



St Michael's Nursery and Infant School

Newsletter – April 2025



Welcome back everyone, to what is our final term!
We hope all of our new little ones and their families have settled in and made lots of new friends. It really is amazing to see our little community grow and grow.

Please take time to read this newsletter which highlights upcoming events and important topics.

Thank you.

Attendance and Punctuality:

Our overall whole school attendance up to date is 93.05% with a target of 95%. As always, we appreciate that some absence is not avoidable, but we do stress that, unless your child has a temperature above 38 degrees, sickness, diarrhoea or any other contagious illness, they should come into school. We have access to fresh drinking water throughout the day and they will always be dressed appropriately whilst playing outside.



We understand that medical appointments are like gold dust at the moment, but wherever possible, please try to arrange check-ups etc after school hours as this interrupts their learning time and schedule. Please call the school office and leave a message for us on 01900 608111 **BEFORE 9AM** if they will not be in school as we will need to carry out a welfare visit to your home address if we have no contact.

As you may all be aware, there has been significant changes to the Penalty Charges and Fines Framework which are enforced on to schools. If your child is going to be absent for any reason, please fill out a 'Notification of Absence' form which are in the school office and hand in to Miss Stagg.

Punctuality is becoming an issue again. Please note – If your child is to miss registration in the morning or afternoon, **THIS IS ALSO CLASSED AS AN ABSENCE** as they have missed the register which goes against their attendance, so we must stress the importance of your child's punctuality as well as attendance as a whole. We would like to reiterate the importance of your child being in school on time for their own benefit and that of their peers. We aim to start learning as soon as registration is complete, but before this, we like the children to have some breakfast and a drink to ease into the day. Once one child is late, this then interrupts the routine that the children need.

If your child is late, please come to the main entrance and sign them in with their name, date/time and reason for being late, as we need to record persistent lateness and if there are any patterns occurring.

We have also noticed more children being collected late at the end of their session, be it Tiny Teds, Nursery or main school. We must remind all parents that this then eats into the staff time, especially at lunch times, as this is their only break throughout the day.

If this happens, we may have to add them to Wrap Around Care which is chargeable.



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Class	Opening times	Closing Times
Tiny Teds	Morning – 8.30am Afternoon – 12.15pm	Morning – 11.30am Afternoon – 3.15pm
Nursery	8.45am	Morning – 11.55am Teddy Bears – 1.30pm or 3.05pm
Reception	8.35am	3.15pm
Year 1	8.35am	3.15pm
Year 2	8.35am	3.15pm

As always, we do have Panda Club available from 8am-8.30am and Koala Club from 3.15pm-4.15pm for £2.00 for anyone that may need this. Please book via the SCO Pay app, or message the school office. This is not available for Tiny Teds.

Please refer to the attendance flyer that has been sent to all families with important dates and information. If you need another – please ask.



Safeguarding:

St Michael's Nursery and Infant School places a high level of importance on the welfare, protection and safeguarding of all its pupils. There are posters around school with useful numbers to contact if you are worried or concerned about a child or a family. Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility.

Our Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) is our Head – Mrs Regan. Our Deputy

Designated Safeguarding Lead (DDSL) is Mrs Hudson – Reception Teacher and Early Years Lead.

Cumbria Safeguarding Hub: **0333 240 1727**

Please see the flyer that has been sent to all families. If you would like another – please ask.

Clothing:

Please ensure your child always comes to school in suitable outdoor clothing, including sturdy, practical shoes and coat. If you would like your child to have a spare pair of wellies and/or wet suit in school, please bring this in a separate bag with their name on.

As the weather is getting warmer, please ensure your child has a sun hat and sun cream (labelled) with them. If your child does not have any sun cream with them, we may need to apply some that we have at school. If you do not agree to this, please let their class teacher know.

Please ensure all other clothing is clearly labelled, especially jumpers and coats as these may be removed throughout the day and could easily get mixed up. If your child is prone to accidents or toilet training, please pack some extra clothing each day, just in case. If any spare clothing is used from school, please can this be washed and returned.





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Online Safety:

Please can we remind all parents and carers to keep checking their child's privacy settings on any device they may use and amend accordingly should there be any concerns.



School Hub:

All parents **MUST** book their meals via School Hub if they stay for lunch (not Tiny Teds). Log in details have been sent to all families but if you require another, please let Miss Stagg know. To access the account, visit schoolhub.co.uk. The account allows you to book up to three weeks in advance, but please try and book at least 1 week in advance so that Mrs Miller is able to make an accurate order for food. If your child is ill, please log on to the account and cancel their meal before 9.30am. A reminder that packed lunches are only permitted if your child has severe allergies and/or high SEND and this must be agreed with Mrs Regan.

If you fail to choose a meal for your child, they will only be given a sandwich and fruit which may not be their preferred filling or choice. This also causes disruption at the time, as this child would not have their name on the screen for a ticket, which could cause a deal of upset. If you are struggling at all, please let me know as it is absolutely essential that they have a meal order in advance. The cut off for meal orders is 9.30am. This site is only used to choose meals, to book sessions (Nursery children) and/or pay, please use the SCO Pay app or contact the school office.

Supervising children:

It is your own responsibility to ensure that you are supervising your child(ren) before and after school in all areas of the yard **AT ALL TIMES**. This includes the community pantry, sensory garden and scooter bay. Both gates are open for school drop off and collection which increases the risk of a child escaping. The equipment is not designed for toddlers' safety, so please do not allow smaller children to use this without being closely monitored.



Smoking and Vaping

This is a polite reminder that we do not permit any smoking and/or vaping on school premises at any given time. This includes the path way leading up alongside the car park and Church yard. If you have a vape, please keep this secure as one was dropped on the yard which could've led to a child picking this up.

Vacancies:

We still have availability to join our Tiny Teds within our new cabin and our Nursery setting in September. Please spread the word and get in touch. Please visit childcarechoices.gov.uk to check if your little one is entitled to 2-year old funding or Working Parents codes.





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After School Clubs:

Club	Teacher	Class	First session	Last session	Time
Gymnastics	Miss Natalie	Reception	Monday 28 th April	Monday 7 th July	3.15pm-4.15pm
Rugby	Derwent Rangers	Year 1 and Year 2	Friday 2 nd May	Friday 13 th June	3.15pm – 4.15pm
Koala Club	Miss Blackmore	All children except Tiny Teds	Every day	Friday 14 th February	3.15pm-4.15pm

Please can we ask for full commitment to gymnastics and rugby to ensure the children get the most from these sessions.

Sweets/snacks:

We must stress how important it is for children not to bring sweets/snacks to school with them. We have had multiple instances where children have brought sweets etc to school and hid them in their pockets to share with their friends. Although this is with good intentions on their behalf, it is a major health and safety hazard for allergies and choking. We have a lot of children with SEND and non-verbal who would not be able to tell us, or know what they have eaten and may cause an unknown reaction. If your child is in Panda Club and you want them to bring a snack to eat there if they have had little to eat for breakfast, this must be handed to a member of staff and can be eaten with supervision. Please can all grown ups ensure nothing is dropped on the yard at drop off and pick up too.

Governor Vacancy:

We currently have a co-opted governor vacancy within school. Our Governing Body play a vital role in the running of our school and provide us with an abundance of knowledge, feedback and ideas. The co-opted role would be that of a non-parent, preferably with an area of expertise such as accounting, business etc, who can give an outside perspective of the running and compliancy of the school. If you know anyone who may fit these criteria and would love to join our team, please spread the word.



Youth Council:

Cumberland Council have kindly invited our School Council to join them as part of their own Youth Council. Mrs Reay and the members of the School Council will be taking part in various meetings and activities as part of this role. This is a great way for them to really shine and become a voice for our school and learn lots of new skills.



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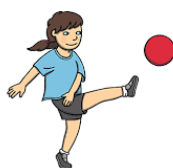
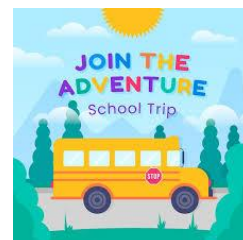


Welcome Mr Mooney:

We are fortunate enough to have a student teacher helping in Year 2 at the end of May. He has already met the children prior to his placement so the children will be familiar with his face.

Hawse End Residential:

Our Year 2 children will be going to Hawse End for their residential on Thursday 1st May. Miss Smith will be driving the community mini bus and will be setting off at 9am PROMPT. The children will have a packed lunch to take with them and will enjoy this together at the cottage. Please remember all items on the kit list and ensure suitable clothing and shoes are worn on the day (not uniform). We do not, under any circumstances, permit extra snacks and/or sweets to be given to the children. This is a choking hazard and causes too much risk when the children are in their own rooms. If your child requires medication, please ensure this is given prior to setting off. If any medication/sickness tablets etc needs to be given whilst away, a medication form must be filled in and signed at the school office and all medication must be given to a member of staff.



Rainbow Kicky Rounders:

Some of the children will be invited to St Joseph's for a Rainbows Kicky Rounders competition on Tuesday 13th May – more information to follow.

Phunky Foods:

Amanda Graham will be holding a Phunky Foods assembly with the children on Wednesday 14th May and talking to children about the importance of drinking healthy liquids and which ingredients could be used to help our bodies feel good.



Smile Month:

We are celebrating Smile Month by welcoming a dental hygienist from Belvedere Dental Practice to come and have a talk with the children on Thursday 15th May. They will come along and highlight the importance of dental care and run a colouring competition with the children. The children always take a lot from this visit and is a great way of implementing the good habits of dental hygiene.

Football competition:

Some of the KS1 children will be invited to St Joseph's for a football competition on Tuesday 20th May – more details to follow.





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Celebrating Eid Ul Adha:

We, as a school will be joining in the celebrations of Eid ul Adha, which is practiced in Muslim cultures and runs from Friday 6th June for 3 days. There will be a range of activities including a special cooking session run by a Phunky Foods advocate.

Multi-skills Festival:

Our Reception class are invited to a multi-skills festival at St Joseph's on Tuesday 10th June – more details to follow.



Multi-skills coach:

Reception class will be enjoying weekly multi-skills sessions with one of Wright Sports coaches throughout June.



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Dates for the Diary:

Hawse End Residential

Thursday 1st May-Friday 2nd May

Ruby After School Club

Friday 2nd May

May Bank Holiday – school is closed

Monday 5th May

Rainbow Kicky Rounders

Tuesday 13th May

Smile Month dentist visit

Thursday 15th May

Football competition

Tuesday 20th May

Break up for Whit week

Friday 23rd June

Return to school

Monday 2nd June

Multi-skills Festival

Tuesday 10th June

