

# St Michael's Parent Newsletter. Number 25, 7<sup>th</sup> April 2017

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Dear parents

This is my final newsletter! I will speak to some of you before I leave but to those I will not have chance to have a word with, I want to thank you for being part of our lovely community at St Michael's and I wish you and your family every happiness and success in the future. It has been a privilege holding the post of head teacher these past 25 years and I go into retirement with lots of happy memories and a feeling of good fortune to have been head at St Michael's. I'm sure you will give Mrs Bowes, our new head teacher, the support you have given me.

Yesterday, all the children went to church, class by class, to visit each of four **prayer stations**. Each prayer station described an event from Holy week. Each of these was 'manned' by staff members who explained the significance of the station; the children took part in small activities related to each theme. Thanks to Mrs McKenna and Mrs Dutch for organising this special Holy week activity for the children.

Nearly 60 people attended the **exposition** drop-in last Wednesday after school. The number is growing each week; thanks for supporting this. Father Chris has commented again on how successful it has been.

Thanks once again for your support of the **Caritas** appeal last week. Our pyjamas day last Friday raised another **£158.39**. There are a few surplus Easter eggs that we have decided to forward to Caritas.

Can parents of Y5 children please note that after Easter **Mr Hough** will be moving to a new post, Holy Family School in Oldham (the school Mrs Johnston, our former Reception teacher, works at). **Mrs Parkinson** will be the teacher for the remainder of the year; she is a popular and very capable teacher; she knows the Y5 pupils, having taught them last year.

Next Monday we are celebrating the end of term **mass**. This is a whole school mass and starts at 9.15 am. The mass will include the commissioning of our Mini Vinnys. We usually have our end of term mass on the final day but Father Chris will be at the Mass of Chrism at the cathedral on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> so can't do mass that day. As usual, parents are welcome – please use the back row or the archangel room.

On Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup>, we are having a **fun day**. No details as it is a surprise for the children! They are to wear sports clothes and need to bring a water bottle.

The **PTA disco** last Friday evening was, once again, a big success, all tickets sold. Congratulations to the PTA members for their excellent organisation and hard work. Nearly £500 was raised from the event – a great effort. Thanks to the parents and children who supported the event.

Once again, we had an excellent turn-out at **Parents evening** last night. I know it seems obvious that parents would come to parents evening but from conversations I have had over the years with other head teachers not all schools enjoy the support that we do.

Our **netball team** played against Our Lady of Grace on Wednesday. Our opponents this week were much stronger and our girls lost 3 – 7. Well tried, girls.

On the same evening this week, we played **football** against King David School. We won the match 7 – 2, an outstanding performance from the boys.

School **closes** on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> April at 2.00 pm. We re-open for the **summer term** on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> April. I wish you all a happy Easter

God Bless,

N. Duffin