

St. Michael's Nursery & Infant School

NEWSLETTER – DECEMBER 2018



IMPORTANT INFORMATION

All parents please note it is paramount that you take your child into their classroom before leaving school. Recently there have been children left in the cloakroom or outside the classroom door on their own. If children are left on their own there is a risk that they may leave the building and no one would know about it. This is an extremely serious matter and the situation is being monitored very carefully. Thank you for your cooperation.

Attendance

Unfortunately, the whole school attendance has decreased slightly to 93.52% due to lots of nasty winter bugs going around. Year 2 are still in the lead with 96%, followed by Year 1 and Reception in joint second place with 95%, and finally Nursery with 89%. Well done everyone!

Please note there are many important dates at the end of this newsletter. We ask parents not to book family holidays during term time.

Governors Update

The Governing Body had their latest committee meetings at the end of November. The Governors spoke about our Website and its new user-friendly look! The website is constantly being updated with lots of pictures of activities in school so please have a look when you can. www.smhwkt.cumbria.sch.uk

Discussions took place on how to improve attendance in school. At the start of next term there will be an individual attendance report sent home for each child in school. Please remember the Local Authority Target is 95% and families who are persistently absent are being closely monitored to help them improve.

Nursery and Year 2 Parents

If you have not already done so please ensure that you have made an application for a place either in Reception or at Junior School for your child. The closing date for all applications is **15th January 2019**.

Christmas cards

This year we are asking everyone to try to limit the amount of Christmas cards they send to each other in school. Although it is lovely to send and receive cards, they often are left in school and so to save trees we would like children to send one card to their whole class instead of sending individual ones this year. If children would like to send individual ones, please encourage them to write them themselves.

The staff are also going to donate to a local charity rather than sending each other cards.

Christmas Lunch 19th December

Mrs Tice, the school cook has been preparing for our lovely Christmas lunch. The children will have crackers to pull and hats to wear so it will be good fun!

Christmas Parties for Nursery, Reception, Years 1 and 2 on Thursday 20th December

School Christmas parties will be held throughout the day with party food and games. Children can come to school dressed in their party outfits or non-uniform. However, please ensure that you send suitable footwear and a warm coat for outside play.

Toy Day 21st December

Children may bring a toy to share with their friends for the last morning of school, please do not send toys that are electronic or expensive in case they get broken.

Christmas Jumper Day Friday 21st December

On our last day in school, we are asking everyone to come to school dressed in a Christmas jumper or something festive. If you do not have a Christmas jumper then some tinsel on a jumper is fine. **This is not a fundraising event.**

We mentioned in our previous newsletters we would only be raising money for Children in Need and school again this year. Thanks to your continued support through fundraising events we have now been able to buy a set of lovely new bright green dining room chairs for the children to use at lunchtime. We have also bought some large chalkboards to enhance the Early Years outdoor area and none of this would have been possible without your generosity.

Importance of reading and writing during holidays

We understand that the holidays are a very busy time for everyone; however, it is very important to keep children motivated to read and write as much as possible. Oxford Owl is a useful website packed with expert advice, top tips and activity ideas so you can help your child with reading and writing. To use this fantastic site please go to www.oxfordowl.co.uk.

There are many activities on an application we use in school called Purple Mash. Each child in school has a unique login for this application so please see the class teacher if you require your child's login details. <https://www.purplemash.com/stmichaelsni>

School Information

Please try to read the newsletter every month for important school dates and events. Recently we have had many parents calling the school unsure of what is happening on which dates. These dates are also on our website calendar at www.smhwkt.cumbria.sch.uk. The newsletter can also be found on the same website under the 'Newsletters' tab. If you require more copies, please see Mrs Gregory in the school office. If you would like a copy emailed to you please supply the office with your email address. Thank you

Station Road Crossing Update

As you know, the volume of traffic on Station Road is quite high and we have had a number of families report to us that drivers do not always stop to allow people using the zebra crossing to cross the road safely. Because of this we expressed our concerns to PCSO Alison Renney who in turn took the issue to a Local Community Hub Meeting for many different agencies meet.

Thankfully the response from County Highways was:

"With regards to the zebra crossing outside St Michael's School, Station Road, Workington – I can confirm that our Network Management and Street Lighting teams have issued an order in early November to arrange for the road markings to be refreshed and new Belisha beacons to be installed. Unfortunately, we do not have an expected date for installation at present, however should take place before the end of this financial year."

This is a very positive response from County Highways and we look forward to having the work done to increase the safety of families using the crossing. As always please remain vigilant when using this crossing and always ensure children cross with an adult. Thank you

School closes at 1.15pm on Friday 21st December and re-opens at 8.50am Tuesday 8th January 2019.

Please make any bookings for morning club before the end of term.

On behalf of all the staff at St Michael's,
We wish everyone a Happy Christmas
and a restful and prosperous New Year

Dates for your diary

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| <i>17th December</i> | <i>KS1 Christmas Bingo 1.30pm-3pm</i> |
| <i>19th December</i> | <i>Christmas Lunch Day</i> |
| <i>20th December</i> | <i>Christmas Party Day</i> |
| <i>21st December</i> | <i>Christmas Jumper Day</i> |
| <i>21st December</i> | <i>Toy Day</i> |
| <i>21st December</i> | <i>School Closes at 1.15pm for Christmas Break</i> |
| <i>8th January</i> | <i>School re-opens at 8.50am for Spring Term 1</i> |
| <i>5th February</i> | <i>KS1 Multiskills Festival 9.15am Lakes College</i> |
| <i>15th February</i> | <i>School Closes at 3.00pm for half term</i> |
| <i>25th February</i> | <i>School re-opens at 8.50am for Spring Term 2</i> |
| <i>29th March</i> | <i>School closes at 1.15pm for Easter Break</i> |
| <i>15th April</i> | <i>School re-opens at 8.50am for Summer Term 1</i> |
| <i>18th April</i> | <i>Udance at the Carnegie Theatre 6pm</i> |
| <i>19th April</i> | <i>School Closed – Good Friday</i> |
| <i>22nd April</i> | <i>School Closed – Easter Monday</i> |
| <i>6th May</i> | <i>School Closed – Bank Holiday</i> |
| <i>8th May</i> | <i>KS1 Football Competition at Lakes College 9.15am-1pm</i> |
| <i>24th May</i> | <i>School Closes at 3pm for half term</i> |
| <i>3rd June</i> | <i>School re-opens at 8.50am for Summer Term 2</i> |
| <i>19th July</i> | <i>School Closes at 1.15pm for Summer Break</i> |