



**St James' Church of England Infant and
Nursery School**
18th September 2026





Despite a particularly wet and rainy week, there has been plenty to celebrate at St James'. We began the week with a fantastic assembly recognising our achievement of **Platinum OPAL status**, reflecting our commitment to high-quality outdoor play opportunities for all children. We have also announced our new pupil leadership roles, including our OPAL Play Leaders, School Councillors and Worship Leaders. These children will be given valuable opportunities throughout the year to demonstrate responsibility, serve others and make a positive difference within our school community. We know they will be excellent ambassadors and role models for their peers.

Learning across school has been full of excitement and discovery. In Nursery, children have been immersed in *The Gingerbread Man*, exploring the contrasts between light and dark and night and day. Reception children have been comparing amounts using the concepts of more and fewer in maths, exploring their sense of taste and creating self-portraits. In Years 1 and 2, pupils have been retelling *Cave Baby* in their own words as part of their assessed writing, sorting the months into seasons in science and developing their artistic skills by drawing animals using different strokes to create texture. They have also enjoyed local fieldwork in the community, creating tally charts to identify and record different human features in the local area. This morning we had a visit from the Library bus. The children had a story on board and an opportunity to browse and choose books for their classroom book stock.

Have a lovely weekend,

Mrs Moore

NB- Please send your child to school with a coat each day. At present the weather is changeable and we like to go outdoors for playtimes as much as possible. Many of our children are coming to school without coats each day.





Macmillan Coffee Morning



We are holding our annual Coffee Morning on Friday next week (25th September) in aid of Macmillan. Parents/grandparents/family members are free to join us and enjoy a cake and a cuppa with your child for a donation to Macmillan. It would be lovely to see you there if you are able to join us.

Early Years (Nursery and Reception) families please join us at 10.30am

Key stage 1 (Year 1 and Year 2) families please join us at 2.30pm

If you have a child in both - just choose the most convenient.

Please collect your child from the usual classroom exit door and re-enter the school through the front door to go to the hall where refreshments will be served.

We would appreciate donations of cakes/homebaking etc to be brought to the school at drop off time on Friday morning. If you are bringing a container please ensure that your name is on it so that we can return it to you.

School Council



Our School Councillors for this academic year are:

Great Gable- Frankie and Hannah

Melbreak- Arthur and Zack

Catbells- Nero and Bradley

Scafell- Leo and Ruby

Skiddaw- Sam and Sonny

Worship Leaders

Our Worship Leaders for this academic year are:

Catbells- Reggie C and Daisy

Scafell- Soolihah and Ava

Skiddaw- Noah and Aynas

OPAL Play Leaders



Our OPAL Play Leaders for this academic year are:

Lowe, Max, Bodhi S, Mia, Ivy and Emily



A Gentle Reminder About Nursery Attendance



Regular attendance on your child's allocated nursery days is really important. Consistent attendance helps children settle well, build strong relationships, establish routines and make steady progress in their learning and development. As nursery places are allocated for specific sessions and adult to child ratios are calculated, we encourage families to make every effort for children to attend regularly. Thank you for your support in helping your child make the most of their nursery experience.

Reception request-Babies needed!



As part of our learning about human growth and development, Reception children will be exploring how people change from being babies to becoming children and adults. To support this learning, we would be grateful if any parents with a baby would be willing to visit the class to share how to look after a baby so that the children can see first hand what babies are like!

Starting Reception in September 2027



Parents/carers are responsible for applying for a school place by **15 January 2027**

Starting School
Children born between
1 September 2022
and **31 August 2023**
can start school in **September 2027**

You can apply online at: www.cumberland.gov.uk
or contact: **01228 221582**
or email school.admissions@cumberland.gov.uk

cumberland.gov.uk

The children may only have started school 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.

Please follow the link to complete the online form:

[Apply for a reception place | Cumberland Council](#)

For anyone who does not already attend our school but would like their child to start next year in either Nursery or Reception we have arranged some Open afternoons and an Open Evening. Please note that if your child already attends our school you do not need to come to these. Please pass this dates onto family or friends who may wish to join our lovely school.



St James' C of E Infant and Nursery School, Whitehaven

Nursery Starters 2027

Is your child looking to start Nursery in 2027?

We can take Nursery children from the day after their 3rd birthday

The application processes to apply for next year's places are now open!

We can offer individual appointments for parents to come and see for yourselves what makes our school so special.



WE CAN OFFER:

- a welcoming school in which children thrive*
- a school that is highly ambitious for pupils*
- impeccable behaviour*

*Ofsted March 2024

- A strong culture of care**
- A rich and inclusive curriculum**

**SIAMS June 2026

Prospectuses are available to download at:
www.st-james-inf.cumbria.sch.uk

Open Afternoon
Monday 5th October at 2.00pm
or Open Evening
Monday 5th October at 5.00pm

Choose the Right Path



St James' C of E Infant and Nursery School, Whitehaven

Reception Starters 2027

Is your child due to start Reception in September 2027?

The application processes to apply for next year's places are now open!

The closing date for applications is 15th January 2027



WE CAN OFFER:

- a welcoming school in which children thrive*
- a school that is highly ambitious for pupils*
- impeccable behaviour*

*Ofsted March 2024

- A strong culture of care**
- A rich and inclusive curriculum**

**SIAMS June 2026

APPLY ONLINE AT
www.cumberland.gov.uk/schools-and-education

Open Afternoon
Wednesday 7th October at 2.00pm
or Open Evening
Monday 5th October at 5.00pm

Prospectuses are available to download at:
www.st-james-inf.cumbria.sch.uk

"Choose the Right Path"

Church and Community Events

SUNDAY JAM CHURCH AGES 4+

FAITH
FUN
FRIENDS

10AM TIL 11AM

STORIES
SONGS
GAMES
& MORE!

St. James' Church & Community Centre

ON THE THIRD SUNDAY
EACH MONTH

STARTING ON
**20TH
SEPTEMBER**

★ ALL CHILDREN WELCOME • PARENTS & CARERS TOO! ★

family action

Young Carers Cumberland

Promoting and improving the health and wellbeing of young carers and their families.

We work with young carers (those aged 16 and under who have caring responsibilities) to help give them individualised support to help them thrive.

We work with each individual, as well as their family, to reduce caring needs where we can and help the young person to have as normal a life as possible - where they have access to the opportunities that others their age have.

We welcome referrals from young people, parents and carers as well as professionals.

Visit our website to find out more and access our referral form - scan the QR code.

What is a young carer?
Young carers are children and young people, who help with practical or emotional tasks at home. This may be because someone in their family has a disability, a long term illness, experiences mental ill health or has a problem linked to alcohol or drugs.

It may be that the young person helps with:

- getting a family member dressed or washed,
- reminding them or taking them to appointments,
- taking care of young brothers or sisters or family members,
- help with household tasks e.g. cooking, cleaning, washing, shopping and paying bills,
- collecting prescriptions or helping the person you look after to take medication...

Every young carer's life looks different but helping to care in such a way often means that they might miss out on other opportunities. They may feel that they don't have enough time for themselves, friendships, homework or out of school activities.

How we help
All young carers that are referred benefit from an assessment to identify what support we can help them with, based on their individual situation.

Support may include a personal support plan (following their Young Carer Needs Assessment) 1:1 support sessions, whole family support, opportunities to meet other young carers, support with school or college, and signposting to other services, information and advice that could be helpful for the individual young person and family.

Who are Family Action?
Family Action is an award-winning national charity that works from the heart of local communities to support people through change, challenge and crisis.

We protect children, support young people and offer direct, practical help to families. It's what we've done for over 50 years.

Contact us: Young Carers Cumberland

Click here to email us Or call us on 01228 474071 family-action.org.uk

family action

Parent Carers Cumberland

Promoting and improving the opportunities for parent carers in Cumberland.

We work with parent carers (a parent or other primary caregiver who provides ongoing substantial support and care to a child or young person with additional needs) in Cumberland to help them to access the right support at the right time. The child or children may have mental health concerns, be ill or disabled. The child may be over 18.

How we help
All parent carers benefit from an assessment to identify what support is needed based on their individual situation.

Support includes:

- a personal Parent Carer assessment - linked to wellbeing principles,
- a bespoke support plan, planning for needs identified,
- further referrals where needed (i.e. to Social Care)
- support to access peer groups in Cumberland
- signposting to other services, information and advice that could be helpful.

We work closely with Parent Carers to ensure their voices - as well as those of their children - are heard.

Are you a Parent Carer?
Parent carers are primary caregivers who care for a child or children, that requires substantial support and care.

Not all parents are classed as 'parent carers'. Parent carers are those with parental responsibility who provide regular, unpaid care for their child beyond the typical parenting role.

This may be because the child:

- has a disability,
- a long term illness,
- experiences mental ill health, or
- has a problem linked to alcohol or drugs.

The child does not need to be under 18 years of age.

Every parent carer's life looks different, but you may be frustrated and not knowing where to turn as well as feeling increasingly isolated.

If you believe you might be a Parent Carer, you may be able to benefit from our support.

Contact us:

Click here to email us Or call us on 01228 474071 family-action.org.uk

Contact us or click on - or scan - the QR code to visit our website. We accept self-referrals.

Our weekly celebrations



Headteacher Award

Ava H

Learners of the week

Great Gable- Tilly

Melbreak- Tommy

Catbells- Mia

Scafell- Beau

Skiddaw- Dan

Handwriters of the week

Skyla, Zack, Omar and Emma

Achievements outside of school

Rowan, Sonny and Esther



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




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



SCAN ME

happierhealthiercommunities.

NCIC/E-SN/Poster/A01/022021 | APPENDIX 02

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 Scafell classroom which is around the back of school.

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.

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.



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

School Lunch Menu



AUTUMN WEEK 1				
MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Margherita Pizza or Vegetable Noodles with Naan Bread Peas Syrup Sponge & Custard Fruit	Chicken or Quorn Nuggets, Potato Waffles and Beans or Minced Beef & Potato Pie with Broccoli Anzac Biscuit Fruit	Beef Meatballs, Mashed Potato with Carrots and Gravy or Roast Salmon, New Potatoes, Green Beans & Tomato Ketchup Chocolate Mousse Pot Fruit	Fishcakes, Potato Wedges with Tomato Ketchup or Beef Lasagne Fruity Jelly or Yoghurt	Tomato Pasta & Garlic Bread with Peas or Lamb Burger, Roast Potatoes and Spaghetti Hoops Flapjack Fruit

Upcoming diary dates



Monday 21st September 2.45pm- Year 2 curriculum meeting (for parents new to Year 2)

Tuesday 22nd September 2.45pm- Year 1 curriculum meeting (for parents new to Year 1)

Friday 25th September- Macmillan Coffee morning/afternoon

10.30am- Parents of Nursery and Reception children

2.30pm- Parents of Year 1 and 2 children

Monday 5th October 2pm- Prospective Nursery new starters open afternoon

5pm- Prospective Nursery and Reception parents Open Evening

Wednesday 7th October 2pm Prospective Reception new starters open afternoon

Tuesday 6th October 10.30am - Harvest Service in church

Tuesday 13th October- Parents Evening and Reception stay and play

Wednesday 14th October- Individual school photos

Nursery stay and play

Parents Evening

Monday 19th October- Full Governing Body meeting

Tuesday 20th October- Whitehaven STEM event at Whitehaven Academy- Year 2

Thursday 22nd October- Fancy dress parties (optional attendance)

Early Years children- 4-5pm

Year 1 and 2- 5-6pm

***** OCTOBER HALF TERM

Friday 6th November 10.30am- Remembrance Service for Year 1 and 2 in church

Monday 15th November- Road Safety Week

Friday 20th November- Children In Need

Monday 30th November- Snow White pantomime at the Carnegie Theatre

Friday 4th December 2pm- Christmas Fayre

Monday 7th December- Early Years Nativities (9.30am and 2.30pm)

Tuesday 8th December- Year 1 and 2 Nativities (9.30am and 2pm)

Tuesday 15th December- New nursery home visits

Wednesday 16th December- Christmas jumper day, Christmas dinner and Christmas party

Friday 19th December- Christmas carol service in church

Break up for the Christmas holidays

**Please note further dates will be added as they arise throughout the autumn 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

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