



St James' Church of England Infant and Nursery School

26th September 2025





Welcome to our weekly newsletter. What a gorgeous week of autumnal weather we have had!

Thank you for the very generous cake donations and donations made at the coffee morning and afternoon in aid of Macmillan. We have raised **£396.75** for this very worthy cause. As always both events were very well supported and it was lovely to see parents and grandparents in school early in the academic year.

Nursery have been investigating light and dark this afternoon by exploring shadow puppets. They've had great fun comparing and contrasting the opposites. Reception have been showing off their artistic talents this week, putting their drawing skills to the test to draw self- portraits and Catbells have embraced their afternoon in Walkmill woodlands.

In Year 1 and 2 the children have been recapping knowledge and understanding of how to keep themselves safe online as part of our commitment to promoting online safety. They've spent time discussing the key messages and followed this up by creating posters to remind themselves of the important rules.

Please note that we have a Cross Curricular Orienteering day booked on Monday for Reception, Year 1 and 2 therefore your child will need to wear their PE kits on Monday morning. If it is wet they will also need a waterproof coat. The classes will work with the coach within the school grounds to combine physical activity with mental challenges- developing their navigation, confidence and critical thinking skills.

Have a lovely weekend,

Mrs Moore





Visit from Cumberland Local Authority

The Local Authority visit each school in the 'universal' category (good schools or above) each term to monitor the performance of the school. This week Nicky Corfield, Headteacher at Kingmoor Infant and Nursery School in Carlisle spent a morning with us in her role as an advisor for the Local Authority, touring the school, observing each class and speaking to the children.

The feedback at the end of the morning was very pleasing. In summary, she noted on her initial visit:

- It is a gorgeous school with delightful children- the school looks and feels amazing!
- Behaviour was strong, classes were all calm and relationships between adults and children are positive, this shone through!
- The school is very well ordered and presented
- Well embedded curriculum
- Notable consistency between classes

Nicky will hopefully return in the spring term for her follow up visit. It was a great opportunity to share and compare practice and challenges at regional level.

Reception notices

Each Reception child has been issued with a '*Reception guide to reading*'. Please read this as it provides lots of information about the school reading scheme, Read Write Inc and how you could help your child with their reading journey at home.

Your child will be provided with a lilac blending book to keep in their book bag and they will be changed for the next book in the scheme on a Monday morning. We will also be uploading the Read Write Inc videos onto Tapestry.

Nursery and Reception new starters open afternoon



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

Nursery- Monday 6th October at 2pm

Reception- Friday 3rd 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

Curriculum meetings for Year 1 and 2

We are aware that some of our parents new to Year 1 and 2 couldn't make the curriculum meetings held in school this week due to work commitments. If you would like a copy of the slides, please email the school office and we can ensure that you receive a copy. As always, if you have any specific queries, class teachers are available at the classroom doors at the start and end of the day for quick questions.

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

foodbank
Trussell
Eating/hunger together

Library Grant



Following an application process, we have luckily been awarded a grant to strengthen our school library further. Over the next few months we will be adding library furniture, shelving, seating, books and a new rug which will refresh our space. We are delighted that this will support our aim to radiate a love of reading throughout the school as we know that getting children to read for pleasure at a young age can have a positive effect for the rest of their lives.

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**



Jesus
And
Me

 *the parish of*
WHITEHAVEN



Church

IN ST. JAMES'

COMMUNITY CENTRE

29th September 3:30 to 5:30pm

**Includes a tea of hotdogs &
snacks.**

Children must be accompanied by an adult

Our weekly celebrations



Headteacher Award- Charlie-Cole

Learners of the week

Great Gable- Margot

Melbreak- Bradley

Catbells- James

Scafell- Cora

Skiddaw- Gabe

Handwriters of the week

Mia, Blake, Finley and Hady

Achievements outside of school

Brooklyn- Football

Chloe- Razzamataz

Martha- Sing Stars

Alfie- Workington Reds Football







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.



**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



Catbells and Skiddaw were both 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 **97.2%** , **3.7% higher** than the Primary National of 93.5%. 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 - 2025 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.

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

School Lunch Menu

| AUTUMN WEEK 2 | | | | |
|--|---|--|---|---|
| MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY |
| Chicken / Quorn Nuggets Potato Waffles with Spaghetti Hoops or Cheese and Ham Toasted Wrap with Cucumber and Pepper Sticks Iced Chocolate Red Velvet Cake or Fruit | Lamb Meatballs in Gravy with Pasta and Broccoli or Chicken / Quorn Kebab with Lettuce and Raisin Salad Arctic Roll with Blueberries or Fruit | Sausages, Mashed Potatoes and Beans or Sweet and Sour Noodles with Naan Bread Raspberry Fairy Cake or Fruit | Battered Cod with Potato Wedges or Cottage Pie Peas Vanilla Biscuit & Chocolate Milk or Fruit | Pepper Pizza with Sweetcorn or Turkey Escalope with New Potatoes, Carrots and Gravy Yoghurt or Fruit |

Upcoming diary dates



Monday 29th September- Cross curricular orienteering day (Reception, Year 1 and Year 2)

Nursery 'Three Little Pigs' STEM workshop

Thursday 2nd October- Forest School session 3- Catbells (final session)

Friday 3rd October 2pm Prospective Reception new starters open afternoon

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 and Reception stay and play sessions

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