

# Grimsargh St Michael's Newsletter

06.01.2023

*'Let your light shine before people so that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven' (Matthew 5: v.16)*



## Welcome back

On behalf of all school staff at Grimsargh St Michael's, I would like to take this opportunity to wish you and your families a very happy new year.

It was lovely welcoming you and your children back into school on Tuesday, this week- we are excited about what this term and year has to offer. I would also like to thank those of you who sent Christmas cards and gifts for school staff- all were very much appreciated.

There will be no 'Stars of the Week' awards presented this week.

## Standards

I hope you all received (via e-mail) and have now read the letter I sent on Monday 2nd January via T2P. The focus of my letter was to highlight the importance of us continuing to strive for higher standards in all areas.

The first of these areas we are continuing to focus on is the way in which our children present themselves, initially regarding the wearing of our school and PE uniforms, as identified on our school uniform policy, which can be found on our school website. It is important that all children attend school looking smart as if they look smart, they'll feel smart and as a result, behaviour will be of a higher standard.

The second area of focus is to further support our children's personal development.

One new way we will do this will be during our celebration assemblies- we will ensure the children use a firm handshake, look in the eyes of the adult handing out the award and say thank you. We will also ensure children use their manners at other times during the school day. We feel these are excellent life lessons and will help to develop the confidence of all children, in a safe environment.

The third area of focus is how our children move around school. One new improvement we started straight away on our return to school is for all adults and children to walk on the left of the corridor when moving around school. Staff and our pupil leadership team will stop and remind those children who are not doing as we expect- children will be reminded until it becomes second nature.

We are passionate about continually looking for ways in which to raise standards. We feel that there is room for improvement in how our children present themselves in their uniform and with their behaviour and attitudes. We recognise and value the role you play, as parents and carers, and first educators of your child/ren. Therefore, I would like to thank you in advance for supporting us to achieve these higher standards.



## DIARY DATES

### Monday 9th January

3pm Whole School Worship

### Tuesday 10th

3pm Singing Practice

**9:30am New Age Kurling @  
West View Leisure Centre**

**1pm Year 5 Hockey skills and  
tournament @ Longridge High**

### Wednesday 11th

3pm KS2 Worship

### Thursday 12th

3pm KS1 Worship

**1:15pm Girls' Football**

### Friday 13th

2:45pm Celebration Assembly



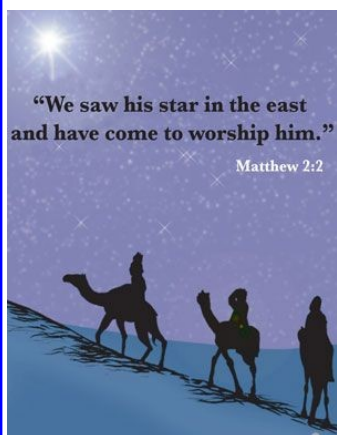
## SOCIAL MEDIA



'grimsarghstmichaels'  
on Instagram

'Grimsargh St Michael's C of E  
Primary School' on Facebook.





## Epiphany

As the children gathered for worship on Tuesday afternoon, they listened to an animated version of a well-known carol, 'What can I give Him?' <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1aJfL8TE9kY>

**Can your son/daughter tell you the story about the wise men visiting Jesus?  
How do you think the wise men felt when they visited the baby Jesus?**

**How were the shepherds and the wise men different?**

The shepherds were poor and the wise men were rich. The shepherds came from the same country as Jesus and the wise men came from a different country. God wanted the wise men and the shepherds to see the baby Jesus. This shows us that God wants everyone to see Jesus. In God's eyes, it doesn't matter if we are rich or poor, Jew or gentile, or what country we are from. The wise men were the first non-Jewish people to visit Jesus. This is the time when the promise that Jesus is for everyone started to be fulfilled.



What would be the best gift to give to the baby Jesus?

**Three wise men gave gifts to Jesus but Christians believe that God gave them the greatest gift of all, Jesus. His gift to us forever.**

### A prayer for Epiphany

Almighty God,  
Who by the light of a star, showed the magi the way to Jesus,  
Lead us and all your people to you.  
That we may bring our best gift to you.  
And serve you as our King.  
Amen

## Reverend Neil

If you are able, it would be lovely to see you attend St Michael's Church on Sunday, for the 10am service, as this will be Reverend Neil's final time leading the congregation in Worship at St Michael's Church.

Reverend Neil has been a constant support for us all at our school. We will be extremely sad to see him leave but wish him well for the future.

## SAFEGUARDING

Please see the separate attachment- '**Social Media and Mental Health**' guide for Safeguarding tips.

**Keeping  
children safe  
is everyone's  
responsibility**



## **Back to school advice issued amid high levels of flu, COVID-19 and scarlet fever**

As pupils and students return to school following the Christmas break, UKHSA is reminding people that winter illnesses continue to circulate at high levels. Following simple steps can help protect children, minimise the spread of illness in education and childcare settings and protect wider communities.

Flu and coronavirus (COVID-19) are currently circulating at high levels and are likely to continue to increase in coming weeks. High numbers of scarlet fever, which is caused by group A streptococcus, also continue to be reported.

Professor Susan Hopkins, Chief Medical Adviser at the UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA), said:

*It's important to minimise the spread of infection in schools and other education and childcare settings as much as possible. If your child is unwell and has a fever, they should stay at home from school or nursery until they feel better and the fever has resolved.*

Helping children to learn about the importance of good hand hygiene is also key, so please practice regular handwashing at home with soap and warm water. Catching coughs and sneezes in tissues then binning them is another simple way to help stop illness from spreading.

Remember that the flu vaccination is still available for all eligible groups and is the best protection against the virus. There has been a good uptake in older age groups but vaccination among young children remains low. Flu can be very unpleasant and in some cases can lead to more serious illness.

Getting your child vaccinated protects them and others they come into contact with, and it's still not too late.

Eligible children include:

- those aged 2 and 3 on 31 August 2022
- all primary school-aged children
- some secondary school-aged children

You can get more information about getting your child vaccinated against flu on NHS.UK.

## **Sweets and Lozenges**

We have noticed some children bringing in sweets and/ or lozenges for sore throats, coughs and colds and keeping these in their school bags or on their person.

Children must not keep hold of any sweets and lozenges– parents/ carers must hand these into the school office, with the child's name on, and must collect them at the end of the day. They will be taken as a medicine and children will supervised while having them.

Thank you in advance for your co-operation with this.



### **Scores for**

19th December until 1st January



<b>1st place: reception</b>	<b>10,930 pts</b>
2nd place: year 3	2,710 pts
3rd place: year 5	2,380 pts
4th place: year 4	1,420 pts
5th place: year 1	350 pts
6th place: year 6	350 pts
7th place: year 2	0 pts

### **Top Student**

**Felicity G (reception) - 3760 pts**