



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

17 January 2018

Dear Parents

It's hard to believe we are already two weeks into the new term! I am pleased to be able to send this (rather long) newsletter to you, to keep you up to date with the many things going on in school.

The Lurgy!

As many of you will know, we have had extremely high levels of illness in school this week, with both pupils and staff needing to take time off. I thought it was therefore a good opportunity to remind you of procedures if your child is going to be absent due to illness.

You will need to inform school on each morning that your child will be absent, either by phone or via our website. Please do not allow your child to return to school until they are fully recovered, otherwise the illness is simply spread to others in school. In the case of vomiting or diarrhoea this must be 48 hours from the last bout. We are happy to administer prescribed medicine, however you will need to fill out a form from the school office. If requested we will give Calpol in exceptional circumstances as a gesture of goodwill. However, this is not standard practice and we would ask you to consider carefully whether your child is well enough to be in school.

SIAMs

On 7 December 2017, school had a SIAMS (Statutory Inspection for Anglican and Methodist Schools) Inspection carried out by Ann Aspden on behalf of the Diocese of Carlisle. We were judged under the new, more rigorous framework, currently used to grade schools and are extremely pleased to be given a 'Good' overall grade. Certain areas, such as Collective Worship, were graded 'Outstanding' and the report was very positive about many of our recent developments. The report is available to view on the school website. Can I also take this opportunity to thank all involved in the inspection. Your help and support is invaluable!

Dalston Dollars

I know many of you have already read the letter concerning the launch of "Dalston Dollars". If you have not seen it you will find a copy of the website under the 'News and Events' tab. I am happy to report that the children are very excited about it and really working hard to demonstrate our values in school. Well done to them all!

Celebration Assemblies

We are now having our weekly Celebration Assembly on a Monday. You will find photos of our Superstars from the last few weeks on our website. I am very interested to hear about achievements outside of school too. Please let me know if there is something your child has been involved in that it would be nice for us to celebrate as a school.

Traffic Lights

We continue to use traffic lights system in school to warn children when their behaviour is not acceptable. As you know, if they are put on "red" they will go to a lunch time detention. If children are on detention several times I will contact you so that we can discuss next steps. It makes a huge difference if the children know that school and home are working together, so I thank you for your co-operation with this.

Dinners

A significant number of dinners are not being ordered. If you do not order a dinner we cannot guarantee that your child will be ordered something of their choice. Mrs McDonald and Mrs Cook do not have time to collect orders from individual children each morning. Can I also remind you that if your child is absent it is your responsibility to cancel their order before 9.30am or you may still be charged.

Parent Governor Election

The deadline for votes is Friday 19 at 3.45pm, please bring any remaining ballot papers to the office in the envelope provided. We will let you know the outcome of the election next week.

World Book Day

Just an advanced notice. We will be taking part in World Book Day activities this year. More details will follow in the next week or so. Dressing up will almost certainly be involved!

Upcoming events

School is always busy. The following are some of the events we have coming up in the next few weeks:

Y4 will visit the Hindu temple in Newcastle, Y5 are visiting the observatory in Carlisle, we have two Cross Country Competitions, some of our boys will be representing the school in a football tournament, Y5 will be having a rock-climbing taster session and some of our Y6 pupils will be taking part in a Literacy Day at Caldew. We will be providing further details as the events get closer – you can also speak to your child's teacher or visit our website if you need more information.

Many thanks for your ongoing support and, as always, if you have any queries or comments please do not hesitate to contact school.

Yours sincerely



Mrs J Paisley
Acting Headteacher