



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

25 January 2022

Dear Parents,

First of all, I would like to say a huge thank you to all parents and grandparents who were able to attend our curriculum open evening last Wednesday. As a staff team we were really delighted to 'open' our doors to our families, albeit with restricted numbers, and share our great work with you. For those unable to attend, the information shared is in the document 'Curriculum Vision' which can be found on our website in the Classes and Curriculum section. Our class curriculum half termly newsletters were also launched at the event. These will shortly be available on your child's class page on the website, although hard copies were sent home last week too. We hope to share your child's learning with you in advance what your child will be learning should you want to do any related activities or research with them at home.

New School Website

We are very pleased with the launch of our new school website. We have redesigned the layout to ensure that the children are integral to it. Each class has their own page and we will endeavour to post news about the children's learning on a weekly basis. It is still the same web page address.

Chinese Ribbon Dancing

Four classes have taken part in a Chinese Ribbon dance workshop today as part of work to learn about the Chinese New Year and the Year of The Tiger. Our children really enjoyed it and took part with great energy and enthusiasm. Within school we are all looking forward to the special whole school assembly from Tullie House next week also on the theme of Chinese New Year.

Headteacher Vacancy

The permanent post of headteacher within our school is now being advertised on our school website and with Cumbria County Council. The governors and representatives from the Local Authority will work as a panel to recruit and appoint an inspirational leader who will have the children at the centre of all they do in order to lead and manage the team at St Michael's. The post will be filled to start in September 2022.

Please be reassured that in the interim period, myself and Miss Mawson will continue to lead our team with integrity and determination to ensure we provide the best education for our children.

Allergies Within School

We have some children within school with a very serious nut allergy. It is really essential that our children do not bring food into school that contains nuts. Please can you check the ingredients of your child's packed lunch. Many of our pupils enjoy chocolate spread, but this is not suitable for consumption within school as it contains hazelnuts. Thank you for your cooperation with this.

School Council

I am going to meet with our school councillors tomorrow to start a review of how healthy we are within school. This will involve class discussions about how much water most children drink each day, and the balance of food we have in our packed lunches and school dinners. We are really keen to encourage our pupils to eat a balanced diet and keep

hydrated throughout the day. Some pupils are, at times, bringing too many sweets and sugary snacks within their lunch box and this is having an impact on their learning behaviours in the afternoon sessions. We recently received information from the NHS to help our pupils become 'Swap Rockstars!' It is to encourage our pupils to swap unhealthy snacks for more healthier ones. Please visit <https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/eat-well/the-eatwell-guide/> for more information.

Reading Café

Last month our school reading café opened its doors and we welcomed many families into school @8am for toast and a cuppa whilst sharing some stories. We did suggest it would run the last Tuesday of every month, however, due to the working pattern of many families, we have decided to offer the reading café within school on the last week each month, but vary the day so that all families can have the chance to attend at some point. As a result the reading café will be open this Thursday morning @8am in our school hall. Please join us for some fun reading and some breakfast. Children should be accompanied by an adult. Everyone is welcome.

READING CAFÉ THIS THURSDAY 27TH JANUARY 8AM ALL WELCOME

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

Kind regards

Lorna Smith

Lorna Smith



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