St Michael and All Angels Catholic Primary www.smaaanews.com @smaaanews Friday 14th May 2021

St Michael and All Angels Primar New Hey Road Woodchurch Wirral CH495LE

I have had a lovely week in school as I have observed learning in lots of classes across the school. It is such a privilege to go into different classes and see how your children are working hard and making progress. We are working the children incredibly hard as we know we have so much lost learning time to make up! All the learning I saw happening was so interesting, but I have to say my personal favourite this week has been learning about the Ancient Egypt 'mumification' process in Year 3. The children actually got the chance to complete the process (using dolls don't worry!) and I definitely know a lot more now than I did before. I am also pretty sure I will not forget it because I got to see it all in action!



CHANGE OF DATE FOR YEAR 6 - Across the Local Authority it has been agreed

to change the <u>Year 6 Transition Day to Friday 2nd July</u>. This has been done following a risk assessment process and has been agreed by all Wirral schools.



Staggered Start and Finish Times_– I am well aware that it has been considerably busier at the end of the day and acknowledge that some parents may be concerned about this. We could look at a permanent change to our EYFS and KS1 FINISH time but this would only benefit families who do not have siblings. I will talk to Governors about different options we could explore in the future and would look to consult with parents before any final decision is made.

This week we have seen a big deterioration in the good attendance we had previously been seeing. There have been some nasty bugs going around and whilst we would never want children to attend school if they have a stomach upset and are being sick or have diarrhoea, it is really important ALL CHILDREN are in school unless genuinely too poorly. They have missed



so much time off in the last year and it is vital that no more learning time is lost. Well done to Year 1 for the best attendance this week!

F1 - 95.2% **F2** - 94.2% **Y1** - 97.2% **Y2** - 89.2% **Y3** - 94.3% **Y4** - 94.5% **Y5** - 84.7% **Y6** -96.3%



As the weather improves and life is becoming more normal, the roads are getting busier again and children's safety is our priority. There is a national campaign by Brake's to focus on this: brake.org.uk

The statistics they quote are quite alarming:

It is every child's right to be able to walk safely in their community

without fear of traffic and pollution.

Danger from traffic is a big factor in whether families are able to walk

safely in the places where they live.

Children of all ages are at risk of being hurt or killed when walking near roads. On average, six children are killed or seriously injured on roads in Britain every day – that's equivalent to a whole class of children every single week.

Wednesday 16th June is the main campaign day when as many people as possible are being encouraged to walk to school. We will keep reminding you of this date as it would be great if lots of children can join in!



MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS WEEK - This

week has been MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS WEEK and we have been highlighting this with the children in different ways. The theme for this year is 'Nature' and the reason this was chosen is because during the long months of the pandemic,

millions of us turned to nature. The research done on the impact of the pandemic by 'The

Mental Health Foundation' showed that going for walks outside was one of our top coping strategies and 45% of us reported being in green spaces had been vital for our mental health. I know how much I needed my daily walk (and still do) for my own mental health! I hope you all get the time to enjoy 'nature' this weekend and feel the benefit of some of the wonderful areas we are able to enjoy on Wirral. We know the children in school benefit so much from the outdoors and we are so lucky here at St Michael's that we have such a lovely outdoor area that we can enjoy. We are investing money in our outdoor area to



improve outdoor play opportunities as we know how important this is to the children.







Thought for the week.....In this week's Sunday Gospel, Jesus' prayer is a reminder of the tremendous care that God has for each person – the care we often experience through the actions of the people around us. We are God's most loved creation and we can be certain that God will always care for us. Just as Jesus cares for us, he wants us to care for each other.

