



**St James' Church of England Infant and
Nursery School
3rd October 2025**





Welcome to our weekly newsletter.

This week we have celebrated Miss Cocksedge being awarded Higher Level Teaching Assistant status. Over the past academic year, Miss Cocksedge has been collating evidence towards the standards to meet the qualification and she has been observed teaching by an external assessor. We are delighted that she has achieved this in recognition of all her hard work. Well done Miss Cocksedge! We are very proud of you!

On Monday the children took part in an exciting cross-curricular orienteering challenge, putting their map-reading and symbol-recognition skills to the test. Racing against the clock, the pairs navigated their way around the courses on the playground with enthusiasm and determination. Congratulations to our speedy winners—Alfie, Hope, Albert, Elijah, Reggie, and Zayan—who showed excellent teamwork and navigation skills!

In Nursery, children have been learning all about different types of weather and enjoying the book *You Choose Fairytales* as part of their focus on traditional tales. They've also been getting creative with junk modelling in art and exploring numbers by comparing groups in maths. Reception have been tuning into their sense of hearing, taking part in a listening walk and creating their very own non-fiction leaflets in English. Meanwhile, Year 1 and Year 2 have been exploring the country of Iceland, discovering its cold climate and fascinating geographical features. In design technology, they've been showing off their sewing skills by making beautiful patchwork quilts!

Melbreak are beginning their block of forest school sessions at Walkmill Woodland next Thursday afternoon so please remember wellies and waterproofs.

We are very much looking forward to attending the Golden Apple Awards ceremony next Thursday evening at Carlisle Racecourse. Luckily we have been placed as finalists in the category of '*Best Early Years Provider*' across Cumbria. We will be in competition with other pre schools and nurseries for the top honour of the award itself.

Have a lovely weekend,

Mrs Moore

NB- We are seeing an increase in children bringing in toys from home, particularly in nursery. our rule is no toys from home as children become upset if they lose them and they are a distraction from their learning.





Parent's Evenings



We are holding our October Parent's Evenings on Monday 13th October and Tuesday 14th October for Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 children. You will receive an email on Monday next week (6th October) at about 4pm with a link to book a slot. Please let the office know on Tuesday next week if you have not received an email.

Nursery will be having a Stay and Play session with the chance to speak to the teacher in a more informal setting. Mrs Chambers will put up a timetable on the Nursery classroom door on Monday and you can sign up for a slot.

Contacting staff

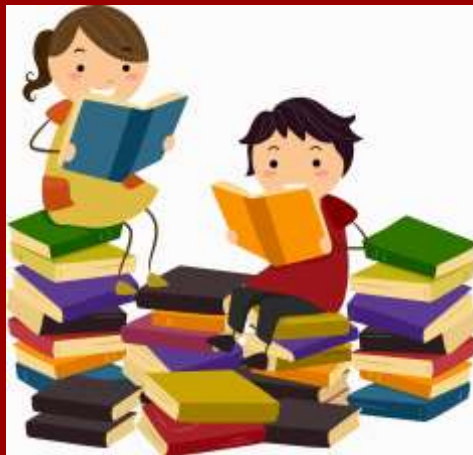


Staff are available at the classroom doors both in the mornings for drop off and also at home time. Quick messages can be passed onto staff at these points. For longer enquiries, please email the office via admin@st-james-inf.cumbria.sch.uk to make an appointment.

Teaching begins at 8.45am and some of our staff are struggling to get started on time due to having lengthier chats with parents and they are also needed at that time to supervise the children.

It is not appropriate to contact staff directly through social media or through their personal email addresses, particularly in the evenings as this is their personal time with their own families.

Reading at Home



We are keen to promote reading at home as the more practice children do, the more fluent and accurate they become. Reading impacts directly on all areas of the curriculum.

Please record home reading in your child's reading record (ideally we strive for 5 reads per week). Each class teacher keeps a log of how much practice each child is doing to enable them to support where necessary.

Nursery New Starters 2026



As you may have seen advertised on our school Facebook page, we are holding open afternoons for prospective new starters.

Nursery- Monday 6th October at 2pm

Open evening- Monday 6th October at 5pm for both Nursery and Reception prospective parents

Prospective parents will have the opportunity to meet our friendly early years team, see our carefully planned environment first hand and take part in exciting activities on offer.

If you know of anyone who would potentially be looking for a place, we would be very grateful if you could recommend us as word of mouth and parent perception is so powerful. Further details can be provided by expressing an interest to the school office admin@st-james-inf.cumbria.sch.uk

Harvest Service and appeal



Year 1 and 2 will be taking part in our joint Harvest Service with the Juniors in church on Tuesday 7th October. Please note there is a change of time. The service will now take place at **2.30pm**. Parents are welcome to join us. This year we will be collecting for the Food Bank harvest appeal to support families who are in need in the community. If you can support this appeal, please see the poster below of suggested items. We will be accepting donations up until the morning of Tuesday 7th October.

EVERY DAY

School Harvest Appeal 2025

Help transform people's lives **EVERY DAY**,
with a donation to your local **FOODBANK**



Food items we would like you to donate:

Dried Pasta 500g, Rice 500g, Jam, Sponge Pudding,
UHT Milk, UHT Orange Juice, Tea/Coffee, Cereals
350g-500g, Baked Beans, Tinned Soup, Tinned Meat,
Tinned Veg, Tinned Tuna, Tinned Spaghetti, Tinned
Fruit, Tinned Custard or Tinned Rice Pudding.



Please help! If you can

For more information

Contact: Stuart Christian, North Lakes Foodbank, Schools Worker
Email: Stuart@thefoodbank.org.uk Mob: 07733338352



Upcoming Church Services and Community Centre Events



FAMILY SERVICE

**In St. James'
Church**

7th September

5th October

11:30am

**Followed by bacon butties & hot-
dogs in the community centre**



**YOU ARE
WELCOME
HERE**



October Half Term Events



The illustration features a large yellow sun in the center with the text 'HEAP ACTIVITY DAY 2' overlaid. To the left, a boy and a girl are looking at a map. To the right, three children are playing with large colorful puzzle pieces. The background includes colorful bunting, clouds, and balloons.

HEAP ACTIVITY DAY 2

Join us for:

- Fun activities for adults & children
- Free goodie bags for children
- Problem solving activities
- Lunch
- Meet companies & organisations from the local area including Morgan Sindall, OneAim, Sellafield Education Team

**Tuesday 28th October
10:00 - 14:00**
Howgill Family Centre,
Birks Road, Cleator Moor
CA25 5HR

Free Kids Goodie Bag!

Register Online Today!



For more information:
Call 01946 817900



HEAP



Howgill
family centre

Our weekly celebrations



Headteacher Award- Albert

Learners of the week

Great Gable- Lilah

Melbreak- Emily

Catbells- Beau

Scafell- Madison

Skiddaw- Barnaby

Handwriters of the week

Cross curricular orienteering

Alfie, Albert, Hope, Reggie, Zayan and Elijah

Achievements outside of school

Emily and Madison- Gymnastics

Alfie- Rugby







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**





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.



**Cumberland
Council**



Parents/carers are
responsible for applying
for a school place by
15 January 2026

Starting School

Children born between

1 September 2021

and 31 August 2022

can start school in **September 2026**

You can apply online at: www.cumberland.gov.uk

or contact: 01228 221582

or email school.admissions@cumberland.gov.uk

cumberland.gov.uk

Attendance and punctuality



Great Gable were our attendance winners this week with **97.3%**! 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 **97.3%** , **1.7% higher** than the Primary National of 95.6%. 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 Blencathra classroom which is around the back of school past the Nursery class.

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 1					
W/C	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
1st Sept	Inset Day	Inset Day	Small World Play 	Construction Club 	Quiet Crafts 
8th Sept	Quiet Crafts 	Small World Play 	Outdoor Play 	Relaxation and Reading 	Games and Jigsaws 
15th Sept	Lego Club 	Outdoor Play 	Small World 	Mindful Colouring 	Small World Cars and Trains 
22nd Sept	Games and Jigsaws 	Small World Play 	Lego Club 	Outdoor Play 	Relaxation & Reading Night 
29th Sept	Music & Dance 	Dressing Up & Role Play 	Small World Trains & Cars 	Arts & Crafts 	Lego Club 
6th Oct	Painting and Arts 	Construction Club 	Small World Play 	Games and Jigsaws 	Mindful Colouring 
13th Oct	Teddy Bear's Picnic 	Small World Play 	Lego Club 	Quiet Crafts 	Jigsaws 
20th Oct	Card Making 	Small World Play 	Mindful Colouring 	Cookery Club 	Crafts 

*Feel free to book on for regular or one-off sessions if your child would like to attend.
Sessions cost £5.50 for up to 2 hours.
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

St. James' C of E Infant and Nursery School

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

Upcoming diary dates



Monday 6th October 2pm- Prospective Nursery new starters open afternoon

5pm- Prospective Nursery and Reception parents Open Evening

Tuesday 7th October **2.30pm**- Harvest Service in church for Year 1 and 2 parents ***Please note change of time**

Thursday 9th October- Nasal Flu Vaccinations for Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 children

Forest School session 1- Melbreak

Monday 13th October- Parents Evening

Tuesday 14th October- Individual school photos

Nursery stay and play session

Parents Evening

Thursday 16th October- Forest School session 2- Melbreak

Monday 20th October- Full Governing Body meeting

Wednesday 22nd October- Whitehaven STEM event at Whitehaven Academy- Year 2

Thursday 23rd October- Forest School session 3- Melbreak (final session)

Fancy dress parties (optional attendance)

Early Years children- 4-5pm

Year 1 and 2- 5-6pm

***** *OCTOBER HALF TERM* *****

Tuesday 4th November- Library bus visit

Wednesday 5th November- Tullie House Toys from the Past interactive workshop for Year 1 and 2

Friday 7th November 10.30am- Remembrance Service for Year 1 and 2 in church

Friday 14th November- Children In Need

Monday 17th November- Road Safety Week

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

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