



# 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

18 October 2018

As we hurtle towards half term I thought I would take the opportunity to update you on some of the news in school.

## Reception Children

We are thrilled with the way our Reception children have settled in to school life so far. After half term we would like all the children to start coming into school on their own in the mornings, without parents, like the rest of the school. I know this may seem like quite a big step for some of them, but both myself, Mrs Henshaw and Mrs Miller feel they are ready for it; we will make sure that there are plenty of staff around for the first few days to ensure anyone who needs a little helping hand is supported. Mrs Henshaw will speak to the class about this change before we break up and perhaps you could also talk to your child, stressing that we are doing this because they are so grown up and we are so impressed with them. Thanks in advance for your support and co-operation with this.

## Coffee and Cakes

Last week our Reception class hosted their very first 'Coffee and Cakes' morning. Parents and family were invited to come along and spend time in the classroom, taking part in some of the activities that our Reception children have been enjoying and of course partaking in some rather delicious cakes. The morning was a great success and the children thoroughly enjoyed themselves. Over £300 was raised, which will enable the children to take part in a Forest School day at Stockswood later this term and also gives us a substantial carry over which Reception will use for further activities. A huge 'thank you' to all who attended and donated. To see pictures of the event, please visit the Galleries page on our school website [www.st-michaels.cumbria.sch.uk](http://www.st-michaels.cumbria.sch.uk)

## Book Fair

Our recent Book Fair was a great success; thank you to all who came along and supported us. As a reward for hosting the fair we have received a selection of books for school and also £50 to spend on books of our choice. The next fair has been booked from 12 March 2019, which will tie in with our Book Day celebrations.

## Parents' Evenings

These will be held on Wednesday 7 and Thursday 8 November - more information will follow after half term.

## After School Clubs

**Art/Craft Club** – this has now finished for the current group of children. The next group will be the children who have waited patiently on our reserve list starting after half term, on Tuesday 30 October; these children will be contacted directly by text.

**Running Club** – this will continue on a Tuesday starting 30 October, but will move indoors once the evenings become too dark. Currently there are no spaces and there is no need to send in a reply slip if your child is already attending.

**Dance Club** – this will continue on Wednesdays, starting on 31 October, with the same group of children. A few spaces are available so if your child is in Year 1 or 2 and would like to join, please fill in the slip below; again no need to if they already attend.

**Netball Club** – this will continue to run on a Thursday with the same children so there is no need to put your child's name down again if they already attend. There are a few spaces left if anyone in Years 5 or 6 would like to join, just complete and return the slip below.

**Cooking Club** – we will be starting a Cooking Club on Thursday 15 November. Numbers will be limited to six children from Year 2 and six from Year 6 with a charge of £2 per week. If the club proves to be popular we will try to run it again in the future. Please complete and return the slip below if your child would like to join.

**Football Years 5 & 6** – we are currently hoping to organise a lunchtime Football Club, initially for Years 5 & 6, so please indicate your interest below.

**Football Years 3 & 4** – Carlisle United will be running an after-school Football Club for a block of 5 weeks on a Thursday, after school, starting on 1 November. There will be a charge of £12.50 for the 5 sessions, which is payable in full by session 2. Again, complete the slip if interested.

**Yoga Club** – we will be starting a Yoga Club for Years 3 and 4 which will be run on our behalf by Therapeutic Treehouse; a block of 6 sessions, on Fridays, starting on 9 November. The course will cost £12, payable in full by the second session; please complete and return the reply slip.

### Christmas Appeal

For many years St. Michael's has been involved in 'Operation Christmas Child', a project which collects gift filled shoe boxes to donate to children overseas who do not normally receive gifts at Christmas. This has always been a very worthwhile cause and our children have gained much by being involved in the project and learning more about the lives of others. As a school we have made the decision to try something different this year and will be supporting the CFM Christmas Appeal instead. We have been registered as a local drop off point so that we can receive donations from local people and businesses as well as our pupils. The campaign begins in November, so I will write to you with further information nearer the time. We will also be running our reverse advent calendar again this year, which so many of you generously donated food items and toiletries to last year.

### Footwear

Trainers seem to be creeping back into school; can I remind you that they are not part of the school uniform. School shoes should be black and the kind that can be polished.

### Homework Reminder

Homework for this half term is due in by Friday.

### Home School Association (HSA)

Also attached is a copy of the first newsletter from the recently formed (HSA); please read for further details.

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## AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS

Please indicate below any clubs that your child is interested in joining – remember there is no need to complete this form if your child *already attends* Running, Dance or Netball Club.

Child's name: ..... Year: ..... Parent signature: .....

Running Club  
Tuesdays  
Years 4-6

Dance Club  
Wednesdays  
Years 1 & 2

Netball Club  
Thursdays  
Years 5 & 6

### New Clubs

Cooking Club  
Thursdays  
Years 2 & 6

Football  
Lunchtime  
Years 5 & 6

CUFC Football  
Thursdays  
Years 3 & 4

Yoga  
Fridays  
Years 3 & 4