

Autumn has definitely arrived judging by this week's weather! On Thursday we celebrated our school feast day. The day began with a whole school Mass in Church celebrated by Fr Niall before each class enjoyed a special treat to mark this special day!



School of Sanctuary Awards – On Tuesday 4 of our Year 6 children visited Birkenhead Townhall to collect our School of Sanctuary Award from the Mayor. The children had written poems and letters about our school and we were very proud of how beautifully they read them. We are delighted to now officially be a 'School of Sanctuary' which is a school committed to being a safe and welcoming place for all.



Monday 3rd October – PSHE Themed Day 'Black History Month'

Friday 7th October – Year 6 Class Assembly



ATTENDANCE – please **DO NOT** book routine appointments or holidays within term-time. The governors of St Michael's **will not authorise holidays taken within term-time.**

As you are aware, we monitor each child's attendance every half term in line with the local authority and school's attendance policy. **We are also monitoring persistent lateness and calculating the total amount of minutes that children are late coming into school.**

Over time, persistent lateness often equates to many hours of missed education and can be very distressing for children to enter the classroom when the register has been taken and everyone has started their learning for the day. Please support us to ensure all children are **in school on time** to receive their education as long as they are fit and well to do so. **Gates will be locked at 09:00 by which time ALL children should be in class and ready to begin their school day.**

Our weekly class attendance prize returns this week! Each week during our whole school assembly, the weekly attendance figures for each class will once again be announced and reported in the weekly newsletter. The class with the highest overall weekly attendance will be awarded our special St Michael's Bear to keep for the week and they will receive a special treat to enjoy at playtime.

Our Whole School Attendance target is 96%

Children should not worry about having to stay off school if they are poorly. **Children should only attend school if they are fit and well enough to do so.** Routine appointments, holidays during term-time, days off for birthdays however, **are not valid reasons to stay off school.**

Thank you for your continued support and understanding with this very important matter.



Don't forget to send in your Harvest Donations. Our School Council Representatives have been extremely busy this week creating some fabulous posters to display across the school for our Foodbank appeal. Thank you to all families who have donated so far.



FLU Immunisation Programme – Please ensure you have completed the Flu Immunisation CONSENT form which was sent out electronically to parents emails.



YEAR 5 & YEAR 6 RESIDENTIAL TRIPS. If you wish your child to go on the Year 5 or Year 6 residential trips, the deposit for these needs to be paid by 10th October. You can either pay this directly to the school office in cash or via Parentmail.

We are still missing some children's DATA sheets. If you have still not returned your child's DATA form please do so asap so we can check that the details on our school systems are up to date. THIS IS VITAL IN CASE OF AN EMERGENCY.



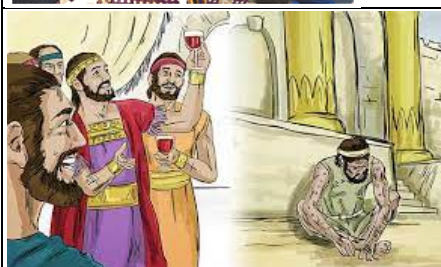
There has been lots of wonderful learning happening in school this week..... **Our EYFS children, had lots of fun in Forest School this week. They have been threading, designing and talking about the mystery sprout that has grown in their vegetable patch!**

Our Foundation 2 children had a wonderful time getting to know their Year 6 "buddy" today.

In Year 2, the children have been mixing colours to create their self-portraits.



Year 4 joined in prayer to read the Bible story of Jesus and His disciples. The children thought about how to be a good friend and together they made a paper chain as a symbol of locking their friendships. It is lovely to see the children enjoying the different extra- curricular clubs. A huge thank you to all staff for volunteering their time and skills for the benefit of all our children.



In assembly this week we thought about the Gospel story of the Rich man and Lazarus the poor man. Despite the rich man having lots of fine clothes, enough food to feast on every day and plenty of wealth, he does nothing to help poor Lazarus who sits at his gate every day longing to even have the scraps from the rich man's table. It's easy for us to become caught up in the busyness of life that we don't even notice the needs of

others or worse still, ignore them. But Jesus repeatedly teaches us about fairness, sharing and kindness to others, particularly to the poor. Pope Francis reminds us that "A simple life is good for us, helping us to better share with those in need." The question of a successful life is "How did I use what God gave me to help others?" So let's not put off until tomorrow the good that we can do today.

Enjoy the weekend, Mrs Ralph