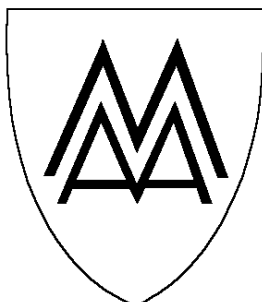


# St. Michael's C.E. Primary School

Headteacher:

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



Leigh Road  
Howe Bridge  
Atherton  
Manchester  
M46 0PA

Love Faith  
Honesty Respect  
Courage Kindness



☎ (01942) 883118



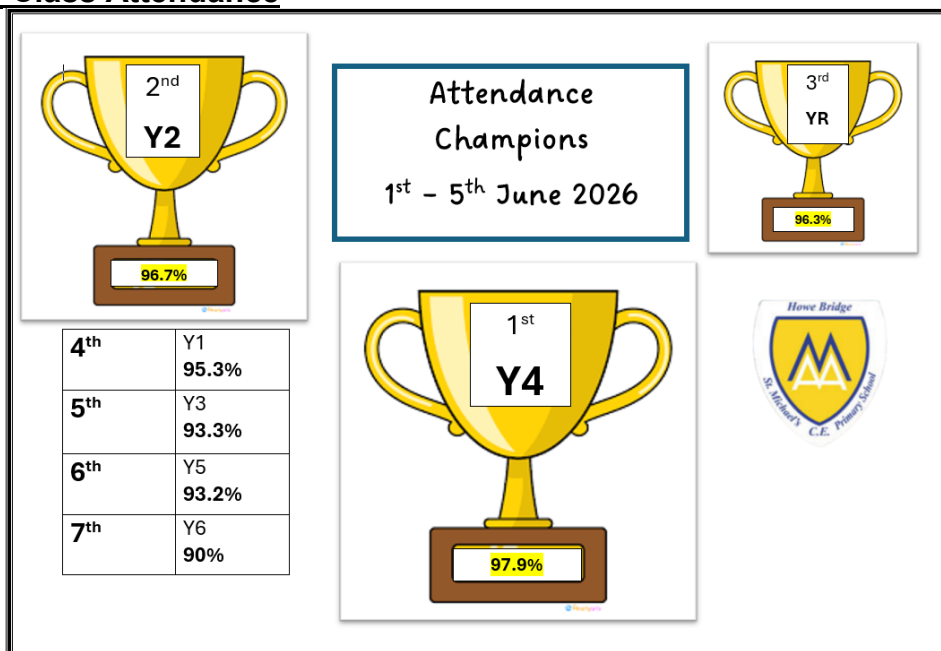
enquiries@admin.howebridge.wigan.sch.uk

*'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 12<sup>th</sup> June 2026

### Weekly Class Attendance



**Lateness** –Please could you make sure that you arrive on time for school. After 9.15 this is treated as an unauthorised absence. Missing minutes causes missing learning.

| Minutes late per day | Missed learning in the year |
|----------------------|-----------------------------|
| 5 minutes            | 3.4 school days             |
| 10 minutes           | 1.4 school weeks            |
| 15 minutes           | 2.6 school weeks            |
| 20 minutes           | 2.8 school weeks            |
| 30 minutes           | 4 school weeks              |

## School Uniform:

We would like to inform parents and carers that our School Uniform Policy has been updated and is available on the school website. The changes have been made to ensure compliance with the Government's new statutory guidance on the cost of school uniforms.

In line with this guidance, the school now requires only three branded uniform items: the school checked/tartan skirt or pinafore, the school cardigan or jumper, and the school PE jacket. These items should be purchased from our approved suppliers with the school logo on.

All other uniform items may be purchased from any retailer and may be plain or include the school logo, at the discretion of parents and carers. Please visit the school website to view the full updated policy.

## Free School Meal Entitlement

From September 2026, the Department for Education has made some changes to the way that Free School Meals are allocated. All families and children will need to be rechecked to ascertain whether they can still receive this entitlement.

Please select the link below. This will take you to an online form where you can enter your details which will enable a check to take place. You will need to enter your Name, Date of Birth and National Insurance details.

<https://forms.wigan.gov.uk/xfp/form/750>

The earlier that this is completed, the sooner we can advise you of your child's entitlement for 2026/2027 academic year.

**We strongly advise everyone completing this form.**

## Atherton Carnival This Weekend and Local Events

**2026 Atherton Carnival**  
Wigan Council  
Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> June  
12:00 - 5:00pm  
Meadowbank Playing Field  
Formby Avenue Atherton M46 0HX  
Join us for LOTS of fun!

Walking Parade  
Information Stalls  
FREE Arts & Crafts  
School Cafe  
Cake Stall  
Live Bands  
Fair Ground  
Tombola

Please note charges for certain activities may apply on the day

# CONEXUS CALM SPACES

Conexus Calm  
A calm space in a busy world.

Need a quiet moment?

Conexus Calm provides a safe, welcoming, low stimulation space where children can take a break, regulate their emotions and recharge before returning to enjoy the event.

Everyone is welcome.  
All children are welcome, with a parent or carer present.

**WHAT YOU'LL FIND**

- Calm colouring activities
- Lego and quiet construction challenges
- Sensory and fidget resources
- Friendly, supportive adults
- A calm and inclusive environment

**WHO IS IT FOR?**

- Neurodivergent children
- Children who feel anxious or overwhelmed
- Children sensitive to noise or crowds
- Anyone needing a moment to reset

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

- Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> June  
Atherton Carnival, Family Hub
- Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> July  
Ashton Bears ARLFC
- Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> July  
Garswood Care Home Summer Fayre

Supporting wellbeing, inclusion and confidence within our community.

## Well Done Year 1 and Year 4! 🌟

A huge congratulations to all of our Year 1 children for completing their Phonics Screening Check this week. We are incredibly proud of the hard work, determination and positive attitude they have shown throughout the year.

Well done also to our Year 4 pupils for completing their Multiplication Tables Check. They have worked extremely hard to learn their times tables and approached the test with confidence and resilience.

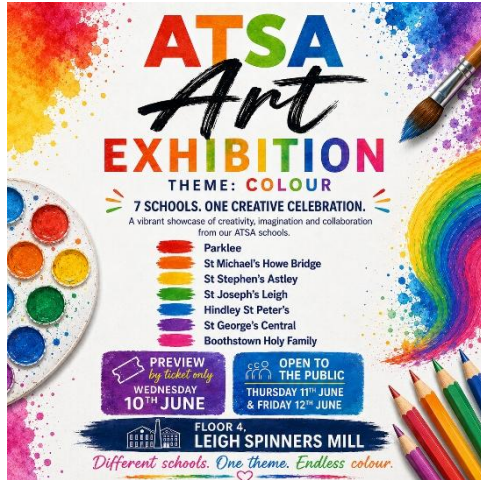
Thank you to our staff and families for all of their support. We are very proud of all of the children and their fantastic efforts!

## ATSA Art Exhibition 🌈

This week the children were able to view their displayed work, before going to meet some of the artists who have studios in Leigh Spinners Mill.

This evening, the children returned with family members to show off their masterpieces.

St Michael's were given the colour orange 🍊



## Childcare Info from Local Authority



### Share your views About early years childcare

The expanded national funded childcare offer now allows more eligible families to receive up to 30 hours of funded childcare during term time for children aged 9 months up to school age. This has increased demand for early years childcare across Wigan.

To ensure we can meet future needs, we are inviting parents to share their experiences of accessing early years childcare.

- Your feedback will help us understand:
- Your experience of finding and using early years childcare
  - Any challenges you have faced when accessing childcare
  - Areas where more childcare places may be needed in the future

This information will support us in planning additional early years places where required.



Scan here



### Share your views About school age childcare

Local authorities must make sure there are enough childcare places for working parents, or those studying or training for work, for children aged 0-14 years, and up to 18 years for disabled children.

To understand what families need, we are inviting parents and carers to complete our updated School Aged Childcare Consultation.

Your feedback will help us understand demand, plan future childcare and identify any gaps.

Types of childcare we'd like to know about:

- Free breakfast clubs
- Paid before and after-school childcare
- Holiday childcare
- Any other childcare e.g. school-run activity clubs or support from family and friends.



Scan here



# E-Safety Advice for Parents

At National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, so that they feel confident that their children are safe online. We believe in trusted adults using this resource to have an informed conversation about online safety with their children, so that they feel confident that their children are safe online. We believe in trusted adults using this resource to have an informed conversation about online safety with their children, so that they feel confident that their children are safe online.

## What Parents & Carers Need to Know about TELEGRAM

**AGE RESTRICTION 17+**

Telegram isn't new, but it's grown significantly in popularity over recent years, thanks to its secure nature and speedier performance than many of its competitors – including WhatsApp. While Telegram is an excellent app in terms of actual performance, like any messaging platform it brings its own challenges for parents when it comes to feeling confident about children being able to handle their own messaging conversations and contact with the outside world in general. Here's everything that trusted adults need to know about using Telegram safely.

**WHAT ARE THE RISKS?**

**LACK OF AGE RESTRICTION**  
 Telegram has a 17+ age restriction on using the service, while someone is required to be over 17 to actually download the app. Once that's accomplished, however, there's no need to provide further identification. That means there's no guarantee that under 17s aren't using the app – and no way to conclusively verify that any given user actually is who they say they are.

**POSSIBLE CYBERBULLYING**  
 If your child uses Telegram, they could well be in a group with friends and peers on the app. These groups are managed by partners who can remove the option to post replies – possibly leading to instances of cyberbullying in which the victim has no ability to respond. Messages can be forwarded from groups, too, which potentially opens up images and text being sent to people they weren't intended for.

**UNMODERATED CONTENT**  
 Because Telegram relies on users' self-moderation, it can sporadically become a hub for illegal or inappropriate content. In the past, the circulation of this material has led to its temporary removal from the App Store. In fairness, the same can be said of several messaging platforms, but Telegram's features (secret chats, for instance) certainly present more issues than the likes of WhatsApp.

**PREMIUM COSTS**  
 Telegram is free to use, but it also offers a premium membership (£4.99 per month or £39.99 a year) which increases download speeds, adds translation features, and increases chat and account limits. If your child has access to your Apple ID or Google Play details, they may be able to sign up for the premium package without your knowledge.

**UNAUTHORISED ACCESS**  
 One of Telegram's major selling points is that it's accessible across multiple platforms. Once the app's been downloaded, users can log in from a phone, tablet or computer. This multi-device availability means increased opportunities for someone else to gain unauthorised access (if your child leaves a computer or tablet at school logged into their Telegram account, for instance).

**SECRET CHATS**  
 Telegram offers a feature called secret chats, which allows for messages which self-delete after a specified period of time. There are instances where this can be useful (journalists often use Telegram to protect their sources, for example), but for young people it can make it extremely difficult to prove that someone has been abusive or inappropriate towards them on the app.

### Advice for Parents & Carers

**PRIVACY CONTROLS**  
 If your child wants to use Telegram, we'd strongly suggest using the app's built-in privacy settings to restrict who can see when they were last online, their profile photos, and their phone number. This can be set to 'everybody', 'my contacts' or ' nobody', and is recommended either the second or third options, depending on how locked down you want the platform to be.

**DISCUSS SECURITY**  
 It's important that your child understands the merits of strong passwords and logging out of devices when they're finished – and the benefits of protecting their personal data in general. This could range from relaxed chats and simple tips like "don't send your bank details" to how to set up passwords for Telegram so your child's chats stay secure when they slip away from their screen.

**REPORT UNSAFE CONTENT**  
 If your child receives private messages which include content that could be considered illegal, unsafe or upsetting, they can, of course block the account responsible within the app itself. Be aware, however, that Telegram won't necessarily take any further action, unless this offensive content involved a user-created channel, bot or sticker.

**USE THE BLOCK FUNCTION**  
 Users can block a spam, abusive, or impostor account within the app. Blocking stops that account from messaging your child, or viewing their profile and activity. If the user in question is one of your child's peers or friendship circle, it may be worth bringing it to the attention of their school. Also bear in mind that your child can also voluntarily leave a Telegram group at any point if they wish.

**PROTECT PAYMENT METHODS**  
 Apple and Google's storefronts offer family sharing options, but it's also worth double-checking your settings to ensure that all passwords or two-factor authentication options is set up to prevent any unexpected purchases. If your child does pay for a premium Telegram subscription without your consent, Apple and Google have been known to issue refunds in some cases.

**Meet Our Expert**  
 David Coombes is a former Chief Learning and Support Officer and has worked in the gaming, travel and educational tech space. He has 18 years of experience in the industry, and has helped parents who understand the risks of their children's online activity. He is a frequent speaker at events and has been featured in the press. He is also a member of the National Online Safety Board.

Source: <https://www.telegram.org/> | <https://www.google.com/telegram/secret-chats/>

#WakeUpWednesday

@nationalonlinesafety | /NationalOnlineSafety | @nationalonlinesafety | @national\_online\_safety

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 10.05.2023

## Star of the Week

# Star of the Week

Rec  
Oliver J

Y1  
Whole Class

Y2  
Albert S



Y3  
Anas A

Y4  
Nikyta G

Y5  
Jack R

Y6  
Kian B

### Next week at a glance

| Week beginning<br><b>15<sup>th</sup> June</b> | <b>Before school</b> | <b>During the school day</b><br>                                                                                                                     | <b>Music tuition</b> | <b>After school</b> |
|-----------------------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| Monday                                        | Breakfast club       | Whole school Collective Worship<br><br>Year 1 <b>outdoor PE</b><br>Year 4 <b>outdoor PE</b><br>Year 3 <b>indoor PE</b><br><br>iRock band practise<br> | Guitar               | ABC childcare       |
| Tuesday                                       | Breakfast club       | Whole school singing worship<br><br>Little Angels Play Group<br>9am – 10:30am<br><br>Y3 <b>indoor PE</b>                                                                                                                               | Drums<br><br>Violin  | ABC childcare       |
| Wednesday                                     | Breakfast club       | Whole school Collective Worship<br><br>Rec <b>indoor PE</b><br>Year 5 <b>indoor PE</b>                                                                                                                                                 |                      | ABC childcare       |
| Thursday                                      | Breakfast club       | Class Worship<br><br>Rec <b>outdoor PE</b><br>Y5 <b>outdoor PE</b><br>Y6 <b>indoor PE</b><br>Year 2 <b>indoor PE</b>                                                                                                                   |                      | ABC childcare       |
| Friday                                        | Breakfast club       | Whole school Celebration Worship<br><br>Year 2 <b>outdoor PE</b><br>Year 6 <b>outdoor PE</b><br>Year 1 <b>indoor PE</b><br>Year 4 <b>indoor PE</b>                                                                                     | Keyboard             | ABC childcare       |

### Future dates for your diary

**(Please note, these will be added to frequently)**

|                                              |                                                          |
|----------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|
| 23 <sup>rd</sup> June                        | New Reception Children Welcome Event<br>4pm – 5pm        |
| 26 <sup>th</sup> June                        | Choir Concert – Ticketed Event<br>6PM – 8PM              |
| 29 <sup>th</sup> June – 3 <sup>rd</sup> July | Year 6 Residential trip                                  |
| 29 <sup>th</sup> June                        | iRock concert<br>2:45pm                                  |
| 30 <sup>th</sup> June                        | New Reception Stay and Play Session 1<br>1:30pm – 2:30pm |

|                                          |                                                                                                                             |
|------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 6 <sup>th</sup> July                     | Year 1 Bring Yer Wellies trip<br>Year 6 Lion King Performance 2pm                                                           |
| 7 <sup>th</sup> July                     | Sports Day (AM only)<br>New Reception Stay and Play Session 2<br>1:30pm – 2:30pm                                            |
| 8 <sup>th</sup> July                     | Year 2 to Kenyon Hall Farm<br>Year 6 Lion King Performance 10am<br>Year 5 to Manchester Museum                              |
| 9 <sup>th</sup> July                     | <br>Year 6 Leavers Disco<br>5:30pm–7:00pm |
| 10 <sup>th</sup> July                    | Reserve Sports Day                                                                                                          |
| 13 <sup>th</sup> July                    | Y6 Leavers Service in Church<br>2:45pm (Parents Welcome)                                                                    |
| 15 <sup>th</sup> July                    | Y6 Leavers Assembly 9:10am                                                                                                  |
| 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                                                                                         |
| 4 <sup>th</sup> September                | Year 5 First Swimming session                                                                                               |
| 9 <sup>th</sup> September                | Rock Kidz 🙌🎸                                                                                                                |
| 10 <sup>th</sup> November                | Flu Vaccination                                                                                                             |
| 27 <sup>th</sup> November                | Flu Catch up session                                                                                                        |
| 1 <sup>st</sup> December                 | KS1 Panto – Goldilocks and the Three Bears                                                                                  |
| 7 <sup>th</sup> December                 | KS2 Panto – Goldilocks and the Three Bears                                                                                  |
| 12 <sup>th</sup> -14 <sup>th</sup> April | Year 4 Residential to Robinwood                                                                                             |

### 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)

**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/>