

St James' Church of England Infant and Nursery School

6th November 2026



It has been a wonderful first week back after the half-term break, with children and staff quickly settling back into their routines and demonstrating great enthusiasm for learning. The week culminated in a beautiful Remembrance Service in church today, led by our Year 1 and Year 2 children. They represented the significance of the occasion thoughtfully and respectfully, particularly during the Last Post and the two minutes' silence. We were incredibly proud of the maturity and reverence they showed throughout the service.

Our Nursery children have enjoyed a busy and exciting week as they began their new topic on journeys. This afternoon, they were introduced to their new focus story, *Rosie's Walk*, exploring positional language such as *over*, *under* and *through*. They have also started to orally blend sounds together, such as *m-a-t*, taking their very first steps on their journey to becoming confident readers. The children also enjoyed a visit from Mrs Jones, who shared a Bible story linked to the theme of kindness.

In Reception, the children have launched their new autumn theme through the wonderful text *After the Storm* which felt particularly appropriate this week! Thank you to all families who supported learning by completing the autumn scavenger hunts. The children have loved exploring and sharing their finds, helping to bring the topic to life. They have also enjoyed developing their creativity through finger painting activities.

Year 1 and Year 2 have begun learning about the Great Fire of London, exploring simple maps and comparing what London looked like in the past. In Science, they have started learning about the water cycle and are already asking some fantastic questions about how water moves around our world.

It was also lovely to welcome Hannah back for our second *Gaby Gulliver's Workshop* in partnership with Rosehill Theatre. The children demonstrated impressive creativity as they designed and made moving pictures using mechanisms such as sliders and spinners.

This week, teachers have also taken part in our termly pupil progress meetings. These are valuable opportunities to celebrate children's achievements and carefully consider the next steps needed to help every child flourish and make the best possible progress.

Finally, yesterday we welcomed another Headteacher from the Local Authority for our termly visit. We were delighted to receive such positive feedback. She commented that the school looked lovely, the children were calm, engaged and eager to learn and staff were supporting children well while prioritising individual needs. They also recognised that staff understand our school priorities and are fully invested in ensuring every child succeeds. This was wonderful feedback and reflects the dedication, care and teamwork shown by our whole school community every day.

Thank you for your continued support. We look forward to another exciting week of learning ahead.

Mrs Moore








Messy Church: Christmas Party with Jesus



We are delighted to announce that **Messy Church** will be returning with a brand-new Christmas theme, **"Christmas Party with Jesus"**, led by **Mrs Jones**. The sessions will run from **3.15pm to 4.15pm** on four consecutive Wednesdays, starting on **11th November** and concluding on **2nd December**. Through crafts, activities, stories and reflections, the children will explore the true meaning of Christmas as we journey towards the festive season together. Places are limited, so please sign up via **School Money** to secure your place. We look forward to welcoming you!

Prospective Year 3 open evening at our Juniors

Message from the Junior School

Do you have a child due to start school in **September 2027**? We would be delighted to welcome you to our **Open Evening** on **Tuesday 24th November from 3.30pm to 4.30pm**. Come and see our wonderful school in action, meet our friendly staff and pupils, tour our learning environments, sample our delicious school dinners, and discover what makes St James' such a special place to learn and grow. This is a fantastic opportunity to ask questions and experience our warm and nurturing school community. If you know another family who may be interested, please help us spread the word. We look forward to welcoming you and your child. 😊



Reception visit to Stocks Wood

As part of their learning about woodland habitats and their autumn topic, Reception children will be visiting Stocks Wood on **Friday 13 November**. This exciting outdoor learning experience will give the children the opportunity to explore seasonal changes and observe woodland wildlife in its natural environment. Further details will be shared in a letter shortly, but children should come dressed in their **school jumper**, with **joggers or leggings suitable for outdoor activities**, and **wellies**. We are looking forward to a wonderful day of autumn exploration! 🍂🌳

Funding Needed to Unlock Our New Nature Area

As many of you will be aware, we have been working with the council to secure a lease for the area of land adjacent to our nursery. Our aim is to expand our outdoor green space and create a dedicated nature area where children can enjoy Forest School experiences, outdoor learning and opportunities to connect with the natural world.

This has been a lengthy process, involving extensive discussions and legal work to establish a lease agreement. We are delighted that we are now nearing the end of the process and are one step closer to bringing this exciting vision to life.

In order to make use of the land, we need to either relocate our existing boundary fence or install a new one. To date, we have obtained two quotations for moving and reinstating the current fence, with the lowest quote coming in at approximately £13,000. As a small school with limited financial resources, this cost is unfortunately beyond our current budget.

We are therefore seeking support. If anyone is aware of grant funding opportunities, charitable organisations, local businesses or community groups that may be able to help us fund this project, we would be incredibly grateful to hear from you.

This development would provide a valuable outdoor learning environment for our children for many years to come, supporting their wellbeing, curiosity, creativity and appreciation of the natural world. Any support in helping us achieve this vision would be greatly appreciated.



Children In Need



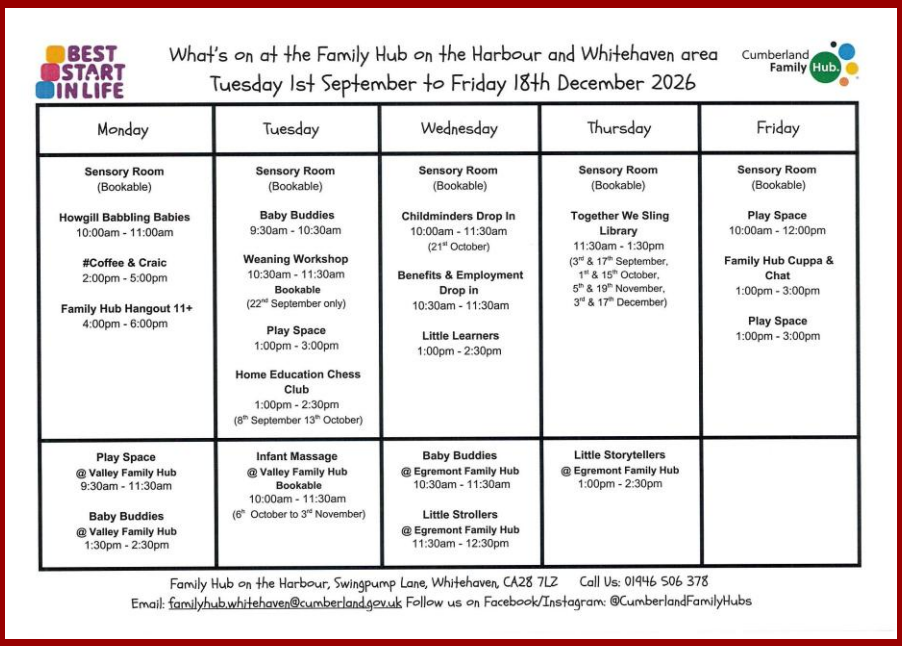
BBC Children in Need is a charity that supports children across the UK who face challenges such as mental health, poverty and inequality. We will be getting involved by fundraising on Friday 13th November. The children are welcome to come to school dressed up, they can choose whatever theme they like and be creative in exchange for a £1 donation. Yellow and spotty outfits or pyjamas and onesies tend to be the firm favourites! Please visit Dress Up Ideas - BBC Children in Need for inspirational ideas.

Battery Recycling



We have a battery recycling box in the school office. If you would like to recycle your used batteries please hand them into the school office. Please note this is for household batteries only. We have arranged a collection for next half term.

Whitehaven Family Hub



What's on at the Family Hub on the Harbour and Whitehaven area
Tuesday 1st September to Friday 18th December 2026

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Sensory Room (Bookable) **Howgill Babbling Babies** 10:00am - 11:00am **#Coffee & Craic** 2:00pm - 5:00pm **Family Hub Hangout 11+** 4:00pm - 6:00pm	**Sensory Room** (Bookable) **Baby Buddies** 9:30am - 10:30am **Weaning Workshop** 10:30am - 11:30am **Bookable** (22nd September only) **Play Space** 1:00pm - 3:00pm **Home Education Chess Club** 1:00pm - 2:30pm (8th September 13th October)	**Sensory Room** (Bookable) **Childminders Drop In** 10:00am - 11:30am (21st October) **Benefits & Employment Drop in** 10:30am - 11:30am **Little Learners** 1:00pm - 2:30pm	**Sensory Room** (Bookable) **Together We Sling Library** 11:30am - 1:30pm (3rd & 17th September, 1st & 15th October, 5th & 19th November, 3rd & 17th December)	**Sensory Room** (Bookable) **Play Space** 10:00am - 12:00pm **Family Hub Cuppa & Chat** 1:00pm - 3:00pm **Play Space** 1:00pm - 3:00pm
Play Space **@ Valley Family Hub** 9:30am - 11:30am **Baby Buddies** **@ Valley Family Hub** 1:30pm - 2:30pm	**Infant Massage** **@ Valley Family Hub** **Bookable** 10:00am - 11:30am (6th October to 3rd November)	**Baby Buddies** **@ Egremont Family Hub** 10:30am - 11:30am **Little Strollers** **@ Egremont Family Hub** 11:30am - 12:30pm	**Little Storytellers** **@ Egremont Family Hub** 1:00pm - 2:30pm	

Family Hub on the Harbour, Swingpump Lane, Whitehaven, CA28 7LZ Call Us: 01946 506 378
Email: familyhub.whitehaven@cumberland.gov.uk Follow us on Facebook/Instagram: @CumberlandFamilyHubs

Sensory Room: A calm and engaging space designed to stimulate senses through light, sound, texture and movement. Suitable for ages 0-19 (25 with SEND). **Please contact the Family Hub to book.**

Play Space: A parent led drop-in session where parent/carers are encouraged to play and interact with your child/ren in a friendly environment. Suitable for children 0-5 years.

Baby Buddies: An interactive group for bumps and babies 0-12 months and their parent/carers.

Weaning Workshop: Join us for a friendly session to help parents and carers feel confident as their baby begins the journey onto solid foods.

Infant Massage: An opportunity to help you to learn the techniques of baby massage and the benefits to your baby. Suitable from 6 weeks - mobile. **Please contact the Family Hub to book.**

Little Learners: Opportunity for children to play and learn together aged 1-4 years. Regular workshop sessions will be held focusing on eating, dental health, toileting and more.

Family Hub Cuppa & Chat: Family Hub Cuppa & Chat: A friendly drop in for parents and carers to chat about parenting, family life and any worries you have. Come and find out what support is available from your local Family Hub.

Family Hub Hangout 11 +: Family Hub Hangout 11+: A drop-in session for children and young people aged 11+ in a relaxed space to socialise, take part in activities and develop new skills. Come along to talk to the Family Hub team to get information or support on things that matter to you.

Benefits & Employment Drop In: Offering support on finances, benefits, employment and getting back to work.

Howgill Babbling Babies: Ran by Howgill - A drop in session with stories, rhymes and activities. From birth to active walking.

Together We Sling Library: Support for parents to carry their child with different types of carriers and slings.

#CoffeeandCraic: A drop in session for care experienced young people to speak to a Personal Adviser and access support from other organisations.

Home Education Chess Club: Join our friendly and welcoming club for home educated children and young people.

Childminders Drop In: Join us for our Childminders Drop-In session at the Family Hub. This is a welcoming space for childminders to meet, network, share ideas, and access information about local services and support.

Valley Family Hub - Whinlatter Road, Whitehaven, CA28 8DA

Egremont Family Hub - Southey Avenue, Egremont, CA22 2HH

Church and Community Events

At a loose end?
Looking for something to do?
Available on a Wednesday or Thursday?

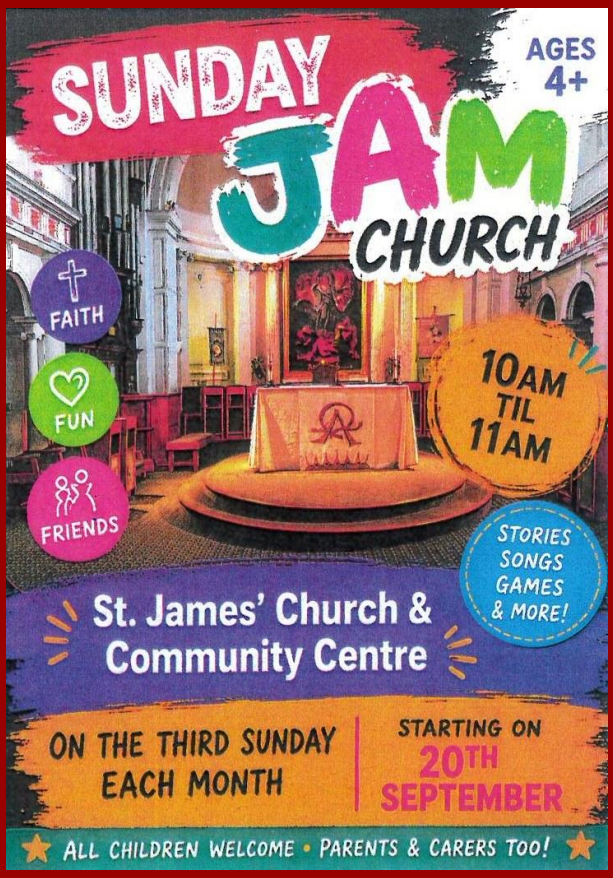
Volunteers are wanted for

St Nicholas Coffee Shop

We are looking for people to help with washing dishes, serving and preparing food
Interested then please email
whitehavenparish@btinternet.com

Volunteers will need to undertake Church of England Safeguarding training and relevant Food Hygiene certificate





family action

Young Carers Cumberland

Promoting and improving the health and wellbeing of young carers and their families.

We work with young carers (those aged 18 and under who have caring responsibilities) to help give them individualised support to help them thrive.

We work with each individual, as well as their family, to reduce caring needs where we can and help the young person to have as normal a life as possible – where they have access to the opportunities that others their age have.

Referrals

We welcome referrals from young people, parents and carers as well as professionals.

Visit our website to find out more and access our referral form – scan the QR code.

What is a young carer?

Young carers are children and young people, who help with practical or emotional tasks at home.

This may be because someone in their family has a disability, a long term illness, experiences mental ill health or has a problem linked to alcohol or drugs.

It may be that the young person helps with:

- getting a family member dressed or washed,
- reminding them or, or taking them to appointments,
- taking care of young brothers or sisters or family members,
- help with household tasks, e.g., cooking, cleaning, washing, shopping and paying bills,
- collecting prescriptions or helping the person you look after to take medication...

Every young carer's life looks different but helping to care in such a way often means that they might miss out on other opportunities. They may feel that they don't have enough time for themselves, friendships, homework or out of school activities.

How we help

All young carers that are referred benefit from an assessment to identify what support we can help them with, based on their individual situation.

Support may include a personal support plan (following their Young Carer Needs Assessment), 1:1 support sessions, whole family support, opportunities to meet other young carers, support with school or college, and signposting to other services, information and advice that could be helpful for the individual young person and family.

Who are Family Action?

Family Action is an award-winning national charity that works from the heart of local communities to support people through change, challenge and crisis.

We protect children, support young people and offer direct, practical help to families. It's what we've done for over 150 years.

Contact us: Young Carers Cumberland

Click here to email us | Or call us, on 01228 474171 | family-action.org.uk

family action

Parent Carers Cumberland

Promoting and improving the opportunities for parent carers in Cumberland.



family-action.org.uk

Who are Parent Carers Cumberland?

We work with parent carers (a parent or other primary caregiver who provides ongoing, substantial support and care to a child or young person with additional needs) in Cumberland to help them to access the right support at the right time. The child, or children, may have mental health concerns, be ill or disabled. The child may be over 18.

How we help

All parent carers benefit from an assessment to identify what support is needed based on their individual situation.

Support includes:

- a personal Parent Carer assessment – linked to wellbeing principles,
- a bespoke support plan, planning for needs identified,
- further referrals where needed (i.e., to Social Care)
- support to access peer groups in Cumberland
- signposting to other services, information and advice that could be helpful.

We work closely with Parent Carers to ensure their voices – as well as those of their children – are heard.

Contact us:

Click here to email us

Or call us, on 01228 474171

Are you a Parent Carer?

Parent carers are primary caregivers who care for a child, or children, that requires substantial support and care.

Not all parents are classed as 'parent carers'. Parent carers are those with parental responsibility who provide regular, unpaid care for their child beyond the typical parenting role.

This may be because the child:

- has a disability,
- a long term illness,
- experiences mental ill health, or
- has a problem linked to alcohol or drugs.

The child does not need to be under 18 years of age.

Every parent carer's life looks different, but you may be frustrated and not knowing where to turn as well as feeling increasingly isolated.

If you believe you might be a Parent Carer, you may be able to benefit from our support.

Contact us or click on – or scan – the QR code to visit our website.

We accept self-referrals.

Our weekly celebrations



Headteacher Award

Harper

Learners of the week

Great Gable- Vinnie

Melbreak- Margot

Catbells- Bradley

Scafell- Elsie

Skiddaw- Sasha

Handwriters of the week

Amelia, Noah and Penny






Catbells
Learner of the Week
Scafell
Learner of the Week
Skiddaw
Learner of the Week



Cumbria Safeguarding Children Partnership

CSCP



If you SEE something... SAY something!

Are you concerned about a child or family?

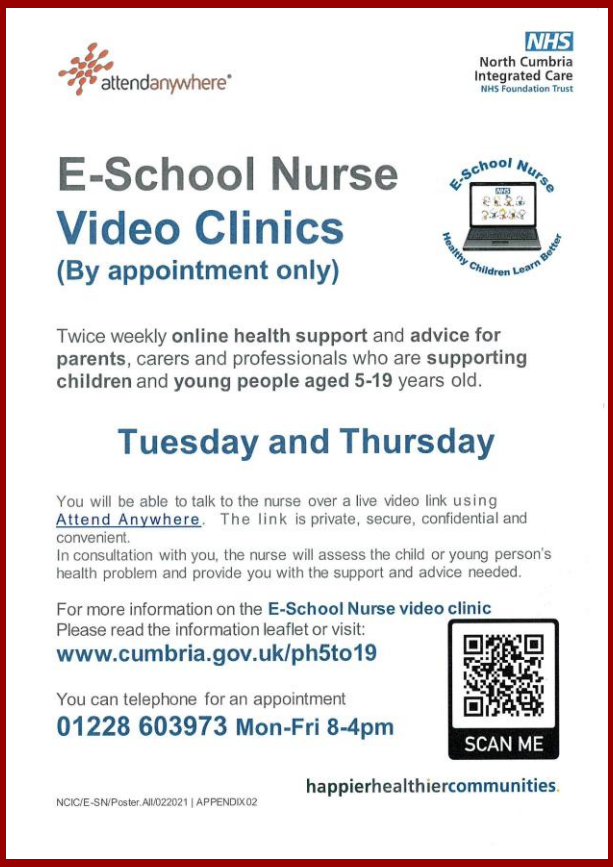
If you **see** or hear something that worries you...
say something!

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



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 Scafell classroom which is around the back of school.

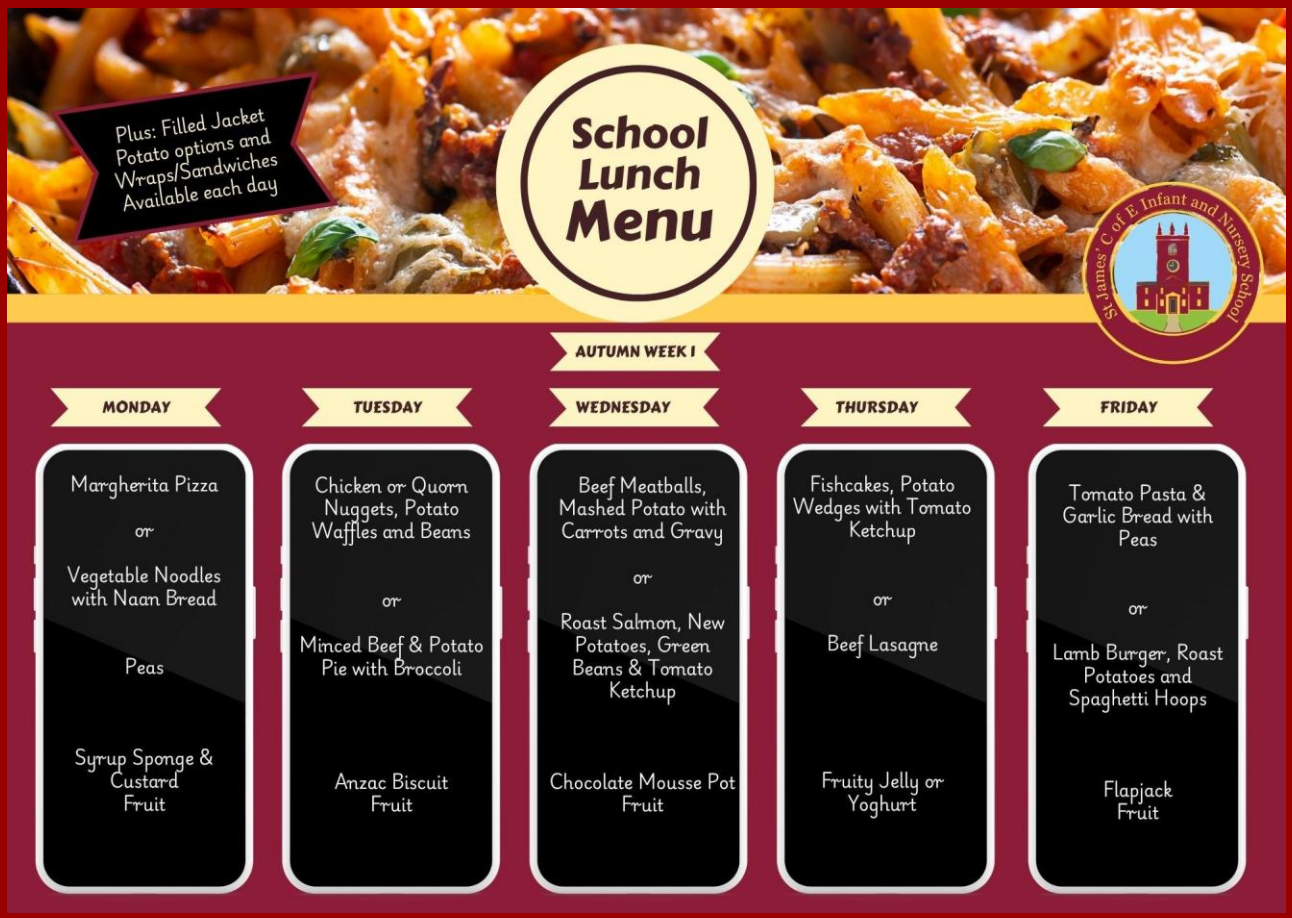
Activities

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.

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.



Upcoming diary dates



Friday 13th November- Children In Need- non uniform (see above)

Monday 15th November- Road Safety Week

Tuesday 17th November- Skiddaw and Catbells Great Fire of London immersive cinema experience at Levels

Wednesday 18th November- Scafell Great Fire of London immersive cinema experience at Levels

Thursday 19th November- Year 1 and 2 Pyjama Drama Road Safety workshop

Friday 20th November - Non Uniform Day - collecting for our Christmas Hampers & Tombola

Thursday 26th November- Nursery and Reception STEM workshops led by Sellafield Education Outreach Team

Monday 30th November- Snow White pantomime at the Carnegie Theatre

Friday 4th December 2pm- Christmas Fayre

Monday 7th December- Early Years Nativities (9.30am and 2.30pm)

Tuesday 8th December- Year 1 and 2 Nativities (9.30am and 2pm)

Tuesday 15th December- New nursery home visits

Wednesday 16th December- Christmas jumper day, Christmas dinner and Christmas party

Friday 19th December- Christmas carol service in church

Break up for the Christmas holidays

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

Contact Us



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Whitehaven

CA28 7PZ

01946 691970

admin@st-james-inf.cumbria.sch.uk

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