



# St. Michael's Church of England Primary School

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

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

Friday 17<sup>th</sup> February 2023

Dear Parents,

A few pieces of information before we finish for the half term. It has been a busy half term in school with so many successes:- great Viking boats designed by Year 6; amazing nests built by artists in Year 5; super climbing at Eden Rock; Reception visit to the farm and cow making competition ... to name but a few. We are busy uploading details of your child's learning onto Seesaw and our school class pages. We hope you enjoy finding out about your child's learning journey in these ways. Your child's Curriculum Newsletter and Quiz Me Questions for next half term will be posted on the website and sent out in the first week back.

## World Book Day

On Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> March we will be celebrating World Book Day in school. Please can pupils come dressed as their favourite book character (or in their ordinary clothes if preferred.) We have had a small selection of costumes donated to school - thank you to those parents who sent in any unwanted outfits. The costumes would suit Reception or Year 1 pupils. If you would like to borrow one of these for your child, please ask at the school office. Our Year 6 pupils have requested that they can also dress up as their favourite book character and bring their school uniform into school to get changed at lunch time to attend the 'Show Racism The Red Card' event at Brunton Park in the afternoon.

## Author Visit

On World Book Day we will be joined by the author Helen Haraldsen. She will be talking about her journey in becoming an author. Helen Haraldsen is a children's author, English teacher and former school librarian. Her mission in life is to inspire young people to love reading and writing so that they have the literacy skills they need to access life's opportunities. She loves writing books for and with young people, and introducing children to the book that turns them into a reader is one of the highlights of her job. A selection of her books will also be on display and pupils should bring their money into school on the day if they wish to purchase a book. I will text the cost of these books as soon as I know.

## Library Visits

All classes will be visiting Carlisle library. Reception, Year 1, 2, 3 and 5 will be going by bus on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> March and Year 4 and Year 6 will be going by train on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> March. If you can help out at any of these class visits, please contact the school office.

Pupils will be bringing home a library registration form on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> February (straight after half term) and this will need to be completed and returned to school by Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> March so that they can be returned to the library, processed and ready for all pupils to be active library members and able to borrow a book on the day. Pupils who are already a member will have to bring their library card on the day of their class visit.

## School Meals Contract

After many meetings and a rigorous process, the governors and I have appointed Dolce as our new school meals provider. The new contract with Dolce will start after Easter and further details of menus and how to book meals will be sent out next half term. Dolce pride themselves on cooking their meals from fresh and we look forward to working with them. We would also like to thank Orian for their service to our school over the years.



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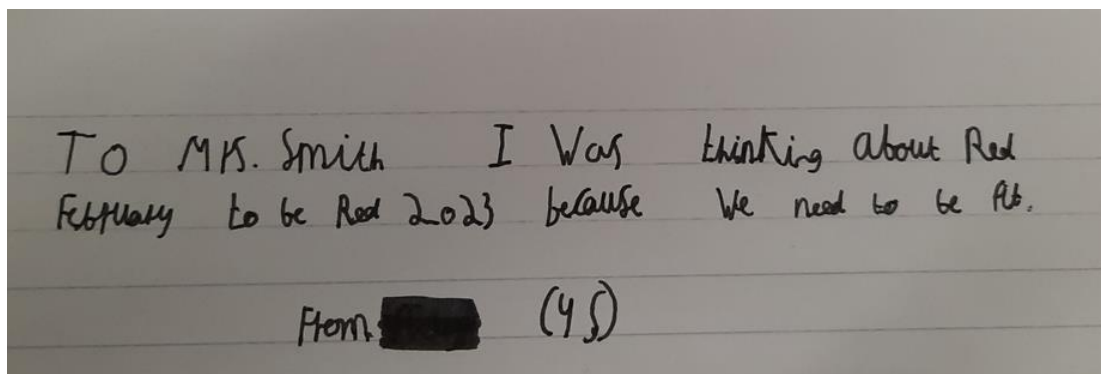
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## Industrial Action

The next day of industrial action by NEU teaching members is planned for Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> February. I will write to individual classes before the end of this half term to inform of any class closures. Please note that this information can change on the day, as teachers have the right to change their intentions and strike on the day. Thank you for your understanding at this challenging time.

## RED February

Run Every Day we are in school has been very popular with our junior pupils. Many children have enjoyed running for the first twenty minutes of our lunch hour and completing at least 7 laps of the field to run one mile. We have had a request from a Year 5 pupil – see below. At St Michael's we pride ourselves on listening to our pupils' 'voice' and we are very seriously considering how we can extend the opportunity for pupils to run daily into the coming months. Watch this space ...



## HSA

A huge thank you to Lindsey Dalton and all parents in the HSA who planned and provided a great event for our pupils. Both discos – infant and junior were a huge success and our pupils enjoyed dancing with glow sticks, balloon modelling and photos with props. The food went down well too! Thank you so much for all of your support. The money raised helps to fund enhanced curriculum opportunities, trips and transport for our pupils.

## Extra-Curricular Clubs

You will soon be receiving a link for our extra-curricular clubs for next half term. Please book your child on to the clubs they would like to attend.

Finally, may I wish you all a happy half term. I hope you enjoy some special times with your family and look forward to welcoming you back to school on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> February.

Kind Regards

Lorna Smith