'Be Smart... Be the best that you can be...'

St Martin and St Mary Church of England Primary School

CARLISLE DIOCESE

St Martin and St Mary Church of England Primary School Newsletter No.11 – Friday 24th July 2026

As we wrap up another successful school year, I want to extend our heartfelt thanks to all our families for your unwavering support. I hope you have a safe and restful summer break. As we prepare for the Autumn Term, please take this opportunity to check your child's uniform to ensure they are ready for the new school year. Our teachers and staff need a break too so they will not be accessing school emails from Friday 24th July until Monday 1st September, our first training day. If you have an urgent enquiry, please use our admin email to get in touch. Please be patient when awaiting a response as this may not be monitored daily.

Outstanding payments Please can I ask parents to settle any outstanding payments with school as soon as possible via your Scopay account or by cash to the school office. Currently Reception and Key Stage 1 Swimming owe £335, Year 3/4 Swimming owe £1080.00, Year 5 Swimming owe £72.00 and Year 6 Swimming owe £244.00. A total of **£1731** owed to school in outstanding payments for swimming this year. Thank you to all of the parents who have helped support our reception and Key Stage 1 swimming – we couldn't run these lessons without you.

Mini-Police If you have been a member of the mini-police this year please could you return your uniforms to Mrs Swindlehurst as soon as possible in September.

Staff news… As the academic year ends, we are really sad to say goodbye and good luck to a number of highly valued staff members. We say a fond farewell and best wishes to Zoe Birkett and Kimberley Jessop as they move on to exciting new roles. Thank you, Zoe and Kimberley, for your dedication, warmth and hard work — you have made a real difference to our children and community. We wish you every success in your new jobs. We also say goodbye to Kirsten Metcalf, Nikiesha Burke and Rachel Santamera. We are grateful for everything they have contributed and are pleased that we will hopefully still see them around school from time to time.

Term Dates – 2026/2027 & 2027/2028 these have been agreed by the Governing Body and continue to include a 2 week break at May half-term. Dates are on our website.

A message from our PTA What a fantastic year! Thank you to all our staff, families and volunteers for supporting our PTA events throughout 2025–2026. Thanks to your generosity, we've donated over £7,000 towards class trips, project materials, Easter eggs, EpiPens, art supplies, a new router, a new water table, teaching resources, the Year 6 performance, and other much-needed equipment for the school. A huge thank you to everyone who has helped at our events – we couldn't do it without you! We need you next year! If you'd like to get involved with the PTA, please join us at our AGM on Wednesday 16th September at 3.30pm. We'd love to welcome some new faces. You don't need to plan events, simply join the committee, or offer a helping hand, to man a stall at various events through the year. Thank you once again for your incredible support, and we'll see you in September! Amy Thompson PTA Chair.

A message from our chair of governors As we come to the end of another successful academic year, I would like to take this opportunity, on behalf of the Governing Body, to thank our pupils, staff, families and our wider school community for your continued commitment and support. It has been another year filled with achievements, growth, and resilience and we are incredibly proud of everything our children have accomplished both inside and outside the classroom. Our dedicated staff, led by Mrs Swindlehurst and Mrs Stephenson, have worked tirelessly to provide the very best opportunities for every child, and we are so grateful for everyone's professionalism and care. We have a space for a new parent governor from September, so if this is something that interests you, please get in touch with me. We wish everyone a safe, restful, and enjoyable summer break, and we look forward to welcoming you back in the new academic year, refreshed and ready for the exciting opportunities ahead. Jen Braithwaite Chair of Governors.

Important Diary Dates - All dates are in the school calendar on our website for easy reference.

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