



**St James' Church of England Infant and
Nursery School
7th March 2025**





Welcome to our weekly newsletter.

This week the weather has continued to improve which has meant that we have been able to increase the use of the outdoor environment. Year 1 and 2 have been in the school grounds identifying wild plants as part of their science learning. Our early years children have been making the most of the spells of sunshine exploring the outdoor areas too.

Nursery have been investigating real life superheroes this week. They have had a visit from the Police on Tuesday, finding out about their role and how they help to keep us safe. On Wednesday morning the children were trained in basic first aid skills by Paul Seager from SHN Training. This was an amazing experience and lots of the children can now recall the steps needed for the recovery position and how to dress a wound, which is commendable at age 3 and 4.

Reception have been focusing on the numbers of 9 and 10 in maths. Their focus text in English this week is also based on the 'superhero' theme- Super Millie. The class have been learning about the qualities of sharing and kindness to be a superhero. This afternoon they have been treated to an exciting STEM woodwork session. In this session, they have been creating modes of transport, animals and imaginative creatures of their choosing!

Year 1 and 2 have crammed a lot into their week with performance poetry based on The Owl and the Pussy Cat, film making in their history lesson based on famous explorers, STEM experiences and an art workshop. Thank you to Whitehaven Academy (Mrs Putland- Art lead and three of her brilliant students) who facilitated a session about printing resulting in the children producing some beautiful art end pieces that they are feeling very proud of.

Have a lovely weekend and enjoy the warmer weather that is forecast,

Mrs Moore







Nursery home time arrangements



From Monday next week, **Red group** are going to **exit at home time** through the **Blencathra classroom**. Parents of red group children will need to wait outside of the Blencathra classroom door (where after school club is run from) at the usual time. The arrangements for the parents of yellow group will remain the same. We have been splitting the nursery children into smaller groups for part of the day for the adult led input to ensure high adult to child ratios and a quality learning experience. The children have been split by age, the older end of nursery are in the red group and the younger end are in the yellow group. These groupings bear no reflection on the classes for Reception in September. They are purely for grouping purposes only. The children are taught the same content. It really just helps supervision for staff if the children are not in one large group at home time when the doors are open. The children are familiar with their colour names but if you are unsure which group your child is in, please check with the nursery staff, who will be happy to help you. The morning routine will remain unchanged.

Year 1 phonics screening check

Section 1				Section 2			
Word	Correct	Incorrect	Comment	Word	Correct	Incorrect	Comment
sut				vaw			
yad				meast			
dop				waib			
uct				zome			
meck				brend			
shig				throst			
joil				stret			
chort				spraw			
blem				few			
drell				fried			
fusp				beak			
quisk				cute			
shop				crust			
yell				trails			
peel				strip			
check				scraps			
plug				label			
sweep				vanish			
soft				blossom			
yards				thankful			

In preparation for the Year 1 phonics screening check, week commencing Monday 9th June, we will be sending out personalised packs to help children practise the sounds needed at home. This is in addition to the school based learning. The pack will contain a sound sheet. The highlighted sounds indicate what **your child does not know yet**. As well as this, we are providing a series of QR code links to practise videos matched to each sound.

We would be grateful if you could keep this pack somewhere handy and accessible at home so that your child can practise their sounds on a little and often basis between now and June. We found that this paid dividends last year as the individual practise helped to secure each child's sound knowledge. For some children this acted as a catalyst to help them become fluent and accurate readers.

Further information about the phonics screening check will be communicated in the summer term. For now, we need the children to be rehearsing and going over sounds regularly to commit them to long term memory.

U Dance



The full dress rehearsal will take place in school next Thursday. Please can all costumes be in school (black top and bottoms) by Wednesday. If anyone is having any difficulties with anything costume related, please let the staff know in good time.

Thank you

Thank you to Rory, Riley and Mollie's Mum who kindly asked the builder who was working on her house to fix our unstable step. Thank you to Raymond from Mike Graham builders who has carried out the job so that we can begin to reuse the steps next week. It is much appreciated.

Primary Engineers Competition



Primary Engineer Programmes

...the first step

During science week Key Stage One will be taking part in a Primary Engineers competition. The key benefits of this will be: learners gaining an understanding of engineering and it's importance as well as adapting 'engineering habits of mind'. The children will be designing a product to solve a problem thinking like an engineer. This will be carried out in school.

Parents Evenings



Parent's Evenings for Reception, Years 1 and 2 will take place on 19th and 20th March. Links to book your appointment will be sent out on Monday 10th March at 4pm. By following the link you will be able to book a suitable appointment, there will be a variety of times available both before and after school times. If you have any problems booking or do not receive a link, please speak to Mrs Brown in the school office. We do stipulate that there is only one appointment per child, unless there are extenuating circumstances.

Nursery's Parent's Evening will be run slightly differently this time. Parents will be invited to an hour long "Stay and Play" session during which there will be the opportunity to speak to Mrs Chambers privately but in a less formal way. There will be four sessions; Tuesday 18th March 2pm-3pm or 3pm-4pm and Wednesday 19th March 3.30pm-4.30pm and 4.30pm-5.30pm. From Monday next week you will be able to sign up to one of the sessions by speaking to Mrs Chambers when you drop off or pick up.

Request for Time Off School



Due to changes in Cumberland Council's Attendance procedures for schools, we now have a new form for parents to request time off school. Please do not use any "old" forms but ask at the school office for the new version if you need to request time off school. You will now receive a response by email rather than a slip sent home.

Please note that although Nursery attendance isn't statutory, we do follow the same procedure in requesting time off as this is good practice. The Fixed Penalty Notice procedures do not apply to Nursery children.

Leavers Hoodies for Year 2



Burgundy leavers hoodies are available to order via School Money. The cost is £20. The children can wear them in school after the May half term holiday. Please can all payments be made by Friday 28th March as they take a while to process due to demand across the country.

Our weekly celebrations



Headteacher Award- Bonnie

Learners of the week

Great Gable- Ruby

Melbreak- Leo

Catbells- Ferne

Scafell- Toby

Skiddaw- Leo M

Handwriters of the week

Well done to Harper, Sam, Xander, Archie and Allura

Well done to Ferne, Reese and Elijah for their achievements in gymnastics and football out of school.





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.



Family Service

MONTHLY

11.30am til 12 noon

At St. James' Church

Followed by free bacon butties in the
Community Centre



A service specially for families with young
children, but all are most welcome!

2nd of March

30th of March for Mothering Sunday

ST. JAMES TODDLER GROUP

Come join us and be sure of a warm welcome, where
everyone can feel relaxed. From the tiniest of babies,
right up to those starting school and their carers.



1:30pm to 3pm

St James' Community Centre

(opposite Church)

4th & 18th March

1st & 22nd April

6th & 20th May

(with refreshments)

Attendance and punctuality



Melbreak and Skiddaw were our joint attendance winners with **99%** ! 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 **96%**, **1.4%** higher than the Primary National of **94.6%**.

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 2024 - 2025 Spring 2					
WAC	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
24th Feb	Mindful Colouring 	Small World Play 	Outdoor Play 	Relaxation and Reading 	Games & Japanese
3rd Mar	Lego Club 	Drawing and Arts 	Small World Animals 	Mindful Colouring 	Clay Mold Making
10th Mar	Quiet Crafts & Music Night 	Small World Play 	Dressing Up & Role Play 	Clay Mold Making 	Relaxation & Reading Night
17th Mar	Music & Dance 	Outdoor Play 	Small World Trains & Cars 	Arts & Crafts 	Lego Club
24th Mar	Outdoor Play 	Small World Play 	Dressing Up & Role Play 	Games & Japanese 	Clay Mold Making
31st Mar	Quiet Crafts & Music Night 	Easter Crafts 	Small World Play 	Outdoor Play 	Biscuit Decorating

*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.

St James' C of E Infant and Nursery School Menu Spring 2024/25



Week 3	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Main	Beef Bolognese Pasta Bake	Roast Chicken Pieces in Gravy, Roast Potatoes & Carrots	French Bread Pineapple Pizza	Fish Fingers, Waffles and Tomato Ketchup	Sausage/ Vegan Sausage, Mashed Potato and Beans
Options	Honey Roasted Salmon with Cous Cous	Vegetable Risotto with Garlic Bread	Chicken & Pepper in White Sauce with New Potatoes	Beef Curry & Rice	Sweet & Sour Chicken , Noodles and Peas
Vegetables	Broccoli		Peas	Sweetcorn	
To Order *	Jacket Potato or Wrap	Jacket Potato or Wrap	Jacket Potato or Wrap	Jacket Potato or Wrap	Jacket Potato or Wrap
Dessert	Chocolate Brownie or Fruit	Fruit or Yoghurt	Raspberry Buns or Fruit	Yoghurt or Fruit Platter	St Clements Sponge & Custard or Fruit
* Jacket Potato options: Cheese, Tuna or Beans.			*Wrap options, Ham, Cheese or Tuna.		

Please note that the vegetables used in school catering are generally modified sizes

Upcoming diary dates



Thursday 13th March- Nursery Blood Bikes visit

Monday 17th March- Nursery Fire Service visit

Tuesday 18th March- U Dance Performances at the Carnegie Theatre- 3.30pm and 5.30pm

Wednesday 19th March- Parents meetings and Scholastic Book Fayre

Reception NHS health screening- heights and weights

Thursday 20th March- Parents meetings and Scholastic Book Fayre

Monday 31st March 2.45pm - Hawse End meeting for Year 2 parents

Tuesday 1st April- Easter Gardens for Year 1 and 2

Wednesday 2nd April- Easter Experience at the church for Year 1 and 2

Thursday 3rd April- Decorated egg competition

Friday 4th April- End of the spring term.

- **Additional dates will be added in bold throughout the term**
- Catbells 'Dream Jobs' session is the following half term.

Contact Us



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