



**St James' Church of England Infant and
Nursery School
19th September 2025**





This week in school has gone by so quickly! We are really impressed with the children's behaviour already. Our sports coaches have commented on how focused the children are and how enthusiastic they are to try new sports which is lovely!

This week our Nursery children have begun their new theme linked to traditional tales. They have loved exploring The Gingerbread Man, joining in with the repeated refrains and even retelling the story in sequence in their own words. Their creativity shone through as they designed their very own gingerbread men in the playdough area—wonderful designs to be proud of! In Reception, the children have been captivated by Where the Wild Things Are, they have produced some fantastic observational drawings in art and they are working hard on their letter formation every morning. Year 1 and 2 have been busy designing their own story characters, ready to inspire the stories they will soon write, based on the structure of Billy and the Beast. In science, they have been outdoors investigating what is alive and what is not within the school grounds, while this afternoon their focus turned to developing sewing skills, practising running stitch with great determination.

Looking ahead, next week we are delighted to be hosting a coffee morning and afternoon in aid of Macmillan. We would be most grateful for any cake donations (nut free, please). Further details of timings can be found below. If you have got children in both key stages, please come along to the most convenient session for you.

Have a lovely weekend,

Mrs Moore



Read Write Inc colour progression

Read Write Inc. Colour Progression
Grey - Sound Blending
Red
Green
Purple
Pink
Orange
Yellow
Blue
Grey

The table above shows the order of the book colours that the children progress through the Read Write Inc phonics programme. At the moment our Reception children are taking their first steps in learning to read, learning all the sounds. Following on from this they will be given blending books to take home to practice their 'Fred Talk' which means sounding out words e.g. c-a-t.

Today, Reception have been provided with Set 1 sound books which they can keep at home. These contain all the sounds needed to learn by heart. We would appreciate a little and often approach to home support with this.

Yellow group is the group that takes the longest to progress from. To progress out of this group, children need to typically read at a speed of 80-90+ words per minute. This speed indicates a level of comprehension and fluency that is necessary to move on to the blue group.

Once the children have finished the grey level, they begin comprehension with Mrs King. This is where they analyse texts and use skimming and scanning skills to answer questions based on a text.

Reception baseline observation

One of the questions within the Reception baseline tests asks the children to name the animal shown in a picture. The staff have noticed that very few of the children could name a zebra. Some were referring to it as a giraffe or rhino. We will be addressing this going forward in our teaching but we thought it was worth mentioning as parents may want to check their own child's understanding of animal names to grow their language.

Earrings

It is common for children to get their ears pierced during the school holidays however they need to be removed for school. This is for safety reasons as hoops can become caught easily especially during PE lessons.

School Council

Having a school council is a meaningful way for children to voice their opinions and have their views taken into account in decisions which impact them. Mrs King runs our school council meetings and the children have the opportunity to meet every few weeks to discuss things that matter to them and share ideas to improve our school further. The class reps take the ideas of the class forward to the meetings.

Our new school councillors for each class are:

Great Gable: Esme and Margot

Melbreak: Elsie and Max

Catbells: Rowan and James

Scafell: Alfie and Penny

Skiddaw: Finley and Ivy

Worship Leaders

Our new worship leaders are: Isaac, Cleo,

The children will work alongside Mrs Cocksedge to plan and deliver collective worship and help Mrs Jones with all her roles in school when they are needed. We are sure they will all do a brilliant job!

Toilet training support for parents

Does your child need any extra help with toileting? If so, there are a series of webinars available to help and signpost to sources of support. Please visit the link to book on: [Virtual Roadshow - Supporting Families - ERIC](#)

Poet visit

Year 1 and 2 are due to have a poetry workshop next Thursday morning led by Andy Tooze. He writes and performs poetry designed for young audiences. Signed copies of one of his poetry books will be available to buy next week for £5.00. If you would like your child to have their own copy, please go to the shop in School Money (this is optional).

Harvest Service in church and Harvest 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**



Jesus
And
Me

 *the parish of*
WHITEHAVEN



Church

IN ST. JAMES'

COMMUNITY CENTRE

29th September 3:30 to 5:30pm

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

Children must be accompanied by an adult

Our weekly celebrations



Headteacher Award- Mahnaz

Learners of the week

Great Gable- Esme

Melbreak- Ezra

Catbells- Reya

Scafell- Sid

Skiddaw- Lily

Handwriters of the week

Emelia, Anandi, Elijah, Toby, Daisy and Martha

Achievements outside of school

Ruby- Red swimming award

Alfie- Medal for winning a football tournament and Trainer of the Week for Whitehaven Amateurs U7s

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



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 were our attendance winners for the 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 **97.3%**, **3.8% 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 -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 Apaws 
15th Sept	Lego Club 	Outdoor Play 	Small World 	Mindful Colouring 	Small World Cars and Trains 
22nd Sept	Games and Apaws 	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 Apaws 	Mindful Colouring 
13th Oct	Teddy Bear's Picnic 	Small World Play 	Lego Club 	Quiet Crafts 	Apaws 
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.



AUTUMN WEEK 1

MONDAY

Margherita Pizza

or

Roast Salmon and Noodles

Sweetcorn

Vanilla Sponge & Custard
or Fruit

TUESDAY

Chicken Burger in a Bun /
Quorn Pieces in a Wrap
with Cucumber Sticks
& Raisins

or

Beef Lasagne with
Broccoli

Digestive Biscuit with
Cheese & Apple
or Yoghurt

WEDNESDAY

Roast Beef, Yorkshire
Pudding, Roast
Potatoes, Cabbage
and Gravy

or

Vegetable Stir-Fried
Rice with Garlic
Bread

Fruity Jelly or
Yoghurt

THURSDAY

Sausage Roll or
Vegan Sausage with
Waffles

or

Chicken Strips with
Waffles

Peas

Flapjack
or Fruit

FRIDAY

Fish Fingers with
Mashed Potato and
Beans

or

Beef Curry with Rice
and Broccoli

Ice Cream Tub
or Fruit

Upcoming diary dates



Monday 22nd September 2.45pm- Year 2 curriculum meeting (for parents new to Year 2)

Tuesday 23rd September 2.45pm- Year 1 curriculum meeting (for parents new to Year 1)

Thursday 25th September- Andy Tooze Poetry workshops for Year 1 and 2

Forest School session 2- Catbells

Friday 26th September- Macmillan Coffee morning/afternoon

10.30am- Parents of Nursery and Reception children

2.30pm- Parents of Year 1 and 2 children

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 (Year 1 and 2 parents are welcome to join us)

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

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