



St. Michael's Church of England Primary School

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

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

17 September 2021

Dear Parents

I thought I would share some recent developments and news with you, as well as ask for your support on a couple of matters.

Wrap around provision

As of 1 October, our Breakfast Club and After School Club will no longer be run by a volunteer management committee. It will be led and managed by myself and our school's governing body. Susie has decided, after 13 years of service, that she needs more time to commit to her own family business. We wish her well and thank her very much for her commitment to St Michael's. I know it is a service many of our families rely upon and I want to reassure you that the Breakfast Club and After School Club provision will be maintained. We will endeavour to make the handover as smooth as possible and provide Breakfast Club places from 8am - 8.50am and After School places from 3.20 - 5.30pm. Although the hours will remain the same, we will be launching our own wrap-around care facility with fresh opportunities for our children – more details will follow in due course. Until October half term, Charlotte Rennie has kindly offered to 'step up' to lead both these clubs and our existing teaching assistant staff will cover the role of play assistant on a rota basis.

Breakfast Club/After School Club Leader

If you have passion, energy and initiative with a caring, flexible approach and enjoy working with children – we may have the ideal position for you, available within school. The role(s) of Breakfast Club Leader and After School Club Leader are currently being advertised on our school website. The job description, person specification and application form can also be found there. If you would like any further details of the post, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Packed Lunches/Nut Allergy

We have several children in school who have a severe reaction to nuts. We are a nut-free school and require that no items of food containing nuts are on the premises. Please can you ensure that your child's packed lunch does not contain any nuts. Chocolate spread sandwiches are not permitted as a key ingredient in Nutella-type spreads is hazelnut.

Lunch Shop

Please remember to order your child's packed-lunches. We will never let a child go hungry, but all those who require a school meal but have not ordered from home will receive a ham sandwich and fruit – which may get boring!

Communication

Within school we sometimes send texts for quick reminders to parents about key events relevant to your child. We use our on-line data system to do this. Whilst it can be really beneficial, it does restrict the 'characters' that can be used in one text. As a result, some messages can and may appear in the future quite succinct, with limited pleasantries. This is because we are trying to fit as much information as we need into

the one text. However, as always, if you need any further information, please do not hesitate to contact school.

New Starters

A very big welcome to our reception children and their families to St Michael's. The children have settled in really well and have enjoyed learning through lots of play activities these past couple of weeks. We also have new pupils in several other year groups. We look forward to working with you in the future and helping your children learn.

Keeping Safe

I am concerned about keeping our infant children safe at the end of the day and would like to ask all parents to come in either the main gate for Year 1 pick up or the field gate for Reception and Year 2 pick up so that you are with your child as they leave school. May I ask that you help us to prevent the spread of COVID as much as possible and socially distance whilst waiting to collect your children.

Many pupils are riding to and from schools on their bikes and this is great. I have never seen our bike racks so well used! The safety benefits of wearing a helmet can never be under-estimated. I would like to remind all pupils that they must wear their helmet each day and if you could support me in this, it would be very much appreciated.

As always, if you have any queries, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Kind regards

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lorna Smith".

Mrs L Smith

Acting Headteacher