



**St James' Church of England Infant and  
Nursery School  
5th September 2025**





Welcome to the first newsletter of the Autumn Term.

The beginning of the school year is always an exciting time as we welcome our new starters and plan for the learning opportunities ahead. The staff have worked hard to create purposeful and engaging classrooms ready for our children to continue to flourish this year. This has been our best start to the academic year yet. All of the classes are so settled, displaying the right attitudes to learning right from the first day.

We were delighted to be awarded the Skills Builder Gold standard this week in recognition of our commitment to teaching children essential skills. This has largely been achieved by teaching the skills explicitly through our STEAM pathway in conjunction with the Sellafield Education Outreach team. Once again, thank you to Mrs King for coordinating this work across the school and pulling together the evidence required for submission.

Next week will be the first full week in school. This will be welcome for our early years children as the first week focuses on embedding expectations and routines. We will be 'encouraging' your child to tidy up and play within designated 'areas' in the classrooms which helps to create an environment conducive to learning. Year 1 and 2 are well underway with adapting to the demands of the year group above already. First thing on Monday morning they will be detectives, solving a mystery using a trail of clues!

Have a lovely weekend,

Mrs Moore







## Nut free school



Please remember that we are a nut free school. This also extends to items which may contain nuts and Nutella spreads. We have children in school who have severe nut allergies therefore the risk is high if they come in contact with nut products.

## Attendance Matters



Every day in school counts. Regular attendance is vital to ensure children reach their full potential- both academically and socially. Research shows that children with good attendance are more likely to:

- Achieve higher results across the curriculum
- Develop positive friendships and social skills
- Build resilience, confidence and good habits for life

In contrast, poor attendance can significantly impact over time. Missing days leads to gaps in learning which makes it more difficult for your child to keep up and succeed.

### Term time holidays

The Headteacher is not allowed to authorise absence and any holiday absences in term time are classed as 'unauthorised' which can lead to fixed penalty notices being issued by the Local Authority.

### Punctuality

Our school day begins at 8.40am each morning. Our aim is for all children to arrive at school on time ready to start the day. If children are persistently late, this means that they miss a proportion of their first lesson and often children do not like entering a class after their peers are settled. Each late mark is recorded and tracked through our attendance system.

## Reception Forest School sessions



We have booked three Forest School sessions in the autumn term for each of our Reception classes. The sessions will take place on Thursday afternoons at Walk Mill Community Woodland. West Cumbria Rivers Trust have kindly secured funding and organised transport through M&I Travel.

**Your child will need to bring a plastic bag (with their name clearly marked on) containing a pair of wellies and they will also need to bring a waterproof coat.**

Please see the diary dates at the foot of the newsletter. Catbells are having the first 3 sessions and Melbreak will have their 3 sessions later in the term.

*The advantages of forest schools include:*

- Personal and Social Development: Children achieve personal growth and learn to build positive relationships.
- Enhanced Learning Skills: They develop problem-solving skills and improve their communication abilities.
- Emotional Well-being: Forest schools encourage emotional well-being and self-confidence.
- Environmental Awareness: They learn to respect and care for the natural world, fostering a sense of environmental responsibility.

## Multi Skills After School Club



This term we will be offering a multi skills after school sports club for children in Year 1 and 2 on Wednesdays between 3.15pm and 4.15pm. If you would like your child to sign up, please register their place using the School Money system.

## Book Bags



Year 1 and 2 children need to bring their book bag to school on a daily basis as they will need to change their reading books as part of the school reading scheme.

Reception children will need to do the same once they begin the Read Write Inc phonics programme and they begin bringing blending books or their first reading books home.

## Old clean fabric wanted



Key Stage One would be grateful for any donations of old clean fabric next week as they are beginning a new unit of Design Technology. If you have any old clothes with different patterns, please send any donations into school with your child. They are going to be creating a patchwork by joining fabric together using their sewing skills.

## Starting Reception in September 2026



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](http://www.cumberland.gov.uk)  
or contact: 01228 221582  
or email [school.admissions@cumberland.gov.uk](mailto:school.admissions@cumberland.gov.uk)

[cumberland.gov.uk](http://cumberland.gov.uk)

The children may only have started school this week but the application process has now opened for Nursery children who will be starting Reception next year. Parents still have to apply for Reception even if you already attend our Nursery as the process is managed through Cumberland Council.

## Upcoming Parish Events



### FAMILY SERVICE

In St. James'  
Church

**11:30am on the 7th of September**

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



**YOU ARE  
WELCOME  
HERE**



**J**esus

**A**nd

**M**e

 *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



\*No EYFS due to short week

### **Learners of the week**

Scafell- Bodhi

Skiddaw- Indie

### **Handwriters of the week**

Zayan and Alexia

### **Achievements outside of school**

Finley

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](http://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](http://www.cumbria.gov.uk/ph5to19)**

You can telephone for an appointment

**01228 603973 Mon-Fri 8-4pm**



**happierhealthiercommunities.**

## 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.



The menu features a background image of a pasta dish with chicken and vegetables. A central circular logo reads "School Lunch Menu". A callout box on the left says "Plus: Filled Jacket Potato options and Wraps/Sandwiches Available each day". The school crest is in the bottom right corner.

**School Lunch Menu**

**AUTUMN WEEK 2**

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

## Upcoming diary dates



Thursday 11th September- Cricket coaching for Year 1/2

Thursday 18th September- Forest School session 1- Catbells

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 10.30am - Harvest Service in church

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* \*\*\*\*\*

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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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