



St. Michael's Church of England Primary School



Carlisle Road, Dalston, Carlisle, Cumbria CA5 7LN · Tel: 01228 711544 · Headteacher: Mrs J Paisley

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

Dear Parents

5 January 2021

I am quite sure that, like myself, many of you are still reeling from the Prime Minister's announcement last night. I wanted to take this opportunity to reassure you that while our building is physically closed to the vast majority of pupils, the team here at St. Michael's is very much still "at work" and we are here to support you.

Home Learning

As promised yesterday, I am now in a position to bring you further details of the Home Learning we will be providing for our children during this period of National Lockdown. Home Learning will be updated weekly and will be uploaded to the school website ready for you to access each Monday morning. We have uploaded this week's learning – it is available now – but please note that in some instances activities have been provided for Monday (yesterday) – please start with these and adjust as the week progresses. Class teachers will also post the learning activities on Seesaw and will accompany some of these with a video to introduce the lesson and provide some direct teaching. We will not be doing live lessons at this time. Children can submit any completed activities using Seesaw, either by "adding a response" to an activity or taking a photo/video of what they have done and uploading it. Staff will respond regularly during normal school hours to Seesaw.

We will be following White Rose Maths and will use the teaching videos provided on their website for Maths.

If you require any assistance with Seesaw, or any other aspect of Home Learning, please contact school.

I completely understand that the prospect of home schooling fills many of you with dread. As teachers we would much prefer not to be in this position either. I want to reassure you that we are very aware that everyone's circumstances are different and home schooling needs to fit with your family and other commitments you may have. We will therefore provide a full curriculum for your child and encourage you to engage with as much as you are able but will be setting no "minimum requirement".

Over the next few days I will also be updating the 'whole school' section on the Home Learning area of our website with links to other resources you may find useful. I will also be posting regular Collective Worship videos for the children to access and hope to restart our story times on Facebook in the coming days.

Access to Digital Devices

If you do not have access to the Internet or a digital device please contact school so that we can discuss how best to support you during this time.

Free School Meals

The Local Authority are currently organising how best to provide "Free School Meals" during this time and as soon as I have any further information concerning this I will be in touch.

As always, if there is anything that I can assist you with or if you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact school. Take care and stay safe.

Yours sincerely

Headteacher