



**St James' Church of England Infant and
Nursery School
7th January 2026**





Happy New Year and welcome to our first newsletter of 2026!

It may have been a short week, but it has been a busy one. All of the children have settled back into school brilliantly. Melbreak and Great Gable are enjoying being in their new classrooms and already have excellent relationships with their new teachers.

On that note, I would like to take this opportunity to welcome Miss Johnstone, our Nursery teacher, and Mr Wilkinson who is now working in Melbreak. We know you will both enjoy being at our lovely school.

It has already been a jam packed few days of learning. In the Nursery, children have started their theme of Nursery Rhymes and it would be brilliant if you could practise singing Nursery Rhymes with your child at home to support this. They have enjoyed exploring new areas of provision set out in their classrooms and learning their new routines.

Reception pupils have started their learning about the numbers 4 and 5 in Maths and staff have introduced their learning about food and where it comes from through the book Farmyard Hullabaloo.

In KS1 the children have started their new literacy book 'The Bear Under the Stairs' by Helen Cooper and are learning about Addition and Subtraction to 100 in Maths.

Our UDance rehearsals are now underway with Miss Gillian and it looks to be another amazing performance this year. Please see Miss Powell if you would like further information about this. We will let you know when it is time to book tickets.

Finally, I would just like to say a massive good luck to Mrs Moore as she starts her Executive Headship over the Infants and the Juniors. I am sure you will agree, she will do an amazing job as she has here at the Infants.

Have a lovely weekend!

Miss Sapsed



Applying for Reception and Transferring to Junior School



Cumberland
Council



Apply now for school places in September 2026

cumberland.gov.uk/applyforaschoolplace

Cumberland School Admissions are reminding parents of the deadline to apply for places in Reception and Year 3 for September 2026 is 15th January 2026. All children moving from our Nursery to Reception next year still need to apply through Cumberland Council as do our current year 2 children moving onto the Juniors. You can use the link below to apply:

[Apply for a school place or change schools | Cumberland Council](https://cumberland.gov.uk/applyforaschoolplace)

Upcoming Church Services and Community Events

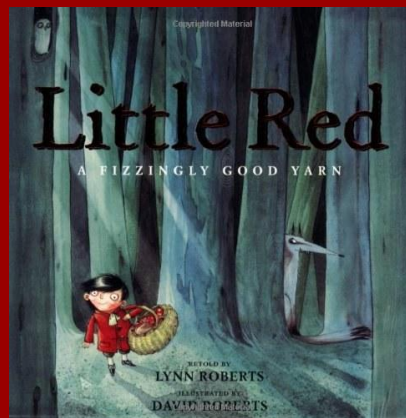
Socks!!

EYFS staff have a shortage of socks for when children need changed. We would greatly appreciate any donations of old ones you may have at home. Thank you.

OPAL

We are currently updating our areas of OPAL pay on the playground and are looking to restock our small world cupboard. We would appreciate any donations of small world toys such as animals, sea creatures, dinosaurs etc to add to this if your child has any which they no longer play with. Many thanks.

Missing Book!



Please can Reception parents check to see if their child has our book 'little Red' at home. It is one of our Literacy scheme books and staff think it may have been mixed up with our books that go home. It is an expensive one to buy, so we wanted to do a final check before ordering.

Junior School Breakfast Club



As of Monday, St James CE Junior School will open Breakfast Club from 7.40p.m. each morning in line with the Infants.

Our weekly celebrations



Headteacher Award- Anandi

Learners of the week

Great Gable- Paige

Melbreak- Freddie

Catbells- Dan

Scafell- Alexia

Skiddaw- Remi

Handwriters of the week

Skyla, Madison, Mollie and Zara.

Achievements outside of school

None this week.



Cumbria Safeguarding
Children Partnership



C S C P

If you **SEE** something... **SAY** something!

Are you concerned about a child or family?

If you **see** or hear something that worries you...
say something!

Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility.

To report a child safeguarding concern call:

Cumberland Safeguarding Hub – **0333 240 1727**

Westmorland and Furness Safeguarding Hub – **0300 373 2724**

NSPCC on **0808 800 5000**

In an emergency call **999**

Help us keep our children safe in Cumbria

Got an itch? Tummy trouble? Tickly cough?

NHS



Head to your
local pharmacy.

Did you know?
Pharmacists across
the North East and
North Cumbria can
offer advice and FREE
treatment for a wide
range of common
conditions* – just like
having a prescription
from your GP!

Please ask your
pharmacy team
for more details
and eligibility.

UTI's non pregnant women 16-64 years

Shingles 18 years+

Impetigo 1 year+

Sore throat 5 years+

Sinusitis 12 years+

Infected insect bites 1 year+

Earache 1 to 17 years

Additional conditions can be treated, without the need to visit a GP.
Ask a member of your pharmacy team about the minor ailments scheme.

Step 1

Go to your local community pharmacy (chemist)
about your illness and they will offer advice.

Step 2

If needed, you will be offered treatment and
if you qualify, this will be given free of charge.

Step 3

A suitable medicine may be offered to you.*
*You qualify for free treatment if you do not pay for your prescriptions.



Find further information at:
www.thinkpharmacyfirst.health

HERE
TO
HELP



NHS
North Cumbria
Integrated Care
NHS Foundation Trust

E-School Nurse Video Clinics (By appointment only)



Twice weekly online health support and advice for
parents, carers and professionals who are supporting
children and young people aged 5-19 years old.

Tuesday and Thursday

You will be able to talk to the nurse over a live video link using
[Attend Anywhere](#). The link is private, secure, confidential and
convenient.

In consultation with you, the nurse will assess the child or young person's
health problem and provide you with the support and advice needed.

For more information on the **E-School Nurse video clinic**

Please read the information leaflet or visit:
www.cumbria.gov.uk/ph5to19

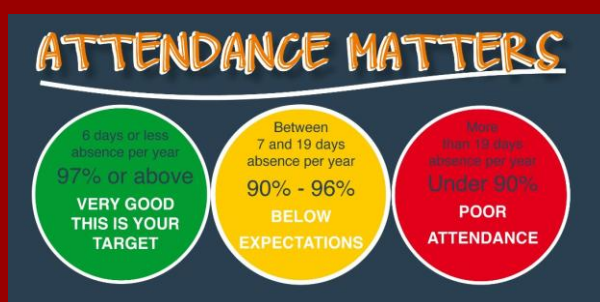
You can telephone for an appointment
01228 603973 Mon-Fri 8-4pm



happierhealthiercommunities.

NCIC/E-SN/Poster_Alt022021 | APPENDIX 02

Attendance and punctuality



Great Gable were our attendance winners this week with 100%! Well done everyone !

The more children are in school the more the children have chances to succeed. Good attendance correlates strongly to good attainment and progress.

Our whole school attendance this week was **98.2%** , **only 3.1% higher** than the Primary National average of 95.1%! Well done to everyone who came into school this week. Thank you, we appreciate your commitment to helping us secure very good attendance. It really does pay dividends for your child's progress.

Attendance %	Days present in a school year	Average number of days missed per term	Days missed in a school year
100%	190	0	0
90%	171	6.33	19
80%	152	12.66	38
70%	133	19	57
60%	114	25.33	76
50%	95	31.66	95

- 5 minutes late each day = 3 days lost per year
- 10 minutes lost per day = 6 days lost per year
- 15 minutes late each day = 10 days lost per year
- 20 minutes late every day = 13 days lost per year
- 30 minutes late every day = 19 days lost per year

Breakfast club/ After school club



Breakfast and After School Club Bookings are to be made in advance via our online system School Money. Please note that you cannot book via School Money on the day, all bookings must be made by midnight the day before. For emergency bookings at short notice you can still ring the school office. Feel free to book in for any odd sessions that your child would like to attend. Sessions run from 3.15pm-5.15pm. The cost is £5.50 for the session, and pick up can be anytime up until 5.15pm from the middle Key Stage 1 classroom (door with the ramp on the bottom yard)..

Activities

Lots of different activities are provided each day for the children. They are welcome to choose from a variety of different games, crafts, construction and many other activities as well as our set activity for the day.

Our new timetable will be available next week.

Lunch Orders



School lunches need to be ordered through the School Money system. They can be ordered in advance for the rest of the half term but they must be ordered by the day before at the latest. If your child is bringing in a packed lunch from home, please ensure you select that option on School Money so that the office are aware. Packed lunches must not contain fizzy drinks or (as stated above) any items that contain or may contain nuts.



Plus: Filled Jacket
Potato options and
Wraps/Sandwiches
Available each day

School
Lunch
Menu



SPRING WEEK 2				
MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
<p>Beef Bolognese Pasta Bake</p> <p>or</p> <p>Roast Salmon Steak with New Potatoes</p> <p>Broccoli</p> <p>Chocolate Brownie or Fruit</p>	<p>Margherita Pizza with Peas and Sweetcorn</p> <p>or</p> <p>Sticky Pork Noodles with Green Beans</p> <p>Lemon and Vanilla Biscuit & Hot Chocolate or Fruit</p>	<p>Beef Chilli (or Vegi Chilli) with Rice and Broccoli</p> <p>or</p> <p>Battered Chicken Steak, Mashed Potato and Beans</p> <p>Iced Chocolate Sponge or Fruit</p>	<p>Chicken Strips or Quorn Pieces with Potato Waffles</p> <p>or</p> <p>Sausage Roll with Potato Waffles and Tomato Ketchup</p> <p>Sweetcorn</p> <p>Cheese and Biscuits, Fruit or Yoghurt</p>	<p>Roast Beef, Yorkshire Pudding, Roast Potatoes and Gravy</p> <p>or</p> <p>Cheese and Ham Wrap Stack</p> <p>Peas</p> <p>Arctic Roll with Blueberries or Yoghurt</p>

Upcoming diary dates



- 16th January - Reception Dental Survey
- 16th February - Half term starts
- 3rd March - Phonics Screening Meeting for Y1 parents

**Please note further dates will be added as they arise throughout the spring term.*

Contact Us



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Visit us on the web at www.st-james-inf.cumbria.sch.uk