



# 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

Dear Parents

## Welcome to baby Johnston

On Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> November, Mrs Johnston had her baby. A gorgeous little boy, Louis. Both her and her little bundle of joy are doing well and enjoying this very special family time. We hope to meet Louis at some time in the future.

## Year 5 Staffing

Earlier this month Mrs Porter had a knee operation. She is currently at home recovering and sending her best wishes, especially to Year five. She is missing the children and hope they enjoy the many festive activities we have planned. In her absence, Miss Mawson, our deputy head, will be teaching the latter part of the week with Mrs Lambert. Our good wishes for a speedy recovery go to Mrs Porter.

## HSA

Thank you to Rachel Richards, staff, governors and children who attended the presentation at our local Co-op in Dalston on Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> November. The HSA received a cheque from the Co-op fundraiser for £2,353 pounds. We are delighted with this very generous fundraising. The money will be used to develop the rear school garden to include a forest school area/outdoor learning space.

## School Council Update/HSA Thank you

Our school councillors have met and shared the ideas from their respective classes to develop our lunchtime play provision. Through a kind donation from our HAS, play equipment, including lola balls, rackets, balls, hoops, skipping ropes and so much more, has been purchased. The equipment arrived early this week and has been unpacked and sorted by our pupils. Mrs Tait and Mrs Roberts, our lunch time play leaders, are excited too. The children will have the opportunity to be involved in lots of fun, games and activities during lunch breaks. A big thank you for all the funds the HSA has raised so that our pupils benefit from this enhanced provision.

## Christingle

Our Christingle service will be held within the church at 6pm on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> December. If there are any parents available to help with Christingle-making in school on that Tuesday morning, please get in touch. We have decided not to ticket this service, but wanted to make you aware that there are four classes taking part and so there is the potential for a large audience attending. It has been a difficult decision to go ahead with it; however, we really wanted our pupils to experience the love and peace from this service. Our children have missed out so much throughout the pandemic. Please note that social distancing will not be possible at this service and we request that all attending do wear a face covering. We would like as many of our Year 3,4,5 and 6 pupils to attend as possible. Due to the potential numbers attending, we recognise and respect that some parents might not wish to attend. If this is the case, please collect your child/ren from the church at 6.45pm.

## Website

We are currently developing our school website, which I hope will help us to communicate more about what is happening within school. Each class will have their own page and we will be able to share latest news and up coming events throughout school, more readily. Exciting times ahead ... watch this space!

## Reading Café

Our breakfast reading café opens its door in the school hall next Tuesday morning at 8 o'clock. You are very welcome to come along with your child/ren and enjoy a slice of toast and a cuppa whilst sharing a good book. We want to encourage all of our pupils to experience sharing exciting stories. The session will end at 8.50 with a shared story, before the children go to their classes.

## Wheel- chair Basketball

Our children are really looking forward to taking part in the wheelchair basketball on Thursday. All pupils will have the chance to compete in teams of six, in our school hall, throughout the day. This special day has also been funded by our HSA – thank you.

## Christmas performances – further details

Infants' Nativity 'The Bossy King'. Tuesday 7 December  
Year 3 / 4 play 'It's a Miracle', Thursday 9 December

This year we are having two performances of the infant Nativity play and two performances of the junior Nativity play. This is to comply with Covid regulations and to help keep everyone safe. Ticket allocation is underway and the tickets will be with you shortly. To help keep others safe, we ask that all adults attending wear a face covering whilst attending the performances.

We would like all children to attend both performances of their play. In each case, once the afternoon performance is finished, any parents that are attending can take their children home after the play. The remaining children should be picked up at the usual time. Children should then return to school at 5.45pm for the evening performance. They do not need to wear school uniform and will change into their outfits in school. If you are not attending the evening performance, please collect your child at 6.45pm. They should be collected from the infant yard and a member of staff will make sure they are safely handed over to their adult.

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Kind regards



Acting Headteacher