



St. Michael's Church of England Primary School

Carlisle Road, Dalston, Carlisle, Cumbria CA5 7LN • Tel: 01228 711544 • Headteacher: Mrs L Smith

Our school values: *Respect · Kindness · Challenge · Forgiveness · Perseverance*



Tuesday 10th February 2026

Dear Parents,

I write with our final newsletter of the half term. This week we have launched our Mental Health Awareness and Online Safety workshops. The focus has been on connectivity and looking after our own wellbeing through our relationships and friendship with others in person and online. Throughout this week, our infant and junior pupils are sharing lessons to take part in painting, games, scavenger hunts and shared reading

Book Buddies

Reception and Year 4 are book buddies – sharing the same picture book and meeting for a discussion about the book. This is intended to incite a love for reading for pleasure and shared connection with our older and younger pupils. The opening session yesterday was exciting and had a real buzz.

Secret Reader

Mrs McArdle is launching 'Secret Reader' in the last teaching session on a Tuesday afternoon. Our children will be very lucky to share different stories with different readers. We hope it also excites our pupils to share new and different stories. If you would like to read a story to our younger learners, please contact the school office.

Internet Safety Workshops

Our younger pupils are accessing online workshops. Captain Digi explores the 'stormy seas' of Cyber security and how to stay safe. A second workshop investigates heroes and villains, whereby children work together to conquer tricky situations and be kind online.

Face to face workshops for our junior pupils involved an anti-bullying online workshop for our Year 3 and 4 pupils using role play and drama. Year 5 and 6 pupils are exploring Cyber critical which is looking at AI, misinformation and spotting false accounts. We hope our pupils benefit from these experiences.

Panathlon

A group of our pupils are taking part in the regional Panathlon with several other schools. We wish them well in the first bowling event on Thursday.

Pupil Profiles

We hope you find these pupil profiles informative. This is a snap shot of assessment results using end of term data. As always, pupils learn in different ways and progress is often not linear. If you have any questions, please contact your child's class teacher and they can share more details with you. Any feedback you have regarding this new initiative would be welcome – please either email me or arrange a meeting to share your thoughts. Please note, pupils with additional educational needs and their own EHCP have an alternative target setting and review meeting with class teachers termly.



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Parents' Meetings

Next half term, we would like to invite you to come into school to meet with your child's class teacher. The dates are Thursday 19th March and Tuesday 24th March from 3.30pm – 6.30pm. Booking will open next half term. I hope as many of you as possible will be able to meet your child's teacher.

Hawse End

Our Year 6 pupils are looking forward to taking part in an outdoor residential with Cumbria Outdoors in a great centre on the banks of Derwent Water. Our pupils will take part in archery, bushcraft, canoe rafting, orienteering and climbing/abseiling. The residential starts on Monday 23rd until Wednesday 25th February.

Mobile Phones

In line with the recent DfE guidance published earlier this month, I write to remind you that pupils are not permitted to have mobile phones in school or on any educational visits or residential. Further details are included in our behaviour policy on the website. If you feel your child needs a phone for travelling to/from school, this should be handed into the school office at the start of the day and collected at 3.30pm.

World Book Day

This is on Thursday 5th March. We would like to invite all pupils to dress as their favourite book character and we will share many fun and exciting book related activities throughout the day.

Sporting Events

As a school, we have booked many sporting events next term including a swimming gala, football, dodge ball, Boccia, chess and others. Further details of these will be sent out to the pupils taking part.

Chocolate Bingo

Our pupils would love to take part in another Easter chocolate bingo after school. This will be on Wednesday 25th March from 3.30pm in the school hall. Children will be able to come into school in non-uniform that day, in exchange for a chocolate bar or Easter egg to fund our Bingo prizes, In the past, this has been a very popular event and lots of fun. We hope as many of you as possible will be able to attend.

May I wish you all a happy half term and I hope you can enjoy a rest and some special family time. Our pupils return to school on Monday 23rd February.

Kind regards

Lorna Smith



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