



IF WE BELIEVE, WE CAN ACHIEVE

COLLABORATION - CONNECTIVITY – INDEPENDENCE – INNOVATION – QUESTIONING – REFLECTION - RESILIENCE

Dear parents and carers,

It has been an extraordinarily busy week for trips this week. On Tuesday the Navigator class spent the day at the Larmer Tree gardens as part of our summer term arts project with them. They experienced a whole range of 'arts' activities with a focus on the spoken word through drama and poetry. We are very grateful to the Larmer Tree staff and Mrs Cox for organising this experience.



On Wednesday, Navigators set off again; this time they were off to The Lighthouse Theatre in Poole to take part in our annual shared event with the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra. It was a pleasure to accompany them and hear their performance with a live orchestra. I wish there had been a parent camera at the event because watching children on the edge of their seats engaging with a range of classical music is a privilege and we continue to be hugely grateful to the BSO for providing this free 'high quality' experience.

Then, on Thursday, Voyagers set off to Launceston Farm for a morning. They continued the school link with a farm to fork activity and a chance to explore life on the farm and consider the impact of insects on crops. There is clear evidence that the children's knowledge of where their

food comes from is improving proving our link with Launceston remains an important part of our children's education.



Biathle success!!

Jonty took part in a Biathlon competition this weekend representing Sixpenny Handley School. This was the first time he had to manage transitions between events but it proved no problem for him as he came 2nd overall!! Well done Jonty!



As preparations get underway for the summer fair we would like to ask parents if they have any additional ideas/links to raffle prizes. If you know of a local business who may be able to donate a prize please let Ali Parker (parent in Voyagers) or the office know.

We would also like to ask if you can give an hour or so of your time either on the evening or during the day- maybe buddy up with a friend. Please let us know through the parentmail notification that has come out today. Thank you.



RUN JUMP THROW

ATHLETICS FESTIVAL Y3 Y4



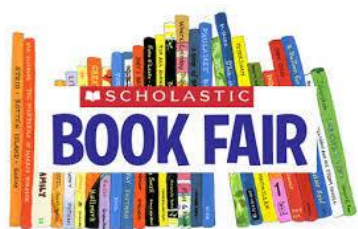
Scan me!

VENUE - St Michaels Middle School Field
DATE - Monday 16th June 2025
ARRIVE - 3.45pm - 4.10pm
REGISTRATION CLOSES AT 4.15pm
EVENT FINISHES - 5.30pm

Children will compete against the stopwatch or tape measure to gain performance points.
Competitive events - 50m Sprint, 400m run, Standing long jump, howler throw.
Optional events - speed bounce, running long jump, chest push.

TO ENTER : <https://forms.gle/G8GkcYf6eGax3jr9A>
OR SCAN THE QR CODE TO ENTER

Year 3 and Year 4 are invited to participate in an Athletics Festival at St Michaels' Middle School on **Monday 16th June**. Parents need to register their own child and bring them as an individual to the event. Whoever brings the child is expected to stay on the school site and be on hand if needed. This was a very successful event last year for our children and no experience is necessary. Please scan the QR code to register.



We have booked a scholastic fair for 18th – 23rd June.
There will be a wide selection of books available at competitive prices. Purchases allow the school to earn free books for our classrooms.

Message from Dorset and Wiltshire Fire safety and rescue

Hopefully the weather will be nice over half term and the coming weeks and you and your child get to spend sometime outside.

Please consider the following advice to help keep you and your child safe:

🍷 Avoid having BBQs and campfires in the countryside.

📍 Consider downloading What3words on your/your child's phone to be able to give an accurate location in an emergency. This is also a useful tool for knowing where your child is if they need you.

🔥 Please make sure matches and lighters are out of reach of younger children and talk to your older children about the dangers of playing with fire along with techniques and strategies to help them avoid situations where they feel pressured to take part in risky behaviours; for example discuss an excuse they could use to come home to get themselves away from the situation, for example "my mum messaged and she needs me to come home to walk the dog"

💧 Teach your children to "float" if they get into trouble in water. If you are going to the seaside, it is safest to go to a lifeguarded beach.

☎ In an emergency, call 999.

With your child, enter the Firefighter Quiz.

<https://forms.office.com/e/N3mApwY8Ku> designed for children aged 4 -7 years (although any age is welcome if suitable for them)

<https://forms.office.com/e/2hqdrTEWA> designed for children aged 8 -12 years (although any age is welcome if suitable for them)

Have a safe and enjoyable half term

Dorset & Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Service

A snapshot of learning for this week:

In Explorers we have been learning about growing. We enjoyed identifying the changes and comparing ourselves and living things around us using lots of mathematical language.



In Adventurers we have been thinking about rain. We set up a rain gauge in our outdoor area and recorded what rain we had collected each day. We enjoyed comparing the amounts and discussing which day we saw the most and least rain. We then looked at the world map and discussed places that see a lot of rain and places that are very dry. In maths we have focussed our learning on the numbers 11, 12 and 13 and finding parts within these numbers.



In Voyagers we have been combining our computing skills with our knowledge of everyday materials to create a seesaw document with our voices recorded over, explaining the different everyday materials that we have in our class and why they have been chosen for the job. We also had an amazingly sunny day at Launceston Farm. The children had the opportunity to create 'pitfall traps' to calculate the number of different types of ground beetles that they have in oat their crops. We then used the farm's oats to make our very own chocolate oat cookies -they were delicious!



In Navigators we have had a really busy week!! On Tuesday, we visited the Larmer Tree gardens and explored them through art, music and drama. We read poetry aloud, painted flags inspired by the gardens and took part in a drumming workshop. Over the coming weeks, we will be creating our own response to the gardens to share with other schools in a pageant festival celebrating drama, art and music. On Wednesday we visited the Lighthouse theatre to watch and perform alongside the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra. The children thoroughly enjoyed the experience and were excellent audience members! In the classroom, we have been continuing our science learning about magnets and have learnt that magnets are a non-contact force that can attract and repel each other.



Upcoming Dates (new dates added)

[Please note that dates for the year ahead are on the school website including Christmas performance/ sports day and the calendar will be updated regularly as new activities/events become available to us]

Monday 26 th May	HALF TERM
Thursday 5 th June	Y3 Striking and Fielding event with HAT schools
	New parent meeting
Friday 20 th June	Sports Day
Friday 27 th June	Transfer Day
Wednesday 2 nd July	Larmer Tree Project (visiting musicians)
Monday 7 th July	HAT music experience for KS2 (visiting musicians from Royal College of Music) hosted at Sixpenny
Thursday 10 th July	Y4 swimming gala (8 chn Y3/4)
Friday 11 th July	Summer Fair
Tuesday 15 th July	Y3 and Y4 Larmer Tree Festival
Thursday 17 th July	Explorers Leavers' Party (3:30pm - 4:30pm)
Friday 18 th July	Forest Adventures on the Rushmore Estate (Reception to Year 4)
Tuesday 22 nd July	Leavers' Assembly 9:15am
	Leavers' party 3pm -5:30pm
Wednesday 23 rd July	Final day of school. School finishes at 1:45pm. Year 4 will exit last at the end of the day onto the playground so we can applaud them as they leave us for the next stage of their learning. Nursery will remain open for those parents who need it till 3pm. There is no wraparound provision on the final day.

We hope you have a very enjoyable half term break and look forward to welcoming you back on Monday 2nd June.

Kind regards,

Mrs Rachael Musselwhite (Headteacher)