



# Michael House School

## Newsletter

A STEINER WALDORF SCHOOL IN THE HEART OF ENGLAND

APRIL 2018

### The Summer Term is upon us.

May we all enjoy it to the full. May we all learn with passion and discover our passions; may exams go well; may the good weather finally descend and warm the clods that are so desperate for a few rays; may our flower and vegetable beds reward us for the care so painstakingly given. May we all have a happy term filled with sunshine.

I have for you the usual array of information, requests and news of exciting upcoming events over the next few weeks. Please enjoy them and send more to: [newsletter@michaelhouseschool.com](mailto:newsletter@michaelhouseschool.com).

Darran and I have, as always, found interesting tidbits for you in the media. Firstly, isn't it always lovely to have affirmation of your beliefs, no matter where it comes from? Have a look at the below:

<https://www.theguardian.com/stage/2018/apr/20/imogen-stubbs-uk-education-system-treadmill-be-all-and-end-all?>

For those of you who enjoy the odd TED talk, similarly, have a look at:

[https://www.ted.com/talks/adam\\_alter\\_why\\_our\\_screens\\_make\\_us\\_less\\_happy](https://www.ted.com/talks/adam_alter_why_our_screens_make_us_less_happy)

Although we did also come across its flip side in the shape of a very worrying (/scary?) and (in my opinion) short sighted alternative view:

[https://www.ted.com/talks/sara\\_dewitt\\_3\\_fears\\_about\\_screen\\_time\\_for\\_kids\\_and\\_why\\_they're\\_not\\_true](https://www.ted.com/talks/sara_dewitt_3_fears_about_screen_time_for_kids_and_why_they're_not_true)

See you all in a few weeks for more updates,

*Ana*

## Dates for your Diaries

### May/June

**14<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup> May** – Class 5/6 Trip to Hadrian's Wall  
**19<sup>th</sup> May** – Nearly New Sale  
**21<sup>st</sup> May** – Guided Tours  
**25<sup>th</sup> May** – Class 8 Play for parents and friends, in the School  
**28<sup>th</sup> May** – School Breaks Up for Half Term

**4<sup>th</sup> June** – School Reopens  
**2<sup>nd</sup> June – 16<sup>th</sup> June** – Class 9 Trip to Orkney  
**6<sup>th</sup> June** – Class 3/4 Trip to Chatsworth – RHS Show  
**9<sup>th</sup> June** – Open Day  
**18<sup>th</sup> June** – Guided Tours  
**20<sup>th</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup> June** – Class 8 Trip to Prague  
**23<sup>rd</sup> June** – Summer Fair  
**27<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> June** – Class 5 Olympics at Michael Hall School

### Recurring:

**Tuesday** – Hot lunches available at £2.50 / £3.00 - see Chevonne Davidson (orders in box at front desk.

**Thursday** – Hot dogs available to buy at lunch, please pre-order – this is raising funds for the class 8 trip.

**Fridays** – Gardening Club 8.30 til lunchtime, refreshments provided

**Friday mornings** – Singing 8.45 – 9.45 Eurythmy room

**Fridays at 3 p.m.** – Friday teas - coffee and cake in the main school

**Fridays** – During & after Fridays Teas – Love your bed!

## Weleda Open Day, from Claire Hattersley

Tickets are now on sale for our Open Day at The Field on Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> July!

The poster is attached if you would like to print any invites off and the link for tickets is below if you want to share it with friends and family. **Michael House providing catering.**

It promises to be a great day with lots of activities, stalls, talks and workshops including:

- Flower crown making
- Hand massages
- Plant stall
- Weleda shop
- Mick the bee
- Willow weaving
- Food and drink stalls
- Garden Organic
- Derbyshire Wildlife trust
- Talks in the garden

Link for tickets on the website: <https://www.weleda.co.uk/openday>

## GCSE Exams, by Zoe Burns

Those of you at the lower end of the school may not be aware, but things are now progressing at a fast pace for Class 10 who are sitting their GCSE exams this term!

The teachers are coordinating revision sessions, the exam officer is organising invigilators and preparing the exam rooms and the pupils are working on consolidating all their learning as best they can. They are taking GCSE English Language, English Literature, Maths, Combined Science (Biology, Chemistry and Physics), German and Art.

Exams will be taking place over the next 2 months on a variety of different days. Most of them will be in the morning and taking place in the Eurythmy room (there are only 3 afternoon exams).

Please check the chalk board by reception for notices about exams to advise you when you will be asked to be a little bit quieter in school and around the playground. We ask that you please stay outside the red and white taped area on exam days to help keep distractions to a minimum for our exam candidates.

From all the staff, parents and wider school community we wish Class 10 success in their exams!

Zoe Burns, Exam Officer

(Please phone or text if you have any invigilation or exam queries: 07443 484226)

## Nearly New Sale, by Zoe Burns

We will be holding our next:

**Children's Nearly New Sale**

**Saturday 19th May 2018**

**10am -12pm**

**in the school hall**

Unfortunately, the last event was poorly attended, which is such a pity, as there were some wonderful bargains to be had. We are asking that as a member of the school community you offer as much help as you are able to promote this and future Nearly New Sales which are being held termly as a regular fundraiser for school. We are hoping to attract local young families to experience our location and delicious cakes, while grabbing a bargain, as another way of getting our school known in the locality.

Registration for sellers is now open and you are advised to get in contact early for your seller pack as labeling can take a while. However, once everything is labeled and packed, you may chose just to drop off and pick up on the day. This means that your items are stored and taken care of for you and they can be entered into the next sale, with little preparation next time, if not sold the first time.

**Please** help distribute as many posters as you can, **please** register to sell (even if its just a few items) and **do join us** for a fun social sale day with cake!

Contact Zoe Burns on 07443 484226 or by email [za.burns@btinternet.com](mailto:za.burns@btinternet.com) for a seller pack.

Thanks, Zoe.

## Fundraising success Feedback, by Ann-Marie Franklin

The 21<sup>st</sup> of April brought a selection of local musicians to the stage of Michael House - many thanks to all these artists who gave up their time, many in between gigs that day, to play for us to raise money for class 9.

Class 9 are raising funds for their farming week that they are going to take in the Orkney Islands this summer.

It was a wonderful evening, the sun was out, the children played, the smell of the pizza oven tempting us and the warming curry while we were entertained by four fantastic acoustics musicians. The evening raised just shy of £400 for class 9, which is a tremendous achievement given the 'gig' had had to be re-scheduled.

A huge 'Thank you' to those who came to support and who dug deep once again into their pockets for our children.

Ann-Marie Franklin (class 9 parent)



BEN SMITH



ISAAC WALTERS



MICHAEL UPTON



CRAIG WOODS

## Donations Required for the Gardening Group

Can anyone donate any cuttings/plants of the following:

- \* **Lavender**
- \* **Rosemary**
- \* **Sage**
- \* **Thyme**

This is for our Mediterranean border along the side of the school. Any donations would be hugely appreciated, ASAP, please leave outside the garden room, or contact Helen 07952660743.

## The Class 8 Play for 2018

A rambling country house. A motley group of strangers, each with a secret. A rich, bedridden old lady and her sinister personal assistant. A servant who might not be everything she appears. An original production, performed by the members of Class 8.

Don't miss this unique evening of twists, turns and comic skullduggery!

**May 24th and May 25th**

7:00 pm, Michael House School

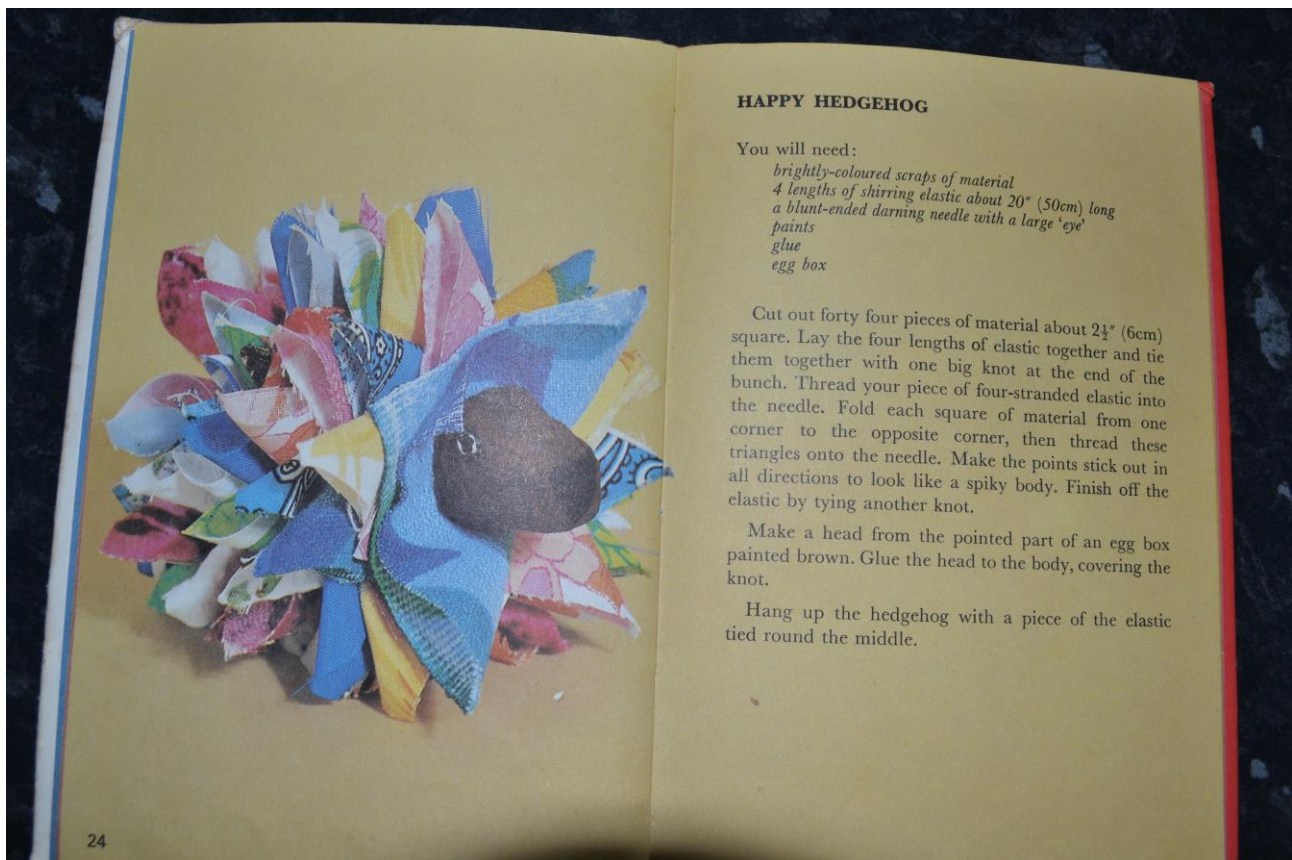
Free entry

Refreshments

Exit collection

## A Clever Craft, from Ana

One of my neighbours came across a really old craft book when she was clearing her attic. I thought that this looked like a lot of fun, especially for a rainy afternoon, seeing since we seem to be having plenty of those...



### House Required! - from Gillian Parrish

Hi, my name is Gillian Parrish, (ex) Michael House parent of Jonathon who left in 2015. I am looking to find a homely residence to rent on a long term basis for myself, Jonathon and our friend Mel, plus 2 cats and a dog (minimum 3 bedrooms). Ideally our next home will be in Ilkeston, but we are happy to consider the surrounding area. We are wanting to move in August.

Please contact me on 07974515189 or Mel on 07400141551 if you or anyone you know can help out. Thanks, kindest regards, Gillian

### Accommodation Required, from Claire Hattersley at Weleda

Weleda are on the lookout for short term rented accommodation in the local area. Do you have a room or flat that you would be willing to rent out to our interns, seasonal gardeners and other short term visitors?

If you are able to help or would like to discuss this further, please contact Irene:  
[Irene.bent@weleda.co.uk](mailto:Irene.bent@weleda.co.uk)

Tel: 0115 9448229

### Love Your Bed!

A reminder to everyone that Friday is \*Love Your Bed\* day, so after tea and cake you can potter in the garden, loving your bed with your children (you can do this after school on other days if the weather is more appropriate but the garden room will be closed so best to keep garden tools, gloves, etc. with you).

Please note, a plan of the garden layout including all the available beds (numbered) are to be found in the kitchen. \*Please put your name next to the bed number that you would like to work on, the sooner you do this the greater choice of bed you will have.\*

You can choose exactly how you would like to \*Love Your Bed\*, so if you have any seeds, cuttings, decorations, etc. anything that you would like to put in your bed. You can even make a label with your family's name on to say who your bed has been loved by! Anything that is fun to do and enjoyable for your children will be great.

Our plan is not only to encourage the children to become more involved with our garden, because it's fun and healing, but also because the garden is a huge and overwhelming job for us (two!) at the Garden Club and we would really appreciate a helping hand. What better than to get the children to more fully appreciate the garden and the amount it needs tending to, and also to get them to more fully observe what is happening in our garden throughout the seasons, allowing them to feel more of a connection with nature and ultimately themselves. This is something that children of all ages can find valuable and rewarding.

We want this to be as pleasurable experience as possible, so please enjoy your pottering around the lovely school garden, loving your bed. All that we ask is that you do not remove any established plants in the bed, such as herbs and flowers. Any uncertainty or more information please contact Helen Osborne 07952660743



## *Weleda Gardens Open Day*

**1st July 2018, 11am – 4pm**

THE FIELD, HASSOCK LANE,  
HEANOR, DERBYSHIRE, DE75 7JH

**All proceeds to the Derbyshire  
Wildlife Trust's bee appeal.**

£10 Family entry  
2 adults and children

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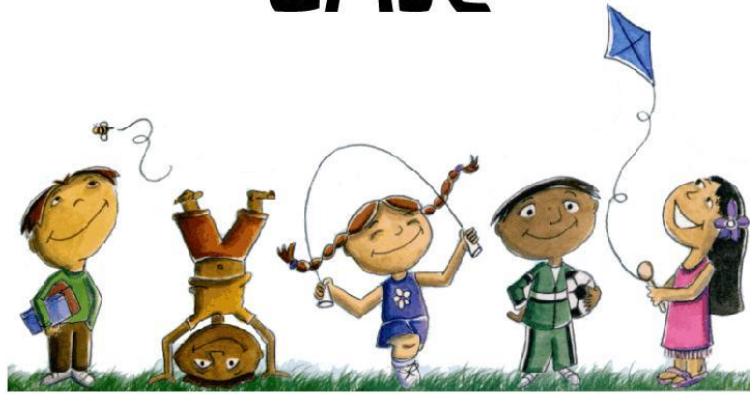
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# Children's Nearly New SALE



## Michael House School Saturday 19th May 10am to 12pm

A great place to buy:  
lovingly given up clothes that are sadly now too small,  
practical nursery equipment with much life left in it yet,  
pre-loved toys and many other quality items.

**30% of the sale price goes to support the work of  
Michael House Steiner Waldorf School.**

**Admission £1 per Adult**

For a seller's pack and to register to sell please phone Zoe Burns  
by 8pm Saturday 12th May on 07443 484226.

Address: Michael House Steiner Waldorf School, The Field, Shipley, DE75 7JH. Tel: 01773 718050  
Web: [www.michaelhouseschool.com](http://www.michaelhouseschool.com)  
Michael House School Association Ltd. Registered England: 515882 Registered Charity Number: 527187



# Michael House Forest School - Summer Term



## Activities to include:

**Fire skills - Wild cooking - Woodland crafts - Shelter building - woodland games – working with tools**

## Age 7 -12 year olds

**5 Tuesday evenings 3.00pm - 5.00pm from 17<sup>th</sup> April – 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2018**

**(no session 8<sup>th</sup> May as school closed for policy day)**

**Cost £40 for 5 week block- 25% discount for second child booking**

## Open to all

**Booking deadline: Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> March 2018. Places are limited. To book a place please email: [Lauren@intothewildwood.co.uk](mailto:Lauren@intothewildwood.co.uk)**

**The sessions will be delivered by: Lauren Kinnersley of Into the Wild Wood. Lauren is a qualified Forest School Level 3 Leader, and is Steiner Waldorf trained.**

**[www.intothewildwood.co.uk](http://www.intothewildwood.co.uk)**