



St. Michael's Church of England Primary School



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

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

4 January 2018

Dear Parents

Happy New Year and welcome back! I hope you have all had an enjoyable break, managed to relax and recoup and spend some quality time with friends and family. It is good to be back in school and see the children again. I wanted to take this opportunity to pass on some information about the coming few weeks and some changes that have taken place.

Staff

As you will be aware I have taken on the role of Acting Headteacher for the next two terms and I will continue to work Monday to Thursday. The governors have appointed two Assistant Headteachers: Miss Armstrong, who will have special responsibility for Early Years and Key Stage 1 (infants) and Mrs McArdle who will take on the role for Key Stage 2 (juniors). If you have any queries or concerns when I am away from school, or on a Friday, Miss Armstrong or Mrs McArdle will be happy to assist.

Mrs Henshaw will now be working full time in our Reception class. Mrs Miller will continue to teach Reception for half a day each week to cover Mrs Henshaw's release time and will also be teaching in Year 1 and Year 3, providing cover for Miss Armstrong and Mrs McArdle.

Mrs Hodgson will be supporting Year 3 with their learning this term and Mrs Smillie will move to support Year 2. We are also delighted to welcome Mrs Dickinson and Mrs Cape to St Michael's. Mrs Dickinson will be working alongside Mrs Porter to help prepare our Year 6 pupils for the upcoming SATs and Mrs Cape will be assisting with the Special Needs provision in school; both will be with us on a part-time basis.

Extra Curricular Opportunities

As a school we are constantly looking for ways to provide our pupils with exciting opportunities, in and out of the classroom. Over this next term we will be working with GoActiv Sport to run an after school Dance club for KS2 (juniors) and two junior after school football sessions. The Dance club will begin on Thursday 11 January and the Football clubs will begin after February half term. There will be a small charge for each of these and places will be limited. Further information will be sent out in the very near future.

Outdoor Learning

We are very excited about another project we will be undertaking with GoActiv Sport this term. A group of our Year 3 pupils will be taking part in a series of twice weekly sessions focussing on team work, problem solving and physical activity. These sessions will link to the curriculum and will be designed to provide a different style of learning from the usual classroom based experience. Many schools are adopting this type of approach and the benefits seen are very encouraging. I will be writing to the parents of those children involved in this project in the next few days to provide further information.

Accelerated Reader

Well done to all of the children who managed to hit their Accelerated Reader target last term. It is fantastic to see children across the school enjoying their reading so much and really challenging themselves. New targets have now been set for this term and will run until the Easter holiday.

School Values

In school we actively promote and celebrate our school values of KINDNESS, RESPECT, CHALLENGE, PERSEVERANCE and FORGIVENESS. This term we will be using a new system of promoting and rewarding positive behaviour linked to these values. This will be introduced to the children in the next week and run alongside our Traffic Light system already in place; more information for parents will follow shortly.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J Paisley', written in a cursive style.

Mrs J Paisley
Acting Headteacher