



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

September 2020

Welcome to Year 4!

I just wanted to say hello and give you a bit of information which you will hopefully find helpful this year. It has been so good for us all to get back into the classroom and it's been lovely to see the children doing their best to adapt to the new rules. I think we are all eager to get back to learning!

Mornings:

The mornings seem to be going well now and the children are remembering to wash their hands on arrival. We are trying to encourage the children to become more independent by asking them to make sure that they have their equipment, reading book and reading record on their tables for 9.00am and are ready for the day ahead.

Reading:

Each child has now selected a book to read at the level we believe them to be currently working. I recognise that we need to monitor these carefully over the coming weeks to ensure they are reading at the level which is best designed to help them to progress. For this reason, I would ask that children refrain from choosing books from home as their reading book, unless this has been agreed with a member of staff. Obviously, if they would like to read other books in addition to their reading book, that is fine. It is expected that children of this age should read each night (5 times per week), for at least 15 minutes, which should then be recorded in their Reading Record. Again, if your child wishes to read for longer than this, this is also absolutely fine. The new reading records encourage the children to comment and score their reading; however, can I ask that you also sign the book. Five signatures in one week will earn your child a Dalston Dollar.

Homework:

Spellings will be given out in their Reading Records every Friday and tested the following week. The Reading Records also feature a list of **key words** which children in years 3 and 4 are expected to be able to read and spell by the end of year 4. As a school, we are currently trying to determine the best way to organise homework and we will be in contact when this has been finalised. In the meantime, I will set Mathematics homework each week which should be completed before Friday; this will link closely to the work covered in class and should not take longer than 15 -20 minutes to complete.

PE:

This half term, PE will be on Wednesday and Friday afternoons. Please ensure all your child's uniform is clearly labelled with their name, as this saves a lot of time spent trying to reunite lost jumpers with the correct children. If your child has pierced ears, it is best if they do not wear their earrings on PE days for safety purposes; long hair should be tied back.

I am sure that this year will be a very positive one and I am very much looking forward to seeing the children progress and the fun they have whilst learning.

Yours sincerely

Miss Atkinson