



St Nicolas and St Mary CE Primary School

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Bishop
Otter
Academy
Trust

Headteacher Mr A Lincoln BA Hons

Executive Headteacher Mr D Etherton B.Ed Hons. NPQH

20th October 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

Important Information about children participating in the School Eucharist

Once or twice a term we celebrate the Eucharist (Holy Communion or Lord's Supper) at school in line with Anglican tradition. This is both a joyful and sombre occasion when we remember the words and actions of Jesus:

The Lord Jesus, on the night he was betrayed, took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, "This is my body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of me." In the same way, after supper he took the cup, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood; do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me." For whenever you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes. (1 Corinthians chapter 11)

Children are welcome to receive Communion at school if they have been Confirmed or if they currently receive Communion (consecrated bread and wine) at their own church with the agreement of their own priest or minister. It is the responsibility of parents, in consultation with their priest or minister, to say whether it is appropriate or not for their child(ren) to participate in the school Eucharist in this way. This responsibility should be taken very seriously as children who are not ready to receive Communion should not do so.

It would be helpful if parents could ensure that their child fully understands the meaning and purpose behind the Eucharist and check that they acknowledge its significance. It would also be helpful if parents could discuss with their children the similarities and differences between how the Eucharist is conducted at school and in their own church.

Please note that we use real (alcoholic) wine in our school Eucharist services and children take a sip from a common chalice. Children who have permission to receive Communion may be given basic instruction in school about receiving the consecrated bread and wine.

If you give permission for your child to receive Communion during the school Eucharist please complete the Ping form. Please also ensure that your child knows whether you have given them permission to do so or not.

If you have any questions about the School Eucharist please ask.

Yours sincerely

Andy Lincoln
Headteacher