



St James' Church of England Infant and Nursery School

21st November 2025





Welcome to our weekly newsletter.

Our children have enjoyed their non uniform day today which has meant that we have five beautiful Christmas coloured hampers ready for our Christmas fundraising raffle. Thank you for so many donations of chocolate for our chocolate tombola too- all the contributions are much appreciated for our Christmas Fayre.

This week we welcomed teaching staff from a local Infant School for writing moderation in Reception and Key Stage One. It was an opportunity for the staff to share good practice and benchmark the children's writing to ensure our assessments are consistent and accurate. It was encouraging to see that our children have strong and secure learning outcomes to get off to the best start.

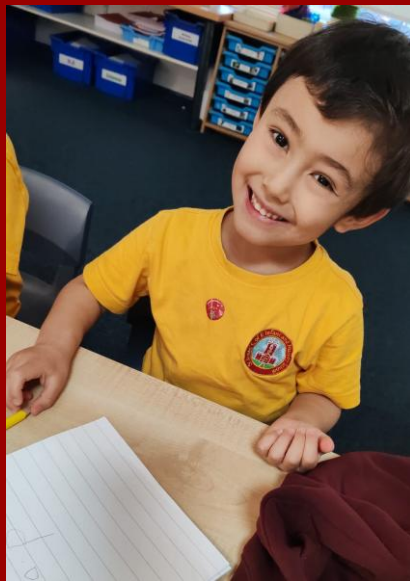
Our youngest learners have had a fantastic week! Nursery have been exploring the landmarks of London, learning about famous sights and their significance. They also enjoyed a fun afternoon on Wednesday dressing for the seasons, and they are continuing to practise their number songs with lots of enthusiasm. In Reception, the children have been learning about hibernation and how different animals prepare for winter. In maths, they investigated shapes through the colourful and creative work of artist Wassily Kandinsky, combining art and geometry in an exciting way. Meanwhile, Year 1 and 2 have been busy classifying animals into the five main vertebrate groups in Science, exploring the history of games consoles in History, and writing imaginative stories inspired by *The Sea-Saw* in English, creating their own lost objects and magical journeys.

On Monday we welcomed Copeland Police to discuss the importance of road safety. They revisited the mantra of Stop, Look and Listen and the green cross code as part of our preventative safeguarding curriculum.

Our nativity rehearsals are well underway and the children are in the process of learning all their parts. The rearranged Toys and Games workshop will go ahead next Wednesday from Tullie House, where the children will be able to handle first hand artefacts from the past.

Have a lovely weekend!

Mrs Moore0



Christmas Fayre

Thank you for all of your donations from today's Non-uniform day. We are delighted and have made 3 fantastic hampers and have lots of lovely items of chocolate for our tombola for the Christmas Fayre.

This is a big fundraiser for our school so we really appreciate your support with this.

Our **Christmas Fayre is on Friday 5th December at 2.00pm**. We would ask all parents to collect their children at 2.00pm and join us at our Fayre. If you cannot join us we will have some limited childcare available, as staff will be manning the stalls.

Winter Holiday Activities and Food programme (HAF)

On Monday 10th November Cumberland Council Winter Holiday Activities and Food programme (HAF) was launched. HAF provides funded holiday activities for children and young people in receipt of means tested free school meals and other groups identified by Cumberland Council, these include:

- Cared for or care experienced.
- Young carers.
- Child or young person on a Resettlement Scheme or seeking asylum.
- Home educated.
- Child or young person who is classed as SEND or on a EHCP but not on free school meals, up to the age of 18.

There is a wide range of activities taking place over the winter holidays, some of these can be accessed by the whole family including tickets to see Carlisle United and Cinema Tickets in Carlisle, Workington, and Whitehaven. Places are filling fast so please can you share our winter offer with any family that would be eligible for a funded place.

The Cumberland offer is available to view here: [Cumberland HAF - Eegu](#)

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 Centre Events



FAMILY SERVICE

In St. James'

Church

2nd NOVEMBER

7th DECEMBER

11:30am

Followed by bacon butties &
hotdogs in the community centre



YOU ARE
WELCOME
HERE



CHRISTMAS FAIR

Saturday 29th November

9.30am-2pm

St. Nicholas Centre

RAFFLE

TOMBOLA



CAKE STALL

CRAFT STALL

COFFEE SHOP

ALL ARE WELCOME!

Active Travel Survey



Would you like the chance to win one of 2 x £250 vouchers to spend in time for Christmas?

The Active Travel to School team wants to hear from you!

If you have a child attending a nursery, primary or secondary school in Cumbria, you are eligible to enter the prize draw.

Simply complete a short survey on how your child gets to school, how often you walk, wheel or cycle on the school run, and tell us about any challenges that may prevent you from having an active school commute.

This will help us understand how often families travel to school using physical activity such as walking, wheeling, scooting or cycling and what measures can support you on your daily school commute!

Remember to complete the survey by Friday 12 December 2025 to enter the draw to win one of 2 x £250 vouchers here: <https://surveymechanics.com/s/activetraveltoschool>

North Lakes Foodbank



Thank you from the North Lakes Foodbank.

"We received a bountiful Harvest, thanks to you!

Thanks to the generosity of your children, parents and staff, as well as other communities and groups across West Cumbria, we received over 5 tonnes of food this year as Harvest contributions.

This food will keep us going for just over 3 weeks, as we send out about 1.5 tonnes of food as emergency food parcels every week, with 26% of this going to children."

Our weekly celebrations



Headteacher Award- James

Learners of the week

Great Gable- Oakley

Melbreak- Jason

Catbells- Ruby

Scafell- Sonny

Skiddaw- Bodhi

Handwriters of the week

Zara, Anandi and Toby

Achievements outside of school

Footy Tykes-Jack

1st Remembrance Parade-Georgie

Gymnastics - Narla

Swimming - Esther, Noah J, Blake, Barnaby and Beau





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



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



SCAN ME

happierhealthiercommunities.

NCIC/E-SN/Poster.All/022021 | APPENDIX 02

LETTERS TO SANTA

At The Chase Hotel

Gather the family for a cosy Christmas tradition! Little ones can write their letters to Santa & post them through our magical red post box, receiving a reply through the Royal Mail's Letters to Santa scheme.

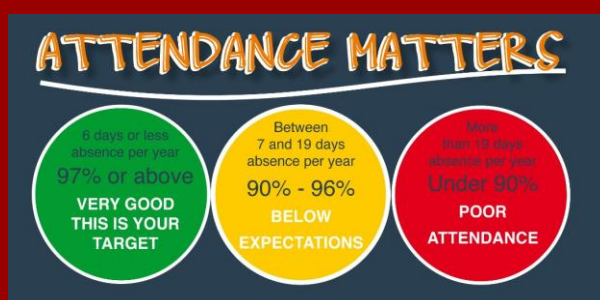
Photo opportunities, festive treats, elf supervision, kids **EAT FREE** & Merry Cheer all afternoon long!

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 28TH
The Chase Hotel, Whitehaven

More Information:
chasehotelfunctions@gmail.com



Attendance and punctuality



Skiddaw were our attendance winners this week with **99.6%**! 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 **95.1%** , **0.3% lower** than the Primary National average of 95.4% but we have had a number of viruses circulating this week. Hopefully we will be back up to our usual excellent attendance next 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.

After School Club Activities 2025 –2026 Autumn 2					
W/C	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
3rd Nov	Cars & Trains 	Bonfire Night Crafts 	Clay Modelling 	Lego Club 	Small World Animals 
10th Nov	Board Games & Jigsaws 	Small World Play 	Pirates & Dolls 	Arts & Crafts Hand Print Acorns 	Dance and Party Games 
17th Nov	Arts & Crafts Autumn Trees 	Lego Club 	Phunky Foods Biscuit Decorating 	Construction, Cars & Trains 	Movie Night 
24th Nov	Phunky Foods Sandwiches 	Small World Dinosaurs 	Games & Jigsaws 	Mindful Colouring & Reading 	Arts & Crafts Autumn Paper Chains 
1st Dec	Lego Club 	Arts & Crafts Snowflakes 	Dance & Party Games 	Clay Modelling 	Board Games & Jigsaws 
8th Dec	Small World Play Animals 	Mindful Colouring & Reading 	Arts & Crafts Christmas Baubles 	Board Games 	Cars & Trains 
15th Dec	Christmas Crafts 	Lego Club 	Christmas Activities 	Dance & Party Games 	No After School Club

Feel free to book on for regular or one-off sessions if your child would like to attend.
Sessions cost £5.50 and run from 3.15pm-5.15pm pick up at any point in between these times.
All bookings should be made via SchoolMoney.

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.

School Lunch Menu

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

AUTUMN WEEK 3				
MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Tomato Pasta with Garlic Bread	All Day Breakfast Sausage/ Vegan Sausage, Hash Brown, Omelette and Spaghetti Hoops	Pineapple Pizza	Beef Burger in a Bun	Roast Turkey with Mashed Potato and Gravy
or	or	or	or	or
Cheese Pie with New Potatoes	Sticky Beef & Rice with Green Beans	Roast Gammon with Potato Wedges	Vegetable Noodles	Tuna Pasta Bake
Sweetcorn	Yoghurt or Fruit	Peas	Sweetcorn	Broccoli
Chocolate Krispie Cake or Fruit		Ginger Sponge & Custard or Fruit	Anzac Biscuit or Fruit	Iced Carrot Cake or Fruit

Upcoming diary dates



Wednesday 26th November- Year 1 and 2 Toys in the Past workshop led by Tullie House

Tuesday 2nd December- Beauty and the Beast pantomime at the Carnegie Theatre

Friday 5th December 2pm- Christmas Fayre

Monday 8th December- Early Years Nativities (9.30am and 2.30pm)

Tuesday 9th December- Year 1 and 2 Nativities (9.30am and 2pm)

Wednesday 17th December- Christmas jumper day, Christmas dinner and Christmas party

Friday 19th December- 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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