



St. Michael's Church of England Primary School

Carlisle Road, Dalston, Carlisle, Cumbria CA5 7LN • Tel: 01228 711544 • Acting Headteacher: Mrs L Smith

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

28 March 2022

Dear Parents

Just a few pieces of information as we approach the end of yet another busy term.

Firstly, I am delighted to be leading St Michael's school forward and want to reassure you that myself, Miss Mawson and the whole team will continue to strive and deliver what we feel is the very best teaching and learning provision for all pupils. We want their education to be 'Epic' – engaging, purposeful, individual and continuous. If you have any questions or queries, please know that I am available to help you.

Church Service

On Friday afternoon, all pupils will be taking part in an Easter service of hymns, poems, prayers and Bible readings. Rev Ben Phillips will also lead part of our collective worship whilst we are at church. This event is for all pupils and staff only, as it was planned as Covid cases are just starting to fall. We realise that many parents would value taking part in collective worship alongside our children and we will try our best to open up an opportunity for this next term.

School Council Tuckshop

In teaching one of the British values of Democracy – our school councillors surveyed their respective classes and offered different ideas as to how we could collectively raise money for the many people suffering as a result of the humanitarian crisis in Ukraine. The democratic decision was taken to run a healthy tuck shop and today alone we have raised £84! An amazing start – and healthy fruit and snacks were enjoyed by all who took part too. The 'pop up' tuck shop will run every morning this week with a cupcake option on Friday as an Easter treat. Snacks are 50p each.

Summer Uniform/P.E. Kit

When we return after Easter our pupils can come into school wearing our summer uniform. It is a white polo t-shirt, grey shorts/skirt/trousers and a blue cardigan or jumper. Gingham dresses may also be worn. Smart black shoes are also part of the uniform and we advocate that pupils do not wear sandals as these often do not give the support needed whilst on the play equipment, outdoor area or field.

Pupils will also continue to need a P.E. kit in school every day. This consists of a school P.E. t-shirt, navy shorts and trainers. A school hoody is optional. Please can you ensure that your pupil is following our P.E. school uniform too as this avoids any unnecessary conflict over branded sports gear. Please label all items of clothing and P.E. kit.

Phunky Foods

As part of our INSET training we will be working with Phunky foods. The aim is that we can encourage all of our pupils to choose healthy eating options for their snacks, packed lunches and school dinners. The leaders from Phunky Foods will work with some Year 5 pupils, who will then become ambassadors within our school to promote healthy choices at break and lunch time.

Allergies

Within school we have several pupils who have very serious nut allergies. **We are a nut free school.** Please ensure that your child's packed lunches or snacks do not contain nuts. Nutella as a sandwich spread is not permitted. Thank you for your support with this in order to keep all of our pupils safe.

After School Clubs

We are hoping to extend the clubs available after school to our pupils after Easter. Therefore, a polite call to all parents and grandparents ... do you have a special skill or sporting talent that you could share and teach a small group of children alongside a member of staff for an hour after school, for a few weeks? You might be a budding board game player, baker, cook, netball fanatic or hockey enthusiast. We are open minded and want to do the best that we can in giving our pupils the best opportunities to attend after school activities. Please just get in touch if you can offer a few hours of your time.

Time to Support in School

We would like to 'open' our doors and welcome any volunteers who have an occasional hour or two to help out in school. We would welcome adults willing to hear our pupils read, support baking or stitching activities. During pre-Covid times the help of these volunteers was invaluable and we hope that we can start to give our pupils these shared experiences once again. If you can offer some time to volunteer, please get in touch.

Reports

As a staff team we are reviewing and updating our report template. We want the information we share about your pupil to be as individual and as informative as possible. All staff will be starting report writing next term and we hope you like the new style when they are sent home.

Reading Café

The Reading Café will be on Thursday morning this week from 8.15am. We hope as many parents and pupils as possible will be able to join us for a slice of toast and a cuppa whilst sharing some good stories. We hope to see you there.

INSET

Staff training day will be on Tuesday 19 April. We will welcome all pupils back into school on Wednesday 20 April – hopefully refreshed and enthused to start the Summer term.

In the meantime, may I wish you a Happy Easter and hope that you enjoy some great family times together and that the sun shines for us all.

Kind Regards



Mrs L Smith
Headteacher