

St Michael's C. of E. School
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Headteacher
Mr A May
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5th January 2017

Dear Parents/ Carers,

Happy New Year and welcome back to school! It's good to see everyone back safe and sound and lots of smiling faces. I hope everyone had a lovely Christmas and Happy New Year. I am very pleased to welcome two new children into school, Shannon and James Le Sage.

If you find you now have an abundance of toys and games, some of which you may like to pass on, they will be made very welcome in school by the 'Two-by-Two' pre-school group and by the After School Club.

I've noted some dates below for this term:-

Wednesday 11th January – KS1 visit to Wigton Fire Station
Thursday 12th January - First Savers of Spring term
Tuesday 17th January - Parent Interviews 4.00 - 6.00pm
Wednesday 18th January - Parent Interviews 4.00 - 6.00pm
Mon 20th - Fri 24th February - Half Term
Thursday 2nd March – World Book Day
Friday 7th April - school closes for the Easter holidays

This year we would like to mark World Book Day (Thursday 2nd March) with the children coming to school dressed as their favourite book character and by bringing their favourite book to school which we can then share together.

If your child is in the Infants, please share their reading books with them very regularly. Reading with your child has always been one of the best investments in their progress you can make. Their reading book is just one way to do this and you can make valuable additions to their reading experience using library books, comics, non-fiction books etc. Please don't forget that older children will also benefit greatly from the experience of sharing a book.

I would like to thank you for supporting your child/ren with their homework and would ask that you continue to do so. A 'little and often' approach to times tables and spellings is by far the best way!.

If your child struggles with any of their homework, please come and speak to myself, Miss Gibson or Miss Pattinson and we will be able to advise you. Also, if you'd like to add a brief comment on their homework about how they found it, please feel free to do so. If your child is in KS2 it is better to help/support your child with their homework but not to do it for them.

I would remind you that your child/ren should have a water bottle in school and their PE kit (named) every day.

Please check the website regularly as we are trying to put as much information on there as we can.

If you think your child might be eligible for free school meals due to personal circumstances/income etc, you should claim because there is an automatic entitlement to a uniform grant which is worth £25.00 per child. It's easy to apply online and you don't need to come in to school. The website to visit is <http://www.cumbria.gov.uk/childrensservices/schoolsandlearning/fsm.asp>

Please note even if your child gets the Free Infant School meal you will still be entitled to the uniform grant.

Finally I would like to remind you about Parent view.

Schools are now given less than 24 hours notice of an Ofsted inspection. The inspector will not seek parent's views of the school through a paper questionnaire. Instead, they will rely on parents completing an online questionnaire on the Ofsted website called Parent View. This may be completed at any time and we would very much appreciate if you could find the time to complete the Parent View survey and let Ofsted know what you think of our school now.

The questionnaire is brief and very user-friendly and so will not take long to complete. Please follow the instructions attached. If you need any help, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Mr May

How to register and use Parent View

Step 1:

- Open up an Internet browser (e.g. Internet Explorer)
- Go to <http://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk/>

Step 2:

- Click **Give your views** (tab in top bar)
- Click **Register now**

Step 3:

- Type your email address twice
- Answer the following:
 1. Are you a parent/carer?
 2. How many schools do your children attend?
- Tick the bow to receive emails from Ofsted
- Click **Register now**
- Your password and further instructions will be sent to your email address

Step 4:

- Open a confirmation email from Ofsted (titled "Welcome to Parent View")
- Click on the bottom link
- Click **Log in**
- Enter a memorable password, confirm it and click **Save**
- Click **Give your views** (tab in top bar)

Step 5

- Under **Name of School** (type "St. Michael's C.E. Primary School")
- Click **Search**
- Click **St. Michael's C.E. Primary School**

Step 6:

- Answer the following: **1.** Is this the first time you have filled in a Parent View questionnaire for this school for the 2014/2015 academic year?
- Tick to say you have read the Terms of use
- Tick to say that you are parent or carer
- Answer the following: Is your child a boarder at this school?
- Click **Continue**

Step 7:

- Answer questions 1 to 12
- Click **Next** after each question

Step 8:

- For question 12 answer either **Yes or No**
- Click **Finish the survey**

Step 9:

- You can now either: Give your views on another school. View results of your child's school. Review your answers.
- Once you have finished click **Log out** (tab in top bar)