistent attendance procedures.

Safeguarding and Family Support

The safety and wellbeing of all our children is always at the heart of what we do. You can talk to **any** member of staff in school if you are worried about a child. All members of staff, governors and volunteers have had safeguarding training.

Our school does have special members of staff trained to deal with concerns and worries. They are called Designated Safeguarding Leads (DSL) and our main one is Mrs Berry. All members of our Pastoral Team, Mrs Westby and Miss Lawless, are also Designated Safeguarding Leads.

Further information about family support, safeguarding and who to contact can also be found on the **school website**.

We are always here to listen and to work in partnership with families to ensure every child feels safe, supported and able to thrive.