



United Schools Federation
Newsletter December 2018

Dear Parents and Carers,

Before we break up for the Christmas holiday there are a few things I would like to make you aware of.

Mrs West

As some of you may know, Mrs West, who is Head of School at St Michaels was diagnosed with Breast Cancer over the October half term. Fortunately it was found early and following a course of radiotherapy she is expected to make a full recovery. On behalf of Mrs West can I thank all those children and parents who have sent cards, flowers, or made donations (which will go to a breast cancer charity). I would like to say a special thank you to Alfie Moore, who is in Year 3 at St Michael's. When Alfie heard that Mrs West was ill he set up a Just Giving Page and since October has raised over £750, an amazing achievement. The money raised goes straight to charity but Alfie will make you a great bookmark in return for your donation. If you would like to contribute please use the following link

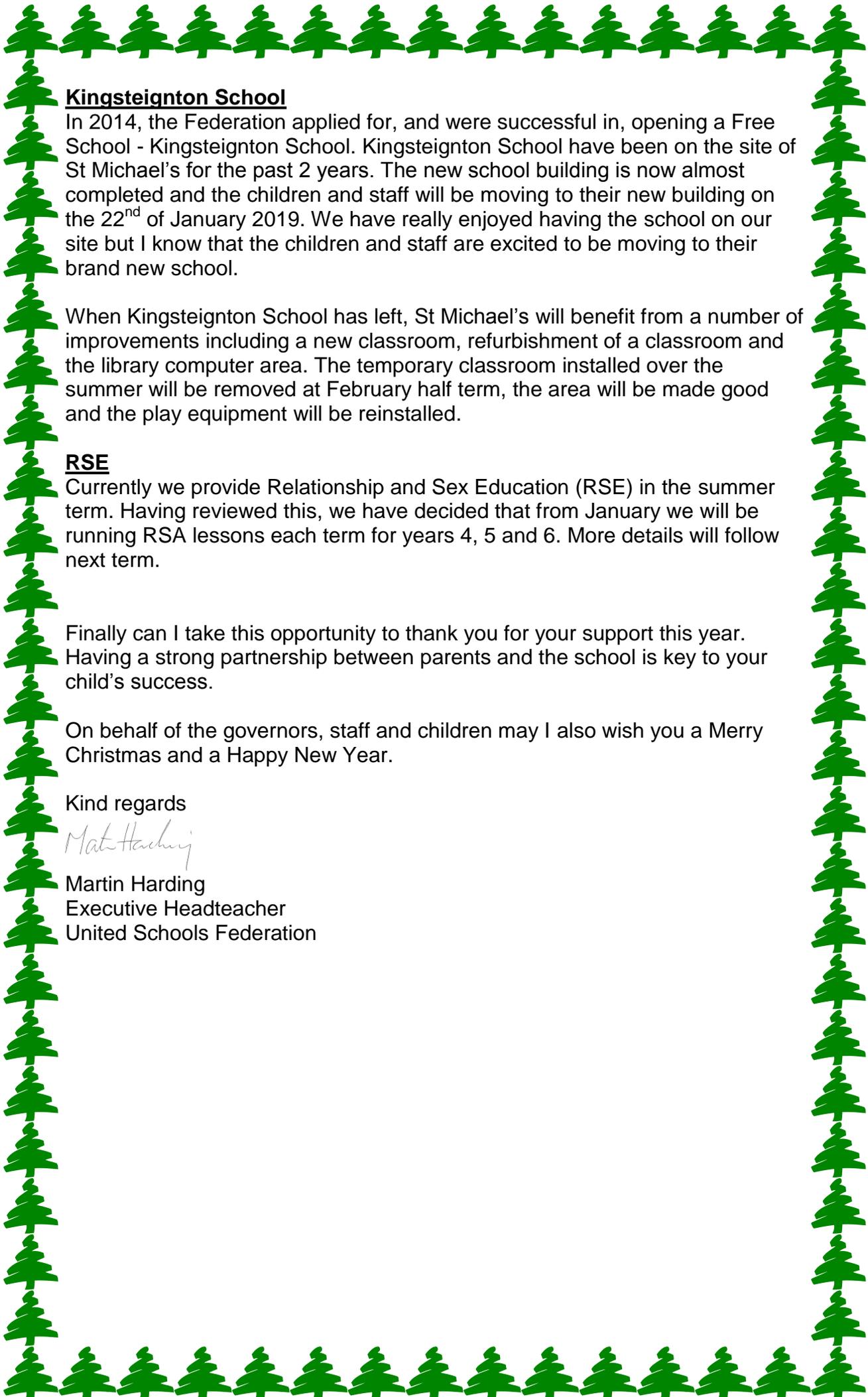
<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/alfies-bookmarks>

Sustainable School Improvement Project

The Government and Local Authority recognise the importance of partnership of schools in whatever form this might take, including Academies, Federations or other formal partnerships. Due to the strong practice of the United Schools Federation, it was selected as one of only two federations from all the federations in the country along with a number of academies to take part in the research. The London School of Education, on behalf of the Department for Education (DfE), carried out the project. The report can be found at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/sustainable-improvement-in-multi-school-groups>. The DfE see this as an important piece of work, which will be used to inform future policy and practice with regard to schools to school improvement by working in partnership.

Multi Site Caretaker

Kevan Haines, our multi-site caretaker, who is responsible for caretaking across all of the schools in the Federation, is moving to a new job in January. I'd like to congratulate Kevan on his new job. We have appointed a new multi-site manager James Clayden. James comes with a wealth of relevant experience and has managed a range of schools sites including both secondary and primary. James will be taking up his new post in January.



Kingsteignton School

In 2014, the Federation applied for, and were successful in, opening a Free School - Kingsteignton School. Kingsteignton School have been on the site of St Michael's for the past 2 years. The new school building is now almost completed and the children and staff will be moving to their new building on the 22nd of January 2019. We have really enjoyed having the school on our site but I know that the children and staff are excited to be moving to their brand new school.

When Kingsteignton School has left, St Michael's will benefit from a number of improvements including a new classroom, refurbishment of a classroom and the library computer area. The temporary classroom installed over the summer will be removed at February half term, the area will be made good and the play equipment will be reinstalled.

RSE

Currently we provide Relationship and Sex Education (RSE) in the summer term. Having reviewed this, we have decided that from January we will be running RSA lessons each term for years 4, 5 and 6. More details will follow next term.

Finally can I take this opportunity to thank you for your support this year. Having a strong partnership between parents and the school is key to your child's success.

On behalf of the governors, staff and children may I also wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Kind regards



Martin Harding
Executive Headteacher
United Schools Federation