

Grimsargh St Michael's Newsletter

01.12.2023

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



Congratulations to our **STARS** who have let their lights shine this week.

Reception (Miss Lemmings): **Thomas E and Neve H**

Year 1 (Miss Threlfall): **Haniya I and Oliver B**

Year 2 (Mrs Coupe): **Aiden H and Anaiyah C**

Year 3 (Mr Brooks): **Luca B and William T**

Year 4 (Mrs Todd/ Mrs Slattery): **Quinn T and Harvey G**

Year 5 (Miss Reeve): **Anabelle L and Aryan C**

Year 6 (Miss Cross): **Noah Y and Milly H**

Weekly Attendance

(Week beginning 20th November)

SCHOOL MINIMUM TARGET: 96.4%

WHOLE SCHOOL: 97.4%

Reception: 97.5%

Year 1: 97.7%

Year 2: 96%

Year 3: 94%

Year 4: 99.4%

Year 5: 97.3%

Year 6: 100%

Key Christmas Dates- December

Sat 2nd:	Christmas Fair (1-3pm)
Weds 6th:	1pm PANTO
Mon 11th:	KS1 Nativity dress rehearsal 2pm
Tues 12th:	KS1 Nativity 2pm
Weds 13th:	Rocksteady Concert 10am
Weds 13th:	KS1 Nativity 6pm
Fri 15th:	Christmas jumper & lunch
Mon 18th	Reception nativity dress rehearsal 9:30am
Weds 20th	Reception nativity @ St Michael's Church 10am
Thurs 21st	Whole school Christmas service at St Michael's Church 9:15am (Parents/ carers welcome)
Fri 22nd	SCHOOL CLOSSES @ 3:25pm



DIARY DATES

Monday 4th December

3pm Whole School Worship

Tuesday 5th

3pm Hymn Practice

Wednesday 6th

3pm Key Stage Worship

12:15pm PANTO!

Thursday 7th

3pm Key Stage Worship

Friday 8th

2:45pm Celebration Assembly

Fairtrade Friday

(this will be paid for out of your
charitable contribution via Parentpay)



SOCIAL MEDIA



'grimsarghstmichaels'
on Instagram

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





Advent

What are you looking forward to?

During Advent, Christians get ready to welcome Jesus. Advent calendars are one way of getting ready for Christmas. Advent wreaths are another way of counting down to Christmas.

Today during Advent, churches cover altars with a purple cloth. This is because in Jesus's time purple was the colour of kings.

During Advent, Christians wait and think back to when Jesus first came into the world. He didn't turn up out of the blue. People were watching and waiting for the Messiah, the one who would lead them closer to God. Over the four Sundays of Advent, Christians use the Advent wreath to help them think about the time leading up to the birth of Jesus.

How do you get ready to welcome Jesus?

The first candle on the Advent wreath, reminds us of the Patriarchs. Patriarchs are people who have gone before us; everything we have, depends on the people who lived before our time- our ancestors.

Jesus's people, the Jews, looked back a very long way to a man called Abraham, who became the father of the nation of Israel, as God promised him. Our ancestors lived in different times and they had to struggle with some of the problems we have but also problems we don't have. It is thanks to their determination and courage that we can be here today.

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A prayer to help us reflect on the significance of the first candle of the Advent wreath

Father in heaven, when we look at the stars in the sky and see just how big our universe is, we thank you for your care and we trust in your promises.

Help us to use this season of Advent to prepare to celebrate the birth of your Son, Jesus Christ.

Grant us peace as we look forward to celebrating Christmas.

Help us to listen to God like Abraham as we wait for Him to return in glory; for He is the light of the world.

Amen

Christians believe that God always keeps His promises, but lots of human beings break promises.

Have you ever broken a promise?

This week the children reflected on times when they may have broken a promise and discussed what they did to make things better again.

A fact about the Advent wreath: the circle is a symbol of God's love— there is no beginning or end to God's love for the world.

Do you know why the Advent wreath has five candles on it?

What do they represent?



News from St Michael's Church

Big Switch On! TONIGHT at 6pm

Grimsargh St Michael's C of E Primary School Choir will sing carols at the Christmas Extravaganza on Grimsargh Park .

THANKYOU

A huge thank you to the children, parents, staff and friends who donated blue and silver items to the school stall for the Parish Christmas Fair.

The money raised at the event goes to Grimsargh St Michael's Church. A large percentage of the proceeds maintain the Barchester fund, which feeds directly into funding projects and resources for our school. Supporting the Parish Christmas Fair is an ideal opportunity to show our gratitude to the parishioners, for their invaluable contributions to school life.



Gymnastics

On Tuesday morning, at Longridge Gymnastics Club, our year 5/6 gym team competed in the local inter-school competition.

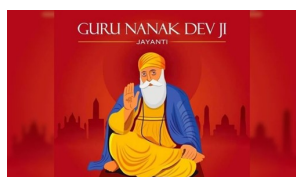
After completing a floor routine and vault, we finished in 4th place which was a great result, especially as 2 of the top 3 schools have twice as many pupils as ours!

Of the 6 schools in our league, only 4 boys were selected to represent their schools and two of those were representing our school. A particular well done to Ellis T who achieved the top score of all 4 boys competing and Seb Walker who achieved the second top score.

I was impressed by the behaviour and attitude of our team.

Well done to: **Ellie R, Ruby W, Ellis T, Sophia W, Florence B-R, Annie-Rose N and Seb W.**

Thank you to Seb's grandma and grandad and Florence's dad for transporting our team to and from the venue.



On 27th November, Sikhs celebrate the birthday of Guru Nanak Dev



Saint Andrew's Day, also called the Feast of Saint Andrew or Andermas, is the

feast day of Andrew the Apostle. It is celebrated on 30 November and on 13 December. Saint Andrew is the disciple in the New Testament who introduced his brother, the Apostle Peter, to Jesus, the Messiah.

PANTO

We are excited about our pantomime visit next Wednesday. We are watching 'Red Riding Hood of the Ribble Valley' at 'The Grand' theatre in Clitheroe.

If you haven't paid for your child to attend, please would you do so as soon as possible.

Our PTFA are kindly contributing £4.50 towards the price for each child, therefore leaving £6.50 for you to pay as parents/ carers, for each child.



Attendance (Education Hub– DfE)

Attendance at school is crucial to prepare young people for successful transition to adulthood, and to support their longer term economic and social participation in society. There is also evidence that the students with the highest attendance throughout their time in school gain the best GCSE and A level results.

Research found that pupils who performed better both at the end of primary and secondary school missed fewer days than those who didn't perform as well. For example, data from 2019 shows that 84% of Key Stage 2 pupils who had 100% attendance achieved the expected standard, compared to 40% of pupils who were persistently absent across the key stage. Pupils who have missed more than 10% of school sessions are considered persistently absent.

Is my child too sick to go to school?

It's usually appropriate for parents and carers to send their children to school with mild respiratory illnesses, including general cold symptoms like a minor cough, runny nose or sore throat. Children should stay at home if they have a high temperature (38C or above).

My child is anxious about going to school, should I send them in?

Children can sometimes feel a little bit worried about going to school. Mostly, this is a very normal emotion. It is important to recognise that going in to school can help children to feel less worried than letting them stay at home.

SAFEGUARDING

Please see the separate attachment- **‘What Schools Need to Know about The Online Safety Act’**

This free online safety guide outlines the key points of the Online Safety Act, a major new piece of legislation which became law in the UK in October 2023.

After a lengthy gestation period, the UK Government's wide-ranging changes to the legislation around digital safeguarding have become enshrined in law as the Online Safety Act. The first of its kind in Britain, the act aims to improve protection for children online and clamp down on illegal material. Regulated by Ofcom, it will primarily impact social media platforms and companies which host user-generated content.

The new legislation, however, also carries implications for schools and their staff. Although further developments are expected, our #WakeUpWednesday guide summarises the main points of the act that schools need to be aware of so far – outlining some specific areas that the new laws address and what effect, in practical terms, this will have on education providers.



MATHLETICS

Scores for: 20.11.23– 26.11.23



1st place: year 5	44, 547pts
2nd place: year 4	30, 846pts
3rd place: year 1	30, 321pts
4th place: reception	29, 638pts
5th place: year 2	21, 342pts
6th place: year 6	20, 732pts
7th place: year 3	18, 184pts

Top Students

Reception:	Thomas E
Year 1:	Oliver M
Year 2:	Aiden H
Year 3:	Brook W
Year 4:	Emilia E
Year 5:	Amelia T
Year 6:	Oscar P

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SPORTSHALL ATHLETICS

What a fantastic day we had at the Sports Hall Athletics at UCLAN. The children set off with boundless enthusiasm boarding the 'Number 1' bus and walking through Preston centre to the venue for what is probably the most anticipated school sports event of the year.

First up were the field events. Initially it was the chest push, and there was an outstanding effort from Charlie C with a monster throw which he repeated in the javelin. Speed bounce, long jump and vertical jumps were performed before the triple jump which saw impressive efforts from our girls Ruby, Ellie and Amber.

In the afternoon session, the track events started. These consisted of 2 x 1 lap relay, 2 x 2 lap relay, 4 x 1 lap relay, obstacle relay and a 6 lap relay. The team performed superbly, and also supported each other from the seated area with great positivity and gusto! Harry J and Malachy W provided highlights with excellent relay runs.

Overall, we finished in an excellent 4th place out of all the primary schools in Preston- many much larger than us. Despite narrowly missing out on medals, the children can be proud of their determination, effort and sportsmanship. Also, it was really encouraging to see the tremendous performances of our Y5 children, which bodes well for next year. A tiring but very enjoyable day was had by all!

Well done to our team of **Amber R, Florence B-R, Tia T, Ellie R, Ruby W, Anabelle L, Erin W, Annie-Rose N, Emilia L, Milly H, Malachy W, Charlie C, Rory S, Ellis T, Seb W, Harry J, Noah S, Bob G and Zack M.**

Special thanks to Milly's mum for travelling with us and supporting us.



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Bake Off

On Wednesday, we held our whole school competition: The Bake Off. A huge thank you to the many of you who entered. We were truly amazed by the amount of time and effort that had been put into each entry and many of you told us that you had enjoyed the special time baking together. Our judges had a tough time choosing their winners, tasting each bake and admiring the appearance. There were comments such as: 'a light sponge', 'visually spectacular' and 'I am amazed by the colour and uniqueness'.

For each category we chose: presentation winner, taste winner and highly commended for something chosen by the judges.

Nursery/Rec

Presentation – Sumayyah M
Taste – Delilah B
Highly Commended for Skill – Emilia D

KS1 (year 1 and 2)

Presentation – Lexie P
Taste – Cerys P
Highly Commended for A Joyful Entry – Beth McG

KS2 (year 3 and 4)

Presentation – Archie F and Mia-Rose P
Taste – Robert L
Highly Commended for Decoration – Noah H

KS2 (year 5 and 6)

Presentation – Amber R
Taste – Matilda E
Highly Commended for Beautiful Colours – Milly H

Parents/Family

Presentation – Rebecca Cross
Taste – George and Martha Christie
Highly Commended for Uniformity – Team Talbot
Judges' Family Commendation for 'All Round Effort' – The Iqbals

Staff

Presentation – Mrs Taylor
Taste – Mrs Wane
Highly Commended for Effort – Mrs Coupe

A huge thank you to Reverend Andy, Mrs Cowell, Mr Bretherton and Mrs Coulston for giving up their time to judge.
The cake sale raised a fantastic £194.50, which will be given to our PTFA.

Winners will receive a chocolate selection box and an orb for their team; every entry will receive a 'house' gem.

