



# 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*

5<sup>th</sup> January 2023

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to the new term. Our pupils returned to school bubbly and ready to learn. I'm sorry to hear of the many families that were ill over this period. Unfortunately, the flu type virus seems to have affected many people within our school family over Christmas.

## Thank you

A very big thank you from myself and the staff team for the many positive messages, cards, gifts received from many families before Christmas. Your messages of thanks and support were overwhelming and really appreciated.

## Reading Challenge

We have had many photos emailed to our school office of our pupils reading in unusual places – thank you. There is still time tonight to find a cosy, quirky place to read and take part in the competition. Closing photos should be emailed to school by tomorrow.

## Attendance

Miss Mawson is our attendance officer and has emailed your child's attendance figures for last term. This is for your information and we are here to support any families that may be experiencing difficulties. We want to support you to ensure that our pupils attend school as much as possible.

## Curriculum Newsletter/Quiz ME Questions

Each class will be sending their half termly curriculum newsletter home within the next few days. These newsletters which give you information about what your child is learning will soon be posted on the school website too. As a school team we wanted to help our pupils talk about their learning and share their experiences of school with you as much as possible.

We have therefore been working on 'Quiz ME Question' grids that go alongside the curriculum newsletter for each year group. For each curricular area we have recorded two or three questions for you to ask your child about their learning. These questions are varied in style – some are recall, others require explanations and opinions. These questions are not exclusive, but as an aid to promote talk at home about learning within school. Educational research has shown that when pupils talk about their learning, make links with what they already know it helps them to know more and remember more. We hope you find these Quiz Me Question grids useful - any feedback would be appreciated.

## Uniform

Thank you to the many pupils who have returned to school in full school uniform and looking very smart. We do ask that all pupils wear school shoes or very smart, plain black trainers. Please note that sports trainers with brands/colour are not school uniform. Pupils are being reminded to fasten their top button and keep their shirts tucked in. We have high expectations of behaviour which requires our pupils to be dressed smartly and will be praising/rewarding those pupils that consistently meet our standard. We want all of our pupils to wear their uniform with pride.

We do have a selection of freshly laundered, ironed second hand uniform in school, available at a very reduced cost. We will run a 'pop-up' uniform shop for new and second hand uniform on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> January at 3.30pm in the school hall.



# 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*

## Class Assemblies

This term we are inviting all parents and grandparents to attend a class assembly. Our pupils will share their learning experiences, challenges and successes across the curriculum. Parents will also have an opportunity to look at their child's books. Last year, many of our pupils really enjoyed this class event. We hope as many parents will be able to attend as possible.

## Class Assembly Dates/Time

Class	Date	Time
Year 2	Wednesday 1 <sup>st</sup> February	2.30pm
Year 1	Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup> February	2.30pm
Year 6	Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup> February	2.30pm
Year 3	Wednesday 1 <sup>st</sup> March	2.30pm
Year 4	Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup> March	2.30pm
Reception	Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup> March	2.30pm
Year 5	Wednesday 29 <sup>th</sup> March	2.30pm

## Parents' Meetings

This term we will have our parents' meetings with your child's class teacher on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> March and Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> March. Further details of how to book will be sent out closer to the date.

## HSA Valentine's Disco

Our HSA are planning a Valentine's Disco for our pupils. We have a provisional date of Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> February. Further details and timings will be confirmed very soon.

## World Book Day

World Book Day is on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> March. We are currently planning events to celebrate this event which will include all of our pupils visiting Carlisle library at some point during March. We hope that we can register all pupils so that when we visit the library they may borrow a book.

We are also planning to dress up as our favourite book character – as so many of our pupils loved doing this last year! This year we are asking for donations of any old costumes that your children no longer use or have outgrown. If any costumes could be donated to school asap, we will aim to run a pop-up shop within school in the week beginning 6<sup>th</sup> February. Further details will be sent closer to the time, dependent on the donated costumes we receive.

Finally, as a staff team we are planning many additional visits and visitors to our school to enhance our curriculum offer for all of our pupils. Details of these will be sent out to the relevant classes.

As always, please contact me if you have any queries or want to discuss something further.

Kind Regards

*Lorna Smith*

Lorna Smith