



**St James' Church of England Infant and
Nursery School
6th September 2024**



Welcome back to the new school year and a warm welcome to our new families. We hope that you have had a lovely summer break.

Although it has been a short week in school, it has been a pleasure to see so many smiley, happy faces around school throughout the past few days. The children appear to be enjoying their new classes, forging new friendships and quickly becoming familiar with their new routines.

The class teachers have prepared curriculum overviews for the autumn term. These will show what your child will be learning about this half term and could be used as a reference point for asking your child questions about what they have been up to in class. You will find a copy in your child's book bag.

At the bottom of the newsletter the diary dates have been listed for the term- these will be added to as more events are confirmed and new events will appear in bold.

Staff will be sending out log in details for Tapestry (EYFS) and Seesaw (KS1) over the coming week. These are our online learning platforms for home school communication.

Have a lovely weekend,

Mrs Moore





Christian Value



Our new Christian value for the first half term is **Courage**. This links to our school vision '*Teach children to choose the right path and when they are older they will remain upon it-* (Proverbs 22: 6). We will be focusing on the Bible stories of Daniel and the Lion's Den, David and Goliath and Joshua and Caleb. Lots of children have shown courage this week to overcome first day nerves as they've started in their new classes. Mrs Jones has set up a new reflection area in our entrance linked to courage, she will be introducing it to the children during collective worship on Tuesday.

NUT free school



We continue to remain a nut free school. This includes nutella and any item that **may** contain nuts. We have children in school with severe nut allergies. Please ensure that any food sent into school is checked particularly for packed lunches.

Emergency contact details



If there are any changes to your home address, emergency contact number or email address, please ensure that the office staff are made aware of the changes as we need to ensure that we hold a minimum of 2 emergency contacts for each child.

If your child has dietary requirements or a medical condition, please ring the office to make sure we have the most up to date details.

PE days



Nursery and Reception- Tuesday and Wednesday

Year 1 and Year 2- Thursday and Friday

Your child can continue to come to school dressed in their PE uniform on their PE days.

Your child should wear:

- golden t shirt
- black shorts/ leggings/joggers
- optional burgundy school hoodie (these can be purchased via the School Money app and are worthwhile for the colder months)
- trainers

Reception Baseline tests



Each child starting Reception will take part in a very short baseline test on a 1: 1 basis with Miss Sapsed in the next few weeks. The tests are designed to capture what your child already knows. It assesses children's abilities in early communication, literacy and maths. The children respond to the questions verbally and it is carried out as normal classroom practice.

Further explanation can be found at:

[Reception baseline assessment: information for parents - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/reception-baseline-assessment-information-for-parents)

Appeal for DT resources

We are looking to collect resources to build a Design Technology area for children to use in Year 1 and 2.

If you have any of the following items available at home, we would be grateful of any donations:

- ❖ Kitchen roll tubes
- ❖ String
- ❖ Bottle tops- plastic
- ❖ Buttons
- ❖ Corks
- ❖ Washed out yoghurt cartons/ small tubs
- ❖ Washed shells
- ❖ Jar lids
- ❖ Egg boxes
- ❖ Small sized cardboard boxes e.g. variety pack of cereal
- ❖ Paper straws
- ❖ Wooden lolly pop sticks
- ❖ Cotton reels



Wanted



We would be grateful for any donations of children's fancy dress clothes that your child may have outgrown for our after school club. If you have anything suitable that your child no longer needs, please leave any donations at the school office thank you.

New NHS crisis line



There has been a new initiative launched aimed at supporting anyone in mental health crisis.

NHS 111 now has a new option for anyone wanting to access mental health support while in crisis.

If a child or family ring the 111 NHS number while in crisis, they can select the mental health option to access help. It does not matter if they are already accessing mental health services or not.

Attendance



School attendance is vitally important. Research shows a strong correlation with excellent attendance and achievement. We really value your support in ensuring that your child attends school as much as they can. This is from the very first day your child starts school in nursery.

Cumberland council have issued each school with a new attendance handbook to follow to ensure consistency between schools. The handbook outlines a graduated approach to attendance. Each school is expected to continue to rigorously monitor attendance, look for patterns emerging and facilitate support to families if necessary.

Schools cannot authorise holidays in term time. Fixed penalty notices will be issued to 10 sessions of unauthorised absence in a rolling period of 10 weeks.



HM Government



**MOMENTS
MATTER,
ATTENDANCE
COUNTS.**



Cumberland School Attendance Pledge

1. Making sure children/young people regularly attend school is the responsibility of everyone.
2. We are committed to working together to improve school attendance for children/young people across Cumberland.
3. We understand that attending school is crucial for everyone, and when students are absent, it could signal important safety concerns we need to address, particularly if they are a child missing education.
4. Barriers to school attendance can be complicated and come from a number of reasons within families, communities, and environments. We are committed to breaking down these barriers.
5. We will collaborate with each other to remove barriers to attendance. Parents and caregivers play a crucial role in this partnership.
6. We strongly support and promote excellent attendance and role-model this.
7. If we notice that children/young people are not in school during school hours, we will be professionally curious and query the reasons behind their absence.

Each partner has an important and distinct role in supporting the child or family, no one partner can do it on their own.



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. The cost is £5.50.

Activities

Please see below for the overview of available activities for after school club.

After School Club Activities 2024 –2025 Autumn 1					
W/C	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
2nd Sept	INSET DAY	INSET DAY	Small World Animals	Mindful Colouring & Reading	Dressing Up & Role Play
9th Sept	Lego Club	Cars & Trains	Small World	Arts & Crafts	Bingo Night
16th Sept	Dressing Up and Role Play	Mindful Colouring & Reading	Games & Jigsaws	Small World Castle & Dolls	Movie Night
23rd Sept	Bingo Night	Small World Role Play	Lego Club	Construction, Cars & Trains	Teddy Bears Picnic
30th Sept	Arts & Crafts	Movie Night	Dressing Up & Role Play	Small World Animals	Clay Model Making
7th Oct	Construction, Cars & Trains	Games & Jigsaws	Small World Castle & Dolls	Den Building	Lego Club
14th Oct	Mindful Colouring & Reading	Dressing Up & Role Play	Biscuit Decorating	Arts & Crafts	Movie Night
21st Oct	Lego Club	Small World Animals	Bingo	Games & Jigsaws	Arts & Crafts

Feel free to book on for regular or one-off sessions if your child would like to attend. Sessions cost £5.50 and run from 3.15pm-5.15pm pick up at any point in between these times. 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 Autumn 2024/25					
Week 1	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Main	Margherita Pizza	Beef SoftSesame Pasta Bake with Cauliflower	Sausage & Potato Wedges	Wince & Potato Pie with Peas	Fish Fingers, Peas and Tomato ketchup
Main	Potato and Vegetable Quorn	Honey & Mustard Chicken/Quorn, New Potatoes, Leek & Beans	Baked Fish & Potato Wedges	Vegetable Noodles with Garlic Bread	Shepherd's Pie with Baked Potatoes
Vegetables	Peas		Beans		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 Biscuits or Fruit	Hot Carrot Cake or Fruit	Rice Pudding with Raspberry Coulis or Fruit	Cheese & Biscuits, Yogurt or Fruit	Vanilla Biscuits with Hot Chocolate or Fruit
* Jacket Potato options: Cheese, Tuna or Beans.			* Wrap options: Ham, Cheese, or Tuna.		
Week 2	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Main	Tomato Pasta with Bolognese	Chicken or Quorn Nuggets, Potato, Waffles & Tomato Ketchup	Chicken Pot & Beans	Pineapple Pizza	Shepherd's Pie in Tuna, White Pudding, Baked Potatoes & Carrots
Options	Turkey Patties in a Bun with Curry and Raisin Salad	Sticky Beef & Noodles	Tuna Pasta & Green Beans	Chicken Curry and Cous-Cous	Vegetable Fizzito & Garlic Bread
Vegetables		Peas		Sweetcorn	
To Order *	Jacket Potato or Sandwich	Jacket Potato or Sandwich	Jacket Potato or Sandwich	Jacket Potato or Sandwich	Jacket Potato or Sandwich
Dessert	Marble Sponge & Custard or Fruit	Apple Pie with Blueberries or Yogurt	Fruity Muffin or Fruit	Chocolate Kisses, Cake or Fruit	Fruit or Yogurt
* Jacket Potato options: Cheese, Tuna or Beans.			* Sandwich options: Ham, Cheese, or Tuna.		
Week 3	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Main	Macaroni Cheese	Chicken / Quorn Pieces in Fizzito, Baked Potatoes & Cabbage	Battered Cod, Mashed Potato & Beans	Beef Lasagne	Pork Meatballs in Tomato Sauce / Quorn Pieces in Tomato Sauce with Rice
Options	Chinese Roasted Salmon with Cass Cass	Beef Kebabs in Pita Bread with Lentils & Tomatoes	Chicken & Potato Pie with Peas	Spiced Gammon / Vegan Sausage with Potato Wedges	Turkey Cooker, New Potatoes and Tomato Ketchup
Vegetables	Broccoli			Sweetcorn	Peas
To Order *	Jacket Potato or Wrap	Jacket Potato or Wrap	Jacket Potato or Wrap	Jacket Potato or Wrap	Jacket Potato or Wrap
Dessert	Chocolate Fudge or Fruit	Apple & Banana Sponge with Custard or Fruit	Apple Biscuits or Fruit	Yogurt or Fruit	Ice Cream Tub or Fruit
* Jacket Potato options: Cheese, Tuna or Beans.			* Wrap options: Ham, Cheese or Tuna.		

Please note that the vegetable used in school contains genetically modified soya

Upcoming diary dates



Wednesday 11th September- Year 2 NSPCC safeguarding workshop

Thursday 19th September- Reception to Year 2 Immersive play morning: Constructing with loose parts through Rag Tag Arts

2.45pm- Year 1 'meet the teacher'/ curriculum meeting

Friday 20th September- Reception to Year 2 Den building day

Monday 23rd September 2.45pm- Year 2 'meet the teacher'/ curriculum meeting

Thursday 26th September- Healthy Choices assembly

Friday 27th September- 10.30am- Early Years Macmillan Coffee morning

2.30pm- Year 1 and 2 Macmillan Coffee afternoon

Tuesday 1st October 2.30pm- Nursery new starters open afternoon

Friday 4th October 2.30pm- Reception new starters open afternoon

Tuesday 8th October 10.30am- Harvest Service in church (joint with our Juniors)

Tuesday 15th October- Individual school photos

Parent teacher meetings

Wednesday 16th October- Parent teacher meetings

Monday 21st October- Full Governors meeting

Tuesday 22nd October- Whitehaven cluster STEM event (details tbc)

***** OCTOBER HALF TERM (Monday 28th October to Friday 1st November)

Monday 4th November- KS1 Great Fire of London workshops and Bonfire safety talk from Cumbria Fire Service

Friday 15th November- Children In Need

Monday 18th November- Road Safety week

Friday 22nd November- Non uniform day in exchange for item donations for Christmas hampers

Friday 6th December- Christmas fayre (pm)

Monday 9th December- Early Years nativities

Tuesday 10th December- Year 1 and 2 nativities

Wednesday 18th December- Christmas dinner and party afternoon

Friday 20th December 12.15pm- Christmas service at church (joint with our Juniors)

Break up for the Christmas holidays after the service in church.

**Further dates will be added throughout the term in bold*

Contact Us



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