

# St. Michael's Nursery & Infant School

## NEWSLETTER – OCTOBER 2021

### **Attendance and Punctuality**

The current whole school attendance is 93%. Year 1 are in the lead with 96% followed by Year 2 with 93%, Nursery with 92% and last but not least Reception with 89%.

We would like to say a big THANK YOU to all parents for your continued support. Our Local Authority target for attendance is 95% so we are currently below that. We know there have been some nasty bugs going around and those together with a pandemic has made it tricky for lots of families. When children are in school they are happy and settled and all of our children have settled well in their new classes. It is so lovely to have a school full of happy children ready to learn. Thank you for helping us achieve this!

In line with our school's Attendance and Punctuality Policy, we would like to remind parents that if your child is going to be absent, please contact the school office by 9.15am each day on 01900608111 or by emailing [admin@smhwkt.cumbria.sch.uk](mailto:admin@smhwkt.cumbria.sch.uk). If school doesn't receive any contact from parents or carers, school will then try to contact using the contact details held on school records. If contact is unsuccessful by 9.30am the duty Safeguarding Lead for that day will visit your home. St Michael's Nursery and Infant School has a duty of care to all children and this is to keep all our families safe too. Thank you for your understanding and support.

### **Share a Story a Day Week**

As you probably know from the letter we sent home this week, our school is taking part in 'Share a Story a Day Week'. The aim is to raise awareness of the importance of children sharing books, particularly with their family and friends. Please note down on your yellow bookmark each day the name of the story that you've shared. Children can bring their full bookmarks on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> October and will receive a prize for doing so. Happy Reading!

### **Wheelchair Basketball**

We were very lucky to have our annual visit on Tuesday from Coach Nat Pattinson, world class wheelchair basketball star. Coach Nat came into school to allow children to experience wheelchair basketball for themselves. Coach Nat used fun activities such as racing and games of stuck-in-the-mud, to familiarise pupils with the chairs before giving them a taste of wheelchair basketball. By the end of the session children knew how to communicate better, work together and play basketball. Everyone had a fantastic time!

### **Harvest Festival in St Michael's Church Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> October at 2pm**

We are pleased to invite you to our whole school Harvest Festival on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> October at 2pm in St Michael's Church. The children have been practising their performance lots in school and can't wait to show their parents and carers! Families all welcome. Children can be taken home right from the church after the performance. Please note if any parent/carers/family members are displaying signs of Covid-19, we ask them not to attend to ensure everyone is as safe as possible. Thank you

### **Pumpkin Carving Competition**

We are inviting children to take part in our Annual Pumpkin Carving Competition. **Each entry costs £2.** Join in and take a chance at winning some fantastic spooky prizes! Pumpkins must be in by **Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> October and judging will commence on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> October.** All proceeds will go to school fund to buy much needed resources for the children. Thank you

### **Halloween Disco Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> October 4.30pm-6pm for the whole school**

It is our Spooktacular Halloween Disco on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> October at 4.30pm – 6pm. Children are invited to wear a Halloween Costume but please avoid scary masks as these can be a little scary for our younger children. **Tickets are £3 per child which is payable on entry** and this includes a party plate and a drink. We look forward to seeing all the children at the disco for fun, dancing and party games!

### **School Photographer Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> November**

The school photographer will be in school on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> November. All children will have an individual photograph taken during the day and children who have siblings in school will also have them taken together on this day. School photographs make a great gift at Christmas so please be prompt when ordering to ensure you receive your order on time and avoid a delivery charge.

### **Nursery and Year 2 Parents**

Please remember to apply for your child's place in either Reception or Junior School by the deadline of **15<sup>th</sup> January 2022**. Don't forget if you are unable to apply online a paper based form can be collected from the school office. For online applications please visit

<https://www.cumbria.gov.uk/childrensservices/schoolsandlearning/lss/schooladmissions.asp>

### **Early Years Donations**

Early Years are collecting any puddle suits or wellies that families no longer use. Nursery and Reception use puddle suits and wellies to go outside on rainy days and play in the Nursery Yard. If you have any you would like to donate to school, we would be very grateful. Thank you

## **YOUR SCHOOL NEEDS YOU!!!! - Parent Governor Vacancies**

*Are you able to offer 2-4 evenings a term? Are you interested in helping to deliver the best possible education for local children to realise their expectations and aspirations?*

*Do you see yourself acting as a 'Critical Friend' to the School Senior Management Team, creating positive solutions for school improvements?*

*In return you will have the satisfaction of knowing you are making a real difference.*

*You will have the opportunity to use and improve a range of highly transferable skills, work with new people and apply your knowledge and experience to benefit the local community.*

*No previous experience of being a School Governor is necessary – training on the role is available.*

*For more information, please contact the school office 01900608111 or email*

*[admin@smhwkt.cumbria.sch.uk](mailto:admin@smhwkt.cumbria.sch.uk)*

# *Dates for your diary*

<i>15<sup>th</sup> October</i>	<i>Flu Immunisations</i>
<i>15<sup>th</sup> October</i>	<i>PCSO Alison Renney Safety Assembly</i>
<i>19<sup>th</sup> October</i>	<i>Harvest Festival St Michael's Church 2pm</i>
<i>20<sup>th</sup> October</i>	<i>Pumpkin entries into school</i>
<i>20<sup>th</sup> October</i>	<i>Nursery and Reception Autumn Walk</i>
<i>21<sup>st</sup> October</i>	<i>Halloween Disco 4.30pm-6pm</i>
<i>22<sup>nd</sup> October</i>	<i>School closes at 3.00pm October half term</i>
<i>1<sup>st</sup> November</i>	<i>School re opens for Autumn Term 2 at 8.50am (8am Morning Club)</i>
<i>11<sup>th</sup> November</i>	<i>Remembrance Assembly</i>
<i>16<sup>th</sup> November</i>	<i>School Photographs</i>
<i>15<sup>th</sup> December</i>	<i>Nativity in St Michael's Church 2pm</i>
<i>16<sup>th</sup> December</i>	<i>School Closes at 1.15pm for Christmas Break</i>
<i>5<sup>th</sup> January</i>	<i>School re opens for Spring Term 1 at 8.50am (8am Morning Club)</i>