



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

30 November 2018

Dear Parents

Outdoor Area Development

As you will know from previous letters, we are currently trying to raise funds to develop our outdoor area and perhaps replace some of the equipment that was removed over the Summer. We estimate that we will need around £20,000 in order to do this! In September we completed an application for a lottery grant towards this project. Last week we had the good news that our bid was successful and we have been awarded the fantastic amount of £10,000! We are thrilled to say the least! Along with this and the very generous donations that have started to come in from local businesses over the last few weeks, we are making great progress towards our target – thank you to everyone who has donated so far. Clearly we do still have some way to go, so if you, or somebody you know, may be interested in getting involved in our project, please do get in touch and I will be more than happy to discuss this.

Air Ambulance Collection

We have spare bags at the office for anyone can fill an extra bag, or you can use black bin bags as additional bags. Please can these to be brought into school on either Wednesday 5 December or the morning of Thursday 6 December. Can I also remind you that the school does benefit from anything that is collected through this scheme so all donations are very much appreciated.

Mission Christmas and our Reverse Advent Calendar

Thank you for all donations for Mission Christmas so far, our collection is steadily growing! For anyone else who would like to get involved we are collecting gifts until 14 December; these can include selection boxes, sweets, toys, games, smellies, socks and underwear, hats, scarves and gloves. As we are set up as a public drop off point we can also accept gifts from members of the public not directly connected to the school, so please spread the word.

Our 'Reverse Advent Calendar' – donations of food and toiletries for a local food bank – starts on Monday 3 December. Again, if you would like to be a part of this valuable initiative, all contributions will be greatly received.

HSA Christmas Party and Disco

The last date to buy tickets for the HSA Junior Disco on Tuesday 4 December and the Infant Party on Wednesday 5 December is Monday 3 December; these will continue to be sold on the school yards. Please remember that an adult must be present to take responsibility for your child or children.

Christmas Cards

If any children would like to send cards to their classmates, the school postbox will be positioned outside the school office from Monday. Please remind your children to use the postbox rather than giving them out on the playground before school or during lessons, and to mark each envelope clearly with a name and class number.

Junior Carol Service

Due to several other events happening in Dalston on the evening of Wednesday 19 December, it has been necessary for us to change the time of our Junior Carol Service to 5.00pm – I hope you will be able to attend at the new time and apologies if this causes any inconvenience.

After School Activities

The last Cookery Club session is on Thursday 13 December and the final Yoga class is on Friday 14 December; all other clubs have now finished for this term. Details of clubs on offer for the New Year will be issued in January 2019.

Messy Church

The next 'Messy Church' is on Saturday 15 December at the Methodist Church in Dalston, from 4.00pm to 6.00pm, where children of all ages are invited to enjoy a range of activities, stories, songs and food.

Dates for your Diary

- Monday 3 December – our Christmas Post Box will be in school from this date for those children who wish to post cards to each other. Please do not bring cards into school before this date and avoid giving them out by hand or in the playground – remember names and class numbers must be marked on the envelopes.
- Thursday 6 December – Air Ambulance collection – bags have been sent out.
- Monday 10 December – Year 5 are hosting their meal for parents.
- Thursday 13 December – KS1 Christmas performance at 2.00pm.
- Friday 14 December – last day for donations to Mission Christmas appeal.
- Wednesday 19 December – KS2 Carol Service, 5.00pm at St. Michael's Church.
- Thursday 20 December – school Christmas dinner, 'Christmas Dress-Up Day' and parties!
- Friday 21 December – school will close at 1.15pm.
- Tuesday 8 January – school will re-open.

Yours sincerely



Mrs J Paisley
Headteacher