



## St Michael's CE (VC) Primary School Newsletter— April 2016

Dear Parents/ Carers,

With the development of the school website I find myself writing far fewer newsletters these days, which is probably not a bad thing, for the environment at least. Nevertheless, I thought I'd write to you now to highlight a couple of important events coming up in the life of the school. You can find information about forthcoming events on the reverse of this newsletter and from the school website which is updated on a regular basis.

### **HAPPY RETIREMENT REVEREND REG BALDOCK!**

When I started working at St Michael's in 1998, I found myself new to the school, but I wasn't the only 'new boy' at the time either. Reverend Baldock took charge of his parish that same year and quickly established himself as a key member of our school community. Reg and I have shared a journey of 18 years together watching St Michael's grow and develop into the school we have today and we have seen many changes over the years. Reg has been both a great governor and friend to the school, particularly in times of need and I would like to take this opportunity to thank him formally for his commitment, wisdom and kindness which he has given selflessly.

We are holding a collection for Reg to buy him a retirement present. Anyone wishing to contribute can drop money off at the school office or via your child's teaching assistant.



*Reg, we all wish you and Jenny a happy and fruitful retirement.*

### **Keep Our Children Safe!**



Thank you to all those parents and carers who show due consideration to our children at dropping off and picking up time by parking sensibly, using their car park permits or by parking away from the school and walking the last few hundred metres. All of these things go a long way to keeping our children safe.

If you drive a car but you don't do any of the above: shame on you!

**Let's all do our part to keep the roads around our school clear and safe  
and to show consideration to our neighbours.**

Some parents have been observed turning right into Somerville Road. Please be aware that there is no right turn into Somerville Road so you have to approach this junction from St Michael's roundabout.

# Conversion to Academy Status

You may recall that many months ago now, governors consulted on the school's conversion to academy status. For us, this process has taken a long time due to added complications over the transfer of the villa to the Diocesan Trust. However, I am delighted to be able to tell you that these issues have now been resolved and St Michael's will become an academy on 1st May this year.

Governors have been incredibly patient and encouraging over the past few months and this has helped the school to stay the course, but I am particularly grateful to Mr Graham Exon for the many hours of work he has put into this project; without his knowledge and expertise I doubt very much that we would be in a position to convert this May.

Graham has been our Chair of Governors for 8 years and in that time, has overseen some major changes, including our large expansion. He has also helped to form the Bournemouth Septenary Trust

([www.bournemouthseptenarytrust.org.uk/](http://www.bournemouthseptenarytrust.org.uk/)), of which St Michael's is a member.

As Graham is also on the board of directors for the BST he has decided to step down as our Chair of Governors (I am pleased to say that he is still remaining as a governor of St Michael's for the time being) so that he can devote more energy to the BST.



The Chair of the academy will be Mr Peter Jones and the vice Chair will be Mrs Rachael Clarke.



Whilst being an academy will change things behind the scenes, we hope that you and your children will notice very little difference. We are very proud of our school and our children and we aim to keep things as they are. The school will be known as St Michael's Church of England Primary School and the uniform will remain the same.

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

|                              |   |
|------------------------------|---|
| Monday 2 May                 | May Day Bank Holiday—School Closed.                     |
| Tuesday 3 May                | Staff Training—School Closed.                           |
| Thursday 26 May              | Duck Race in Lower Gardens 5.30pm—Races start at 6pm.   |
| Monday 30 May                | Bank Holiday—School Closed                              |
| Tuesday 31 May—Friday 3 June | Half Term Holiday—School Closed                         |
| Monday 6 June                | Staff Training—School Closed.                           |
| Friday 17 June               | Summer Fair 5.30pm.                                     |
| Monday 4 July                | Sports Day (Reserve Sports Day is 5 July)               |
| Tuesday 19 July              | KS2 Leavers Disco 5.30pm—7pm.                           |
| Wednesday 20 July            | Balloon Race & Last Day of Term—School finishes at 1pm. |