

St. Michael's Nursery & Infant School

NEWSLETTER – SEPTEMBER 2021

WELCOME AND WELCOME BACK!

Welcome back to a new school year and to some of you welcome to your first newsletter. We hope you have had a great summer and we look forward to seeing the children back in school, refreshed and eager to learn.

Staffing

As you may be aware Mrs Richardson remains absent at the moment and during this time the Governing Body has appointed Mrs Regan as Acting Headteacher. Mrs Regan will continue to teach with the support of Miss Swinburne who the children know well from last term.

As mentioned in our summer news, this term we welcome Miss Birch who will be teaching in Key Stage 1.

Punctuality

Please note that each morning the children are asked to carry out an activity when they arrive. In the Reception class this is reading a book when settling down with friends on the carpet and in Key Stage 1 the children carry out a task such as handwriting and it is important that the children have the opportunity to do this each morning. All children should be settled on the carpet by 9.00am when the door is closed, the register is done and lessons begin.

Please try to arrive on time because if it is after 9.00am you must sign your child in at the school office and a member of staff will have to take your child into class. This causes disruption to the teacher and the rest of the children who will have started their Literacy lesson as soon as the register is complete.

If you are finding it difficult to get to school for 9am don't forget that the morning club is open from 8.00am. We do need to have notice that your child is going to be in morning club and the cost is £2.00 per session.

Attendance and Holidays during term time

During our last Ofsted we were given the target to keep school attendance at a minimum of 95%. This remains a priority for our school and we are grateful for your support in helping us to achieve this percentage. If your child is going to be absent from school please contact the school office by 9.15am each day by calling 01900608111 or email admin@smhwkt.cumbria.sch.uk

Mrs Regan is unable to authorise absence during term time unless there is an exceptional circumstance. We ask that parents ensure their children are in school every day unless they are unwell and that holidays are not booked during the school term.

Safeguarding

Safeguarding is the action that is taken to promote the welfare of children and protect them from harm. All staff in school have now been trained in Safeguarding thanks Safehaven Consulting. Safeguarding is and will always be our number 1 priority at St Michael's Nursery and Infant School.

Morning Club

Morning club will commence from 2nd September at 8am. If you would like to book a place for your child please contact the school office. The charge is £2 per child per session.

Covid Restrictions Update

In line with our latest Risk Assessment the one-way system will no longer be in use. Masks are no longer essential; however, we do encourage people to wear them whenever entering school grounds. Please maintain social distance where possible as the pandemic continues. As you know, the Covid situation and guidance is ever changing. Some useful information from the DfE about children returning to school can be accessed using this link:

<https://educationhub.blog.gov.uk/2021/08/24/back-to-school-what-you-need-to-know/>

If you can, please have a read of the information and if you have any questions, as always, please contact school.

Parents in School

Due to the restrictions throughout the pandemic children entered school without parents/carers. Although the restrictions have relaxed we would like to maintain this procedure. We feel the children enter school quicker with less stress and it also helps keep our school Covid safe. Thank you for your support with this matter.

School Uniform

As we continue to keep our school ventilated, please ensure your child always has a jumper or cardigan with them every day. Our weather is also unpredictable so please bring a coat to school each day for playtimes.

Please can you make sure that your child's uniform is clearly labelled with their name or initials.

PE Kits and Book Bags

Years 1 and 2 can now bring their PE kits into school again at the start of each half term. PE kits can be taken home at the end of each half term to be washed. Reception don't need to bring their PE kits into school at this stage. Reception and Nursery will continue to do PE in their uniform and bare feet.

Book bags are now permitted in school and once Read Write Inc. commences bookbags will need to be brought in every day and library books will be provided for each child and changed each week.

Emergency Contacts

It is extremely important that parents keep us up to date with at least two emergency contacts for their child. If you change any of your personal details address, telephone number etc please contact the school office as soon as possible. If you are new to school you must complete a Data Capture form that you should have received prior to your child starting school. If you have not received this form, please contact the school office.

Snack Money

Snack Money is £1 per week. Please put any monies into a marked envelope and hand it to one of the staff. This can be paid weekly or termly. This term snack money is £7.00 for the full half term

Facebook page and School Website

As you may know we have a private Facebook page that has lots of useful information for parents. If you wish to sign up please search for St Michael's Nursery and Infant School or use this link <https://www.facebook.com/groups/3001246116602825/>

More information and photos can also be found on our School Website www.smhwkt.cumbria.sch.uk
If you are unable to find the information you require, please contact the school office on 01900608111 or by emailing admin@smhwkt.cumbria.uk

Class Dojo

We will continue to use Class Dojo as our learning platform and new parents will be added during our first full week in school. If you have any trouble using Dojo, please contact the school office.

School Menus

Each week a menu will be displayed on the school's external noticeboards. Our school menus work on a three-week rotation and each Monday morning the menu for that week will be displayed to allow parents to see what food will be served that week. Menus are also displayed on the school website www.smhwkt.cumbria.sch.uk > Parent Information > School Meals. If you would like to make any changes to the menu an alternative jacket potato or sandwich can be provided. Changes to the menu must be made on a Monday morning. Whilst parents are unable to come into school, Mrs Gregory will be outside each Monday morning to note down the changes to the menu or alternatively you can contact the school office via telephone or email.

September Starting Times:

Year 1 and Year 2 start at 8.50am on Thursday 2nd September

Reception children start at 8.50am-1.15pm on Monday 6th September and then 8.50am -3pm from Tuesday 7th September onwards.

Nursery (children who were in our Nursery last year) start at 8.50am - 11.50am Monday 6th September

New Nursery (Nursery children who are new to our school) start at 8.50am - 11.50am on Tuesday 7th September

Nursery 30 hours Provision

For existing Nursery children accessing the 30 hours provision, this will begin on Tuesday 7th September. For Nursery children new to our school, their 30 hours provision will begin on Monday 13th September.

Playground Equipment

During school hours children are allowed to use the playground equipment and this is monitored by staff. Outside of school hours (before 8.50am or after 3pm) please don't allow children to use this equipment as this can be a Health and Safety risk. Thank you for your support in keeping our children and families safe.

Dates for your diary

<i>10th September</i>	<i>Roald Dahl Celebration Day KS1 – children are not dressing up for this day</i>
<i>15th September</i>	<i>KS1 Multiskills with Coach Amy</i>
<i>21st September</i>	<i>KS1 Multiskills Event at St Joseph's High School</i>
<i>22nd September</i>	<i>KS1 Multiskills with Coach Amy</i>
<i>4th October</i>	<i>Reverend Peter Powell Whole School Assembly</i>
<i>5th October</i>	<i>KS1 Football Competition at St Joseph's High School</i>
<i>7th October</i>	<i>KS1 Kinder Cricket with Coach Chris</i>
<i>8th October</i>	<i>World Mental Health Day</i>
<i>12th October</i>	<i>Whole School Wheelchair Basketball</i>
<i>14th October</i>	<i>KS1 Kinder Cricket with Coach Chris</i>
<i>15th October</i>	<i>Nasal Flu Vaccinations Reception, Year 1 and 2</i>
<i>18th October</i>	<i>Multicultural Week</i>
<i>19th October</i>	<i>Harvest Festival St Michael's Church 2pm - Reception, Years 1 and 2</i>
<i>20th October</i>	<i>Whole School Pumpkin Competition</i>
<i>21st October</i>	<i>KS1 Kinder Cricket with Coach Chris</i>
<i>21st October</i>	<i>Halloween Disco 4.30pm-6pm for Reception, Years 1 and 2</i>
<i>22nd October</i>	<i>School Closes 3.00pm for half term</i>
<i>1st November</i>	<i>School re opens at 8.50am for Autumn Term 2 (8am Morning Club)</i>
<i>8th November</i>	<i>Reverend Peter Powell Whole School Assembly</i>
<i>16th November</i>	<i>School Photographer 8.30am</i>
<i>15th December</i>	<i>Nativity at St Michael's Church 2pm Reception, Year 1 and 2</i>
<i>16th December</i>	<i>School Closes at 1.15om for Christmas Break</i>
<i>17th December</i>	<i>Bank Holiday – School Closed</i>
<i>5th January</i>	<i>School re opens for Spring Term 1 at 8.50am (8am Morning Club)</i>