

# St. Michael's C.E. Primary School

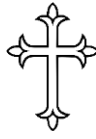
Headteacher:

Mrs S. Dring MA, BA  
(Hons), Headteacher



Leigh Road  
Howe Bridge  
Atherton  
Manchester  
M46 0PA

Love Faith  
Honesty Respect  
Courage Kindness



☎ (01942) 883118



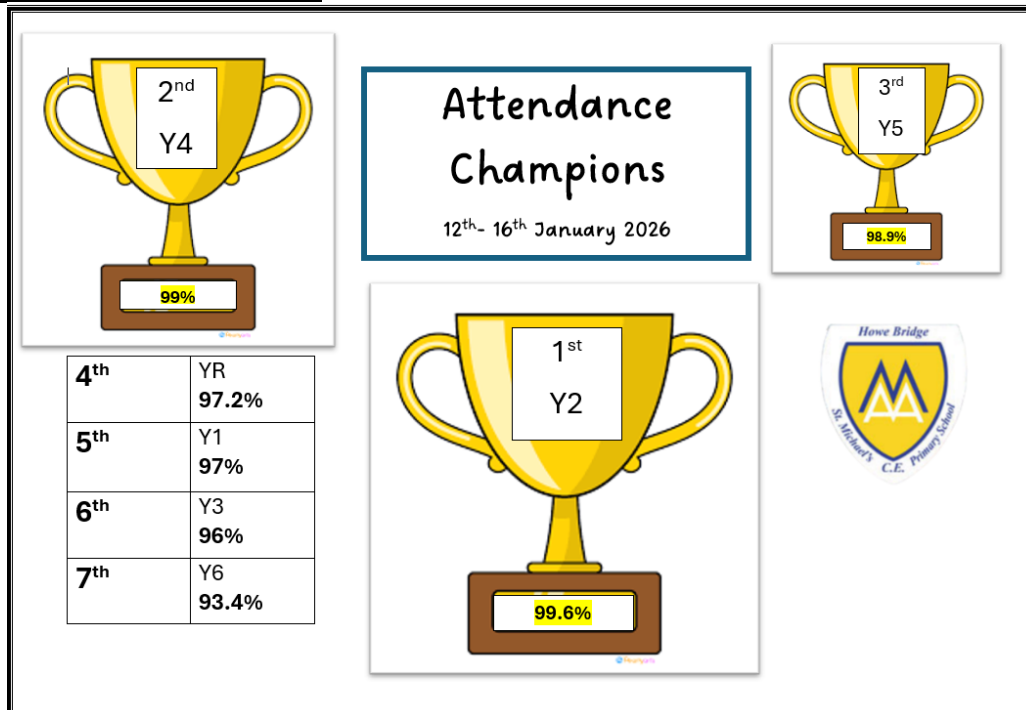
enquiries@admin.howebridge.wigan.sch.uk

*'Immersed in a Christian Community, each individual is encouraged, challenged and nurtured to learn and grow to achieve their full potential.'*

*Love, Respect, Kindness, Faith, Honesty and Courage*

## Newsletter 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2026

### Weekly Class Attendance



### Healthy Snacks Reminder 🥕

As a healthy school, we encourage all children to bring healthy snacks for break times.

Recently, we have noticed an increase in crisps and chocolate bars being brought into school. Please support us by choosing healthier options such as fruit, vegetables, or other suitable healthy snacks.

We would also like to remind families that we have children in school who are allergic to nuts. For this reason, please ensure that **no snacks containing nuts** are brought into school.

Finally, please remind your child to pick up any wrappers after snack time and place them in the bin to help keep our school clean and safe.

Thank you for your continued support in helping us promote a healthy and safe school environment.

### **Could Your Child Be Eligible for Free School Meals?** 🇬🇧

We have shared information recently about **Free School Meals (FSM)** and would like to remind families to check whether they may be eligible.

Checking eligibility is quick and easy and takes around **5 minutes**. You can apply online here:

👉 <https://www.cloudforedu.org.uk/ofsm/sims>

Applying for Free School Meals:

- **Does not affect** any benefits you currently receive
- If successful, your child will receive **Free School Meals throughout their time at St Michael's**
- The school also receives **additional funding** for every eligible child, which helps support learning and resources

If your application is unsuccessful, your details are securely retained and checked weekly. This means that if your circumstances change – even for a short period – and you become eligible, Free School Meals will be awarded and remain in place for the rest of your child's time at St Michael's.

Please apply even if your child currently receives **Universal Infant Free School Meals (UIFSM)** (Reception to Year 2). These meals:

- Are automatically provided
- Do not include additional school funding
- End at the end of Year 2

We have already had **several successful applications**, so please don't miss out if you think you may be eligible.

### **Local Water Polo Classes** 🇬🇧

We have been asked to share details of a local Water Polo class taking place in the area. This is a great opportunity for children to try something new, build confidence in the water, and develop teamwork skills.

Please see the attached leaflet for further information, including session times and how to book.



## Minecraft Social – February Half Term 🎮

We are pleased to share details of a popular Minecraft Social event taking place during February Half Term.

These two-hour sessions give children the chance to build, create, and collaborate in Minecraft while sharing ideas and working together on exciting build challenges.

📅 Friday 20th February 2026

📍 Wigan Library

🕒 9:30am – 11:30am

📍 Leigh Library

🕒 1:30pm – 3:30pm

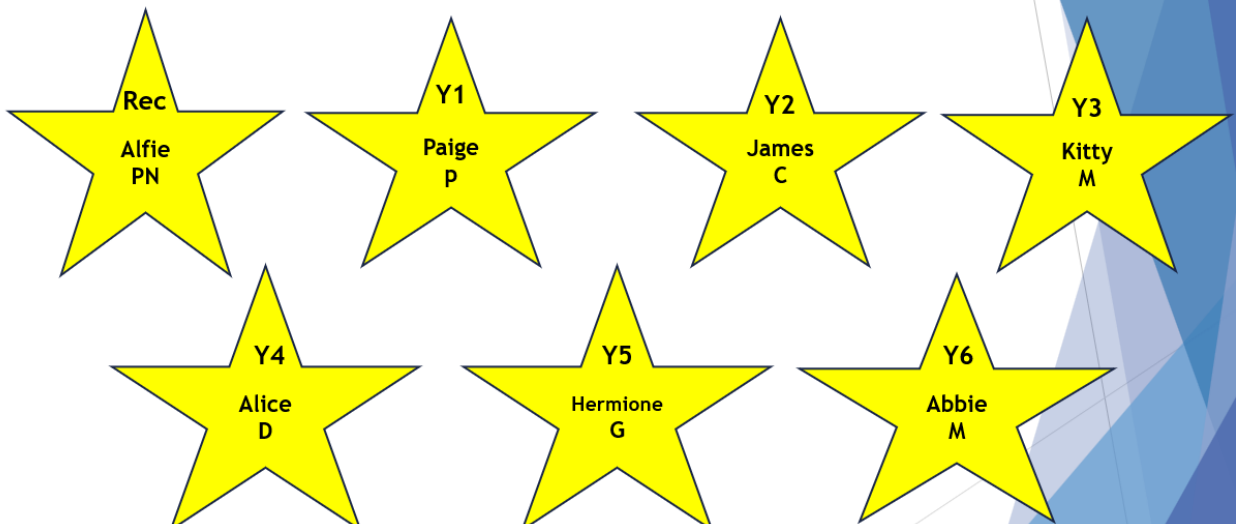
This is a fantastic opportunity for children to enjoy a creative and social gaming experience in a friendly, supportive environment.

👉 Please see the attached flyer for full details.



The flyer features the 'Computer Explorers' logo at the top left, with 'HALF TERM MINECRAFT SOCIAL' in large, bold letters to its right. Below this, it lists the locations 'WIGAN' and 'LEIGH'. The central text describes the event as a chance for children to 'Give your child a head start in the digital world with our Minecraft Social', where they can 'Join us and fellow players in Minecraft Education to build, create and Xplore!'. It lists the date 'Friday 20th February' and the times for both libraries: 'Wigan Library 9.30-11.30am' and 'Leigh Library 1.30-3.30pm'. A yellow starburst indicates the price is 'Only £15 for 2 hours'. At the bottom, there is a 'BOOK!' section with a website link, a 'GOT QUESTIONS?' section with an email address, and a QR code. The slogan 'Preparing children for the future' is at the very bottom. The flyer is decorated with images of children playing Minecraft and socializing.

## Stars of the Week

# Star of the Week




### Next week at a glance

Week beginning	Before school	During the school day	Music tuition	After school
26 <sup>th</sup> Jan				
Monday	Breakfast club	Whole school Collective Worship  Year 1 outdoor PE Year 4 outdoor PE Year 3 indoor PE  iRock band practise 	Guitar	ABC childcare
Tuesday	Breakfast club	Whole school singing worship  Y3 outdoor PE	Drums  Violin	ABC childcare
Wednesday	Breakfast club	Whole school Collective Worship  Rec indoor PE Year 1 outdoor PE		ABC childcare
Thursday	Breakfast club	Class Worship  Rec indoor PE Y5 indoor PE Y6 indoor PE Year 2 outdoor PE		ABC childcare
Friday	Breakfast club	Whole school Celebration Worship  Year 5 Swimming Year 2 outdoor PE Year 6 outdoor PE Year 4 indoor PE	Keyboard	ABC childcare

### Future dates for your diary

(Please note, these will be added to frequently)

5 <sup>th</sup> February	Young Voices
9 <sup>th</sup> February	Lent Service in school (pupils only - Ashing for Ash Wednesday)
16 <sup>th</sup> Feb – 20 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Half Term
23 <sup>rd</sup> March – 25 <sup>th</sup> March	Year 4 Robinwood residential
24 <sup>th</sup> March	Year 1 Blackpool Zoo Trip
1 <sup>st</sup> April	Easter Service in Church (pupils only)
Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> April	Finish for Easter Break at 3:30pm
20 <sup>th</sup> April	Children return to school at 8:50am
4 <sup>th</sup> May	Bank Holiday Monday
25 <sup>th</sup> May – 29 <sup>th</sup> May	Half Term

29 <sup>th</sup> June – 3 <sup>rd</sup> July	Year 6 Residential trip
6 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 1 Bring Yer Wellies trip
9 <sup>th</sup> July	 Turn Wigan Purple July 9, 2026
13 <sup>th</sup> July	Y6 Leavers Service in Church 2:45pm (Parents Welcome)
16 <sup>th</sup> July	Finish for Summer Break at 3:30pm
17 <sup>th</sup> July	Inset day – Staff only
1 <sup>st</sup> September	Inset day – Staff only
2 <sup>nd</sup> September	Children return to school at 8:50am
9 <sup>th</sup> September	Rock Kidz 🙌🎸

### Useful Links

**School Instagram Account** <https://www.instagram.com/st.michaelsceprimaryschool/>

**School Facebook Account** <https://www.facebook.com/HoweBridgeStMichaelsPrimary>

**School Lunches** to be ordered on <https://app.schoolgrid.co.uk>

**Apply for Free School Meals** <https://forms.wigan.gov.uk/xfp/form/750>

**Mental Health and wellbeing details** – [www.actionforhappiness.org](http://www.actionforhappiness.org)

**Samaritans** 116 123 (freephone 24 hours a day)

**Consultation admission arrangements 2027/28** - [www.wigan.gov.uk/consultations](http://www.wigan.gov.uk/consultations)

**Mind** - [www.mind.org.uk](http://www.mind.org.uk)

### Online resources

#### For parents:

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/>

<https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/advice-centre/parents-and-carers>

<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/>

<https://www.childnet.com/parents-and-carers>

#### For children:

<http://www.safetynetkids.org.uk/personal-safety/staying-safe-online/>

<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/>

<https://www.internetmatters.org/advice/6-10/>