



# 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

17 September 2020

I hope your child has enjoyed the first couple of weeks in Year 6 and is ready for the challenges that await them in their final year at primary school. All children have come back to school with a very positive attitude, and have settled quickly into our new routines. Throughout the year we will be working on becoming more independent as they prepare for the transition to secondary school. They will be given opportunities to take on more responsibilities, make their own, wise decisions and learn to use their initiative, both in and out of the classroom.

Children are encouraged to develop a good level of written and spoken English and every opportunity is given to help extend and enrich their vocabulary. A regular reading habit is therefore essential and I would appreciate your help in supporting your child in this area. For some children, reading aloud is still necessary in order to build up fluency, but other more confident readers may prefer to read silently as this supports a deeper level of understanding. Our focus this year will be on the higher order reading skills of inference, deduction, prediction and evaluation; you can support this by discussing not only the content of the book, but also the plot, characters and the author's choice of language. Children may sign their reading records themselves, however please counter-sign their books so that we can monitor their personal reading. Bringing their book in, signed by an adult five times a week, will result in Dalston dollar points being awarded on a Friday.

P.E. will be on Mondays and Thursdays, so please ensure your child brings in their (labelled) school P.E. kit on a Monday to leave in school for the week, before taking it home to be washed. We will endeavour to use the outdoors as much as possible, so please make sure your child has warm clothes.

Mrs Carruthers will work in our class from Monday to Thursday mornings and will also teach the children French for an hour on a Tuesday afternoon and Geography on a Thursday afternoon. Additional support in class will be provided by Mrs Tait, Mrs Rennie and Mrs Smillie during the week and Ms Austin on a Friday.

We are in the process of reviewing homework in school at the moment, so for now, it is expected that the children learn their weekly spellings (set and written into reading records on Mondays, then tested the following Monday) and log on to *Mathletics* and *Times Table Rockstars* on a weekly basis. Further details on homework will follow.

Finally, if you have any concerns at all, please phone or email school and I will get back to you as soon as possible.

Kind Regards

Miss Alison Rowe  
Year 6 teacher