



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

27 April 2022

Dear Parents,

Parents' Meetings

It was great to see so many parents attending face to face parents' meetings in the last week of term. I hope you found the meeting with your child's class teacher informative and worthwhile. Please note that we are always here to share and discuss any questions or concerns you may have about your child's education. We want all of our pupils to have the best possible start to their education and we know that, in order to achieve that, regular, close links with home are beneficial.

Parent Survey Findings

Thank you to all in our school community who took the time to complete our online school survey. Your thoughts and views on our school are so important to us and we want to share the key messages from the parent responses.

88 responses were received from across all year groups of the school.

- 95% of respondents feel their child is happy at St. Michael's
- 97% feel their child is safe at school
- 97% feel their child is taught well
- 96 % feel that St. Michael's provides a broad and balanced curriculum
- 85% of parents think children at St. Michael's are well behaved (11% felt they did not know)
- 94% feel the school is well led and managed
- The school newsletter was the most common way of finding things out about what is going on at school (89%), with emails (88%) and text messages (80%) being the next most common means – 98% of respondents agree that they receive regular updates about what is happening in school.
- There were many positive comments received alongside this data.
- A common theme from the written feedback was communication; we will continue to share information in a timely manner where possible and through the most used methods.

As a team we continue to strive to make St. Michael's the best place it can be for our children.

Class Assemblies

As a school, we want to open our doors and welcome our parents more in our pupils' learning journey. Up until the end of term each class will be hosting a shared assembly to celebrate their learning in school and share examples of the broad and balanced curriculum on offer here at St Michael's. The dates are below. Each assembly will start at 2.45pm and will be finished by the end of the school day. We hope that as many parents can attend as possible and look forward to welcoming you into school.

| Date | Year Group |
|-------------------|------------|
| Thursday 5 May | Reception |
| Wednesday 11 May | Year 1 |
| Thursday 19 May | Year 2 |
| HALF TERM | |
| Wednesday 15 June | Year 3 |
| Thursday 23 June | Year 4 |
| Wednesday 29 June | Year 5 |
| Wednesday 6 July | Year 6 |

Pupil Progress Meetings

Towards the end of term, our pupils completed assessments in writing, spelling, reading, maths reasoning and arithmetic. I am currently working closely with class teachers, analysing pupil progress and identifying individuals who would benefit from some booster support work. Mrs Shennan will continue to deliver intervention support to some children in Years 3 and 4. Mrs Austin, Miss Rowe and Mrs Carruthers support pupils in Years 5 and 6. Our infant children have daily targeted phonics work to help them stay on task with their reading. Your child may be asked to take part in one of these support groups as a way of re-capping previous learning and bridging any identified gaps in their learning. Please note that this provision is not SEN – but in line with the National tutoring guidance.

Celebrating the Queen's Jubilee

Within school we are planning a whole school celebration for the Queen's Jubilee within the last week of this half term. We aim to share activities and experiences on 'Jubilee' theme throughout school on Wednesday 25 May. Parents will be invited into school towards the end of the day for a shared cream tea or similar on the field – weather permitting. Our HSA have some fundraising ideas and these may also be included in this event – watch this space!

School Car Park

Thank you to those parents who are using the layby to park and drop off their children at Breakfast Club. Please note the school car park is for staff use only and by restricting the flow of traffic to incoming cars, especially during the busy period in the mornings, we are keeping everyone safer. Your co-operation is appreciated.

Sporting Dates

Thursday 5 May: Y5/6 CUFC Football Tournament

Wednesday 25 May: Y3/4 Tennis

Friday 17 June: Go Activ Y5/6 Football Competition

Further dates for cricket, outdoor athletics and rounders are planned and there may be others not yet released. We will let you know the dates as soon as they are confirmed. Cumbria County Council no longer has a sports coordinator and individual schools are now taking the lead to host the events. Thank you for your patience and understanding as some of these events are organised at short notice. This is beyond our control.

Tennis Coaching

We will be welcoming a tennis coach to school this term to work with our Years 4, 5 and 6 pupils. We look forward to working with Mike who is also coaching at the village club.

Class Trips

We have several class trips planned this term. Details of these trips will be sent to individual classes and as always posted on our website. I am aware of the cost implications for these trips and would never want paying for these experiences to be a barrier for your child taking part. If you feel you need financial assistance, please get in touch with me and I will do my best to support you and our pupils. We want all children to be able to access the opportunities available at St Michael's.

We have many exciting learning opportunities planned for our pupils this term. Our class curriculum newsletters will give you more information. As always, if you have any queries, please do not hesitate to be in touch.

Kind Regards



Mrs L Smith
Headteacher