



**St James' Church of England Infant and  
Nursery School  
6th February 2026**



Welcome to our weekly newsletter.

We have been so impressed with all the super learning happening in school this week. We are so lucky to have such hard working children at St James'.

This week our reading lead, Mrs Chambers, has been busy assessing children in Read, Write, Inc. The children have made fabulous progress and we are thrilled with how well they have done. Reading is very much a partnership between home and school, so thank you for your continued support with this. We will continue to send home links to RWI videos and you can find further information on our school website.

[Phonics and Early Reading | St James' CofE Infant and Nursery School](#)

Nursery have had a busy week. Our younger children have been reading 'Rain before Rainbows' in their structured story session and the older Nursery have continued with their book 'A Great Big Hug'. They have also been learning about forces through the Nursery Rhyme 'Humpty Dumpty'.

Reception have continued to produce some amazing writing in RWI and I was so impressed with their handwriting when I visited their class this week. They have been exploring ice and which materials make it melt most quickly in Science. It all looked very interesting (and messy).

KS1 pupils have been composing and performing their own superhero theme tune, focusing on pitch. In English they have been writing information posters and retelling the story 'The Bear on the Piano'. All continue to impress us with their writing skills.

Finally, thank you to Mr Tyson at the juniors, who organised a super bowling event for some of our pupils. Miss Cocksedge and Miss Deans said their behaviour was brilliant and the children made them very proud.

Have a lovely weekend,


Miss Sapsed






## Upcoming Church Services and Community Events

**J**esus  
**A**nd  
**M**e

 **the parish of**  
**WHITEHAVEN**



**Church**

**IN ST. JAMES' COMMUNITY  
CENTRE 1:30pm to 3:30pm**

**16th of February**

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

**Children must be accompanied by an adult**



## FAMILY SERVICE

In St. James'

Church

1st FEBRUARY

1st MARCH

11:30am

Followed by bacon butties &  
hotdogs in the community centre



**YOU ARE  
WELCOME  
HERE**



### Family Community Team

Our DWP Family Community Team provides support for local families. We can help to make a brighter future for your family.

#### We can:

- Check your household income and benefits to ensure you are paid the right money at the right time to support your family budget.
- Refer you to local service providers and charities for 1-2-1 support depending on your individual needs.
- Provide regular progress updates to Lead Professionals where appropriate.
- We can support you through the process to show you how your finances can improve when starting work, when increasing your hours or when changing jobs.
- Signpost you to budgeting and debt support.
- Support you back into the workplace by accessing funding through your local Jobcentre, removing barriers to work such as upfront childcare costs, clothes for interviews, equipment needed for work and initial travel to work costs.
- Support you if you want to start your own business or become self-employed.
- Support you back into the workplace if you have recently lost your job or been made redundant.
- Support you or a family member with apprenticeships, traineeships, training, volunteering, work experience placements or want to improve your qualifications.
- Support you if you have a disability and want to get into work using the Government's Access to Work Scheme where appropriate.
- Advice on how to do on-line job searching using jobsites and social media platforms.
- Signpost you to organisations who can support you to update your CV and can carry out a skills audit to find out the jobs that best suit your skills.
- Provide you with ongoing in work support.

#### How you can contact your local Family Community Team:

Louise Armstrong, Vicky Norwood and Adele Aitken.  
Email [Family.CommunityTeam@cumbria.gov.uk](mailto:Family.CommunityTeam@cumbria.gov.uk)

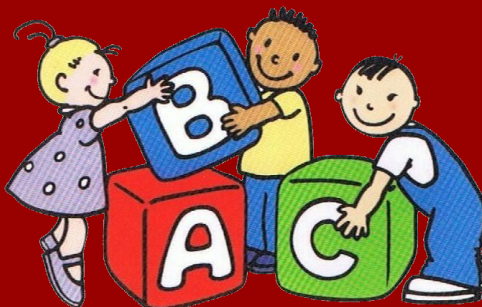
We are here to help you and your family

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



Department  
for Work &  
Pensions

## Funded Childcare Hours for 3 year olds.



### Cumberland Funded Childcare Hours

Most Families in Cumberland are entitled to funded childcare hours, the take up for Working Families funded entitlement has been excellent. However, our records indicate that there are a large number of families eligible for Early Learning for 2-Year-Olds that are not accessing the funding.

This funding bridges the gap for children wanting to attend our nursery from the **day** after they turn 3 until their 3 year old funding starts the **term** after they turn 3. It also funds places at our feeder nurseries before your child joins us here.

Some Families that are entitled to Working Families Funded Childcare may also be eligible for the Early Learning for 2-Year-Olds funding. You can check what you are entitled to here [Eligibility checker | Best Start in Life.](#)

For more information on the Early Learning for 2-Year-Olds: [15 hours for 2 year olds receiving support | Best Start in Life](#) To register an account and apply: [Citizen Portal - Register an account](#)

If you have any questions or queries, please contact the Families Information Service at [families.information@cumberland.gov.uk](mailto:families.information@cumberland.gov.uk)

## Disability Access Fund



### Disability Access Fund (DAF)

Families of Nursery children in receipt of DLA may be entitled to DAF (Disability Access Funding), this is paid to the childcare provider. The aim of the DAF is to help providers to make reasonable adjustments in their settings, either to support an individual child, or for the benefit of all children attending the setting.

If your child is in Nursery and they are in receipt of Disability Living Allowance, please let Mrs Brown in the office know and we can apply for extra funding to make these adjustments for your child.

## Half Term Activities

Carlisle United Football Club  
Community Sports Trust

### Carlisle Dance and Gymnastics Camp

Harraby 3G, Edgehill  
Road, Carlisle, CA1 3SL

Tuesday 17 February - Friday 20 February 2026

Ages 5-11

9am - 2pm

£60 for full camp  
£20 per day

Book via Abler now

For more information and booking [download](#) The Abler app or [email](#) Sam.Tickner@carlisleunitedcst.co.uk or [text](#) 01228 554169

"Inspiring People To Participate, Develop And Achieve Their Goals Through The Power Of Sport."

Carlisle United Football Club  
Community Sports Trust

### Carlisle February Soccer School

Harraby 3G, Edgehill Road,  
Carlisle, CA1 3SL

Tuesday 17 February - Friday 20 February 2026

Ages 5-13

9am - 2pm

£60 for full camp  
£20 per day

Book via Abler now

For more information and booking [download](#) The Abler app or [email](#) Sam.Tickner@carlisleunitedcst.co.uk or [text](#) 01228 554169

"Inspiring People To Participate, Develop And Achieve Their Goals Through The Power Of Sport."



Community Sports Trust

# Maryport February Soccer School

Netherhall Community Sports Centre,  
Netherhall Road, Maryport, CA15 6NT

Thursday 19 February - Friday 20 February 2026

Ages 5-13

9am - 2pm

£30 for full camp

£20 per day



Book via Abler now

For more information and booking [visit](#) [The Abler app](#) or [contact](#)  
Sam.Tickner@carlisleunitedcst.co.uk or [Phone](#) 01222 534169

*"Inspiring People To Participate, Develop And Achieve Their Goals Through The Power Of Sport."*

## Our weekly celebrations



**Headteacher Award-** Charlie-Cole

### Learners of the week

**Great Gable-** Leo and Noa

**Melbreak-** Emily

**Catbells-** Sacha

**Scafell-** Madison

**Skiddaw-** Lily S

**Handwriters of the week -** Bradley, Mahnaz, James and Ruhan

**Spring 1 Kindness Award -** Ayden Lin

**Golden Wellie -** Aaron M and Sam K

**Achievements outside of school -** Brooklyn, Vova and Noah J







U Dance tickets will be on sale this week on School Money. The deadline for purchase is the 21st February and tickets are £8.00 each. Numbers are unlimited. We advise getting your tickets early, as we have no control over who can get them after this date and from past experience know that there are never any spare available due to the large number of schools involved.

The children will need collected from the Carnegie after the second show.

### Kindness Trophy

This week we reintroduced our Kindness award, which we will hand out every half term to a deserving winner. This trophy can be kept at home until the following half term and then returned for the next lucky winner. Kindness is one of our Christian Values and we are lucky to have lots of kind and caring children in our 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?**



**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

attendanywhere\*

NHS North Cumbria Integrated Care NHS Foundation Trust

**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

NCIC/E-SN/Poster: All 02/2021 | APPENDIX 02

## Cars and Vehicles



After half term, Reception pupils are starting a new learning unit about transport and vehicles. If you have any cars, trains, trucks etc that your child is no longer using, these would be greatly appreciated at school. Thank you.

## Attendance and punctuality



Melbreak were 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 **97.7%**, **3.2% higher** than the Primary National average of **94.5%**! Well done to everyone who came into school this week. 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 middle Key Stage 1 classroom (door with the ramp on the bottom yard)..

### 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 Spring 1					
W/C	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
6th Jan			Arts and Crafts 	Lego Club 	Small World Animals 
12th Jan	Mindful Colouring & Reading 	Dressing Up and Role Play 	Pirates & Dolls 	Arts & Crafts 	Dance and Party Games 
19th Jan	Arts & Crafts 	Lego Club 	Phunky Foods Biscuit Decorating 	Construction, Cars & Trains 	Movie Night 
26th Jan	Phunky Foods Sandwiches 	Small World Dinosaurs 	Games & Jigsaws 	Mindful Colouring & Reading 	Arts & Crafts 
2nd Feb	Lego Club 	Arts & Crafts 	Dance & Party Games 	Pirates & Dolls 	Phunky Foods 
9th Feb	Small World Play Animals 	Mindful Colouring & Reading 	Arts & Crafts 	Board Games 	Cars & Trains 

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.

**School Lunch Menu**

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

**SPRING WEEK 3**

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Beef Burger in a Bun or Baked Fish with New Potatoes Sweetcorn and Tomato Ketchup Pineapple Sponge & Custard or Fruit	Chicken / Quorn Nuggets with Mashed Potato and Beans or Vegetable Risotto with Garlic Bread Digestive Biscuit, Cheese & Satsuma or Yoghurt	Roast Turkey / Quorn Pieces with Roast Potatoes, Broccoli and Gravy or Lamb Kofta with Tortilla and Salad Broccoli Krispie Cake or Fruit	All Day Breakfast Lorne Sausage/ Vegan Sausage, Hash Brown, Omelette and Spaghetti Hoops or Chicken Curry & Rice with Green Beans Ice Cream or Fruit	Battered Cod with Potato Wedges and Tomato Ketchup or Meat and Potato Pie Peas Iced Carrot Cake or Fruit

## Spare clothes

We are running low on spare underwear, socks and clothes for changing children in the EYFS. If you have any that you no longer need, please can we have them in school. If your child is changed at school, please can you ensure that the spares come back to class. Thank you.

## Upcoming diary dates



- 9th February - Melbreak trip to Struddabank Farm
- 10th February - Safer Internet Day
- 11th February - Catbells trip to Struddabank Farm
- 16th February - Half term starts
- 3rd March - Phonics Screening Meeting for Y1 parents
- **5th March - World Book Day**
- **16th and 18th March - Individual Parent's Meetings**
- **U Dance - 17th March**
- 23rd March 2.45 - Hawse End information Meeting for Parents
- **26th March - Decorate an egg competition**

*\*Please note further dates will be added as they arise throughout the spring term.*

## Contact Us



### **St James' C of E Infant and Nursery School**

High Street

Whitehaven

CA28 7PZ

01946 691970

[admin@st-james-inf.cumbria.sch.uk](mailto:admin@st-james-inf.cumbria.sch.uk)

Visit us on the web at [www.st-james-inf.cumbria.sch.uk](http://www.st-james-inf.cumbria.sch.uk)