



**St James' Church of England Infant and
Nursery School
30th January 2026**



Another exciting week in school for the children, with lots of super learning.

We had a visit from our Local Authority General Advisor, Nicky Corfield on Tuesday. She spent the morning with me, looking around the classrooms, observing teaching, chatting to the children and looking at books. It was a positive visit and she said she'd had a lovely morning. She was impressed with the 'high quality adult interactions' in the Early Years, the 'beautifully presented books' in KS1 and said that behaviour across the school was good. Thank you to all the children and staff for making the visit so successful.

In Nursery this week, pupils have been busy reading 'A Great Big Cuddle' during their structured story time, exploring relationships and developing their vocabulary linked to the story. They continue to have fun mark making and exploring lines in areas of provision, both of which are early handwriting skills.

Reception pupils are having a busy time continuing with their learning about changing materials, this week they have investigated how ingredients change in Science by making some delicious bread. They started their new book 'Ning and The Night Spirits' in Literacy and are exploring '0' in maths.

KS1 pupils have been enjoying their new book 'Bear and the Piano'. They are busy making their own mechanisms in DT, which has been a unit of work that they have been thoroughly engrossed in. In Maths, Year 2 have been bridging numbers to 10 and Year 1 have been adding 2 digit numbers.

Finally, a polite request from staff that children do not bring toys, jewellery, coins etc into school. They are losing them, which is leading to upset and distracts them from their learning. Many thanks.

Hope everyone has a lovely weekend

Miss Sapsed



New SEND Local Offer website for parents.



**Cumberland
SEND & AP
Partnership**



Our new SEND Local Offer!

The SEND Local Offer is your central hub for information, resources and news on SEND provision and services in Cumberland.

This includes information on:

- Education settings
- Health services
- EHCPs (Education, Health and Care Plans)
- Preparing for adulthood
- Travel and Transport
- Short Breaks
- Accessing support and advice
- The latest news and events from the Cumberland SEND & AP Partnership!



We have moved the website and given it a new look, so it is easier to navigate for children and young people and their families. You can visit the new Local Offer by scanning the QR code above or visiting:

cumberlandsend.co.uk




The local authority have been updating their Send Information page and have asked for it to be shared with parents. This is an excellent page to find about SEND services, events, respite etc in the local area. The link is as follows,


<https://cumberlandsend.co.uk/cumberland-send>

Upcoming Church Services and Community Events

Jesus
And
Me



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

**the parish of
WHITEHAVEN**



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**



Cumbria Fostering

Become part of Cumbria's biggest Family

Find out about **Fostering**

...and how you can change children's lives in 2026

Join our online info event on **Wednesday 28 January** from 6pm to 7pm. Scan QR code to book your place!


0300 019 0200

cumbriafostering.org.uk



 Working for Cumberland Council and Westmorland & Furness Council

Half Term Activities


 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 [visit The Abler app or email Sam.Tickner@carlisleunitedcst.co.uk](https://www.abler.co.uk) or [Phone 01228 554169](https://www.abler.co.uk)

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



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 [contact](#)
Sam.Tickner@carlisleunitedcst.co.uk or [Phone](#): 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 [download](#) The Abler app or [contact](#)
Sam.Tickner@carlisleunitedcst.co.uk or [Phone](#): 01228 554169

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

Our weekly celebrations



Headteacher Award- Oliver

Learners of the week

Great Gable- Hannah and Sonny

Melbreak- Amelia

Catbells- Zara

Scafell- Luna

Skiddaw- Martha

Handwriters of the week

Finley, Sasha, Zachary and Ezra

Achievements outside of school

Ricardo, Isla, Narla and Rowan





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



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.](#)

Mud Kitchen

Miss Deans and Miss Cocksedge have been very busy making us a new mud kitchen for our OPAL play. If anyone has any old pans, trays, kitchen utensils etc that they are no longer using, we would very much appreciate them in school. Thank you.

Handwriting in the EYFS



Handwriting in Reception is a key skill and a focus area in the new Writing Framework published by the DfE. In Reception, we now teach daily handwriting lessons, in addition to handwriting in other areas of learning. It is essential that children from Reception onwards have the correct pencil grip and are forming letters correctly, as this makes it easier for them as they start to join. In school we have several strategies that we talk the children through before they write such as holding their paper, encouraging good posture (bottom, back chair and tummy near table) as well as promoting the correct grip.

We have made a page on our website for further information and advice for parents. Thank you for your support with this and if you have any further questions, please talk to your child's teacher.

[Handwriting | St James' CofE Infant and Nursery School](#)

Attendance and punctuality



Catbells were our attendance winners this week with 99.4%! 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 **98.2%**, **3.3% higher** than the Primary National average of **94.9%**! 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

SPRING WEEK 2

| MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY |
|---|--|--|---|--|
| Beef Bolognese Pasta Bake or Roast Salmon Steak with New Potatoes Broccoli Chocolate Brownie or Fruit | Margherita Pizza with Peas and Sweetcorn or Sticky Pork Noodles with Green Beans Lemon and Vanilla Biscuit & Hot Chocolate or Fruit | Beef Chilli (or Vegi Chilli) with Rice and Broccoli or Battered Chicken Steak, Mashed Potato and Beans Iced Chocolate Sponge or Fruit | Chicken Strips or Quorn Pieces with Potato Waffles or Sausage Roll with Potato Waffles and Tomato Ketchup Sweetcorn Cheese and Biscuits, Fruit or Yoghurt | Roast Beef, Yorkshire Puddin, Roast Potatoes and Gravy or Cheese and Ham Wrap Stack Peas Arctic Roll with Blueberries or Yoghurt |

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

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
- 23rd March 2.45 - Hawse End information Meeting for Parents

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

Contact Us



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Whitehaven

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01946 691970

admin@st-james-inf.cumbria.sch.uk

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