



Through God, We  
Love, Laugh and  
Learn.

# ST. MICHAEL'S CE (VC) FIRST SCHOOL

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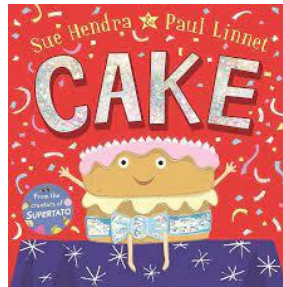
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**Headteacher:** Mrs J Wass BA (Hons) NPQH

6th November 2024



Dear Parents and Carers

Our Topic for this half term in Nursery is called 'Join the Celebrations'. To support your child's learning please send in celebration photographs for 'show and tell' on a Monday or a Friday, or upload to Tapestry for us to share during the week. These could include a wedding, christening, birthday or Christmas party.

Please continue to donate 30p tuck money per day (in cash, in an envelope or purse) and pay for hot dinners online. Please send back the balloon and cake pictures as soon as possible to be displayed in Nursery. Please record something that your child has learnt on the balloon, and something they want to learn this half term on the cake. We look forward to your child sharing these with the class.

In Literacy, we will be learning more nursery rhymes and developing our knowledge of phonics. We will be starting to follow the 'Little Wandle' phonics scheme. Phonics pictures will be sent home each week to show you the phoneme (sound) that we have been learning. Our main focus is learning to recognise the picture cue for each phoneme, and to begin hearing these phonemes in words. There will also be an optional hand writing sheet linked to each phoneme. The formation phrase that we say when writing the phoneme/ letter is included on these. Your child might be ready to have a go at writing over the letters on the sheet with a pen or pencil. Alternatively you can do these on a bigger scale with chalks on the floor or magic fingers in the air. Some children will not be ready for either of these, so feel free to keep the sheets for future reference.

Please follow the link below to access free resources on the parent's page. There are some great videos that demonstrate how to pronounce each phoneme. The sounds that we will be learning in Nursery are in the Phase 2 videos.

<https://www.littlewandlelettersandsounds.org.uk/resources/for-parents/>



In Literacy we are focusing on the story 'Cake' by Sue Hendra, and we are also reading non-fiction texts to find out more about different celebrations. We will of course, be reading lots of stories about Father Christmas!

In Mathematics we are developing touch counting skills, learning number rhymes and improving our number recognition ability. Later in the term we will practise this using our advent calendar in class. We will also be practising our positional vocabulary by finding and describing where our class elf is hiding in Nursery every day. We will begin to learn how to subitise numbers, which is being able to recognise and know how many objects we can see in small sets up to 3 and then 5, without having to count.

In Understanding of the World, we are learning about different celebrations and festivals, including Religious festivals such as Diwali and Hanukah. We will also continue to take part in our topic walks to understand more about seasonal change and learning to describe the weather. We will find out about Polar Regions in the world, finding them on a globe and a map, and learning about who and what lives in these areas.

In Religious Education, we are also looking forward to introducing the topic of Christmas. We will be doing lots of art and craft activities and reading about the very first Christmas.

In Physical Education, we will continue our indoor P.E. lessons on Thursday mornings. Please check that your child has a white t shirt, navy blue or black shorts and trousers and a hoodie or jumper. Please also remember to send in socks for your child to wear with their P.E kit, if they come to school in tights.

Please also ensure that your child always has a warm coat and wellies, to enable them to explore their environment whatever the weather! Puddle suits for forest school are always welcome too.

**Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> December** - we would like the children to come to school wearing any kind of Christmas outfit e.g. a Christmas jumper, party clothes or any Christmas dressing-up you may have. Parents are invited to join us on this day between 9-9.45AM for some Christmas activities, so please feel free to wear your Christmas outfits too!

**Monday 16<sup>th</sup> December** - Christmas dinner and Christmas jumper day

**Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> December** - Christmas Party, further details to follow

### **Reminders for school applications for September 2025**

You need to apply for September 2025 if your child's fifth birthday is between 1 September 2025 and 31 August 2026 for a place at first, infant or primary school. The application system opened on 1 November 2024. Applications will close on 15 January 2025. **You must still apply for a place, even if the school is linked to your child's current nursery.**

Thank you for your continued support, The Nursery Team

