



St. Michael's Church of England Primary School

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

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



Friday 25th October 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we come to the end of what has felt like a very busy and enjoyable, but somewhat long half term, I write with a few updates from school.

CRICKET

All junior classes have enjoyed weekly cricket sessions with Fraser this half term. It has been a real pleasure to see our pupils enjoy these sessions and develop their skills. On Monday 4th November a team of pupils will represent our pupils at a cricket festival.

PANATHLON

Five pupils represented St Michael's at a bowling Panathlon this week. The children played with great sportsmanship and resilience and were great ambassadors for our school.

SCHOOL MEAL SERVICE

Thank you to all the parents who completed the survey during our parent meeting evenings. We are delighted to welcome Christine as our 'in-house' cook alongside her team. We look forward to developing the school lunch menu in support with Relish food app. Watch this space – exciting times ahead! Pupils with allergies and special food diets will continue to be catered for. Pupils in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 will continue as normal to access free school meals, in line with government policy.

OPAL (*Outdoor Play and Learning*)

This half term exciting developments are planned for our school field. We are very grateful to our HSA who are contributing to the cost of creating exciting spaces to play including a mud kitchen sand pit, stage, small world play area ...as a start! It is part of our vision that all pupils access play based fun and learning during lunch times.

WELLIES

It is well known that our pupils love the freedom and space of our school field at lunch time. As a school, we would like to maximise the use of this great space and for it not to be restricted to fair weather use only. Therefore, we are asking that all pupils have a pair of wellies in school during term time. Please can I ask that, if possible, your child brings a pair of wellies to school on Monday 4th November that they can keep in school. We have ordered welly racks and are sorting storage for each class.

If you have any spare wellies, that no longer fit your child and can donate them to school – this would help us greatly.

SPORTING SUCCESS

A group of budding athletes represented our school at the recent athletics event and enjoyed taking part in the variety of races. Our Year 5/6 girls have been very successful in the regional football competition and are now through to the County finals. Several of our pupils have also made it through to the cross country county finals.



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They were super runners and showed amazing resilience on a tricky course. We are immensely proud of our pupils and the sportsmanship that they show when representing our school. A huge well done to all pupils involved!

POPPY APPEAL

On Monday 4th November, our Year 6 pupils will be selling poppy merchandise in school during morning and afternoon breaks.

INDIVIDUAL PHOTOS

On Wednesday 13th November, Tempest will be in school taking individual pupil photos for all pupils. Family photos can be taken from 8.30am in the school hall if you have younger/older siblings not at the school. Prompt pre-order will ensure that there will be a delivery before Christmas.

CHRISTMAS CARDS

Currently within school our pupils are designing Christmas cards which will be sent on to IQ cards for printing. Further details of how to order your child's merchandise, featuring their own designs will follow soon.

FLU VACCINATION

On Monday 11th November, the NHS nursing team will be in school to administer the flu vaccination to all pupils who have returned parental consent. If you have not done this already and wish your child to have the vaccination, consent is via an online portal which will close on Thursday 7th November. Please contact the school office if you need any further information on how to access the portal.

CHRISTMAS DATES

Within school, we are finalising Christmas dates and these will be shared with you in the first week of the next half term. Our school team are busy planning an exciting and engaging variety of experiences for our pupils to celebrate Christmas.

CHRISTIAN AID CONCERT

On Tuesday 12th November, 35 pupils across Year 4, 5 and 6 have joined to form St Michael's school choir and will be singing at the Christian Aid concert in Carlisle Cathedral in the evening with 4 other primary schools. We are very grateful to Mrs Bedford who has been coming into school each week to teach our pupils the songs for this service. Their singing sounds beautiful already.

NEW ARRIVAL

We are delighted to share the lovely news that Miss Peascod has had a gorgeous baby girl, earlier this month. Both mum and baby are doing very well and we hope she enjoys this very special time with her partner.

I hope you and your family have a lovely break and enjoy some quality time together. School will return on Monday 4th November at normal time.

Kind Regards

Mrs Lorna Smith