

# St James' Church of England Infant and Nursery School

## 2nd October 2026



We have enjoyed another busy week of learning across the school. On Monday afternoon, we welcomed Mrs Todhunter, Headteacher of our Junior School, who spent time touring St James' to see first-hand how our school operates and to learn more about the experiences we provide for our children.

In Nursery, children have been fully immersed in counting songs and have been enjoying their focus text, *You Choose Fairy Tales*. They have also been learning about thunderstorms and the different sounds associated with them, whilst exploring the tradition of celebrating birthdays and why these special occasions are important to families and communities.

Reception children have continued their work on comparison, turning their attention this week to comparing mass. As part of their science learning, they have been exploring the sense of hearing. They were also delighted to welcome two very special visitors, baby Goldie and baby Vinnie. A huge thank you to Cece's mum and Carson-Jaxx's mum for taking the time to visit and talk to the children about caring for babies.

In Years 1 and 2, geography learning has focused on creating simple bird's-eye-view maps and using matching keys. In Design and Technology, pupils have been developing their understanding of moving mechanisms by designing and making slider products.

Today, we welcomed our School Improvement Consultant for his termly visit. During his time in school, he observed learning across classrooms and recognised the strong sense of consistency throughout the school, the pride taken in our learning environment and, most importantly, the way staff place children at the heart of everything they do.

Have a wonderful weekend,

Mrs Moore






Frida Kahlo



## Parent's Evenings




We are holding our Year 1 and Year 2 Parent's Evenings on 13th and 14th October from 3.30pm-5.30pm. We have a new booking system for you to be able to book a slot to see your class teacher. You should have received an email this week inviting you to set up a password for a Juniper account. Next week you will be able to book your appointment. **Bookings open on Monday 5th October and close on Sunday 11th October**. You should also receive an email on Monday with a link to book. If you have any problems, please speak to Mrs Brown in the school office. Please bear with us as this is a new system for us too. We can only offer one appointment per child due to time constraints. If this is a problem please see the class teacher. Any duplicate appointments made may be cancelled by the school.

Parents of children in Nursery and Reception will be able to book a Stay and Play session. These will take place on the same days and could you pick a session to attend. This is a great opportunity to see your child in their classroom environment with an opportunity to speak to the teacher whilst you play! Timetables will be put on the classroom door next week for you to pop your name down.

## Year 2 Bassenfell Manor Visit



The Year 2 children will be going to Bassenfell Manor on Friday next week. The children should bring a packed lunch and water bottle. They should wear their uniform tops but appropriate trousers and shoes for outdoor activities. Please ensure that they have a coat too. The children will leave after registers and be back in time for home-time.

## Harvest Service in church




We are delighted to be holding our annual Harvest Celebration Service at St James' Church next week on **Tuesday 6th October at 10:30am**, alongside our friends from the junior school. Children in **Reception, Year 1 and Year 2** will be taking part in the service, while Nursery children will remain in school. Parents and carers are warmly invited to join us, the service will last for approximately 30 minutes. The service provides an opportunity for the children to come together to give thanks for the harvest through songs, prayers and readings, while reflecting on the importance of gratitude and helping others. As part of our celebrations, we will also be collecting donations for the local **Food Bank Harvest Appeal**. Please see the poster below for suggested items to donate. Thank you for your support and generosity.



## Fancy Dress Disco



We will once again be holding our spooky fancy dress parties this month. They will take place on  Thursday 22nd October. Early Years will be 4pm-5pm and Key Stage 1 will be 5pm-6pm.  Virtual tickets will be available to buy on SchoolMoney from next week for £4.00. It will be a party of fun and games with hot dogs and drinks for refreshments. Children can be dropped off at their appropriate time and collected afterwards.  For those children attending the After School Club, just bring in their costumes and we will ensure they are dressed ready for their party.

## Playground Equipment



Can we please request parent's help in asking the children not to play with our bikes and other equipment before and after school. The staff spend a lot of time tidying up at the end of the day and we would love to keep our grounds safe and tidy and we don't want any accidents when staff aren't available for first aid etc.

## Half-Price Theatre Tickets for Families!



We are delighted to be working in partnership with Rosehill Theatre to offer St James' families **half-price tickets** for *Gaby Gulliver's Travels* during the October half-term holiday- Monday 26th October at 2pm. Thanks to this special arrangement, tickets are available for just **£6 per person** instead of the usual **£12**. This exciting family show is **recommended for children aged 5+** and promises a fun-filled adventure for all ages. A limited number of discounted tickets have been reserved for our school, so please book your tickets via **School Money** to secure your places. We hope many of our families will take advantage of this fantastic opportunity to enjoy live theatre at a reduced price!

For further information please visit: [Gaby Gulliver's Travels | Rosehill]

## Whitehaven Family Hub

BEST START IN LIFE

What's on at the Family Hub on the Harbour and Whitehaven area
Tuesday 1st September to Friday 18th December 2026

Cumberland Family Hub

| Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Sensory Room** (Bookable)<br><br>**Howgill Babbling Babies**<br>10:00am - 11:00am<br><br>**#Coffee & Craic**<br>2:00pm - 5:00pm<br><br>**Family Hub Hangout 11+**<br>4:00pm - 6:00pm | **Sensory Room** (Bookable)<br><br>**Baby Buddies**<br>9:30am - 10:30am<br><br>**Weaning Workshop**<br>10:30am - 11:30am<br>**Bookable**<br>(22nd September only)<br><br>**Play Space**<br>1:00pm - 3:00pm<br><br>**Home Education Chess Club**<br>1:00pm - 2:30pm<br>(8th September 13th October) | **Sensory Room** (Bookable)<br><br>**Childminders Drop In**<br>10:00am - 11:30am<br>(21st October)<br><br>**Benefits & Employment Drop in**<br>10:30am - 11:30am<br><br>**Little Learners**<br>1:00pm - 2:30pm | **Sensory Room** (Bookable)<br><br>**Together We Sling Library**<br>11:30am - 1:30pm<br>(3rd & 17th September, 1st & 15th October, 5th & 19th November, 3rd & 17th December) | **Sensory Room** (Bookable)<br><br>**Play Space**<br>10:00am - 12:00pm<br><br>**Family Hub Cuppa & Chat**<br>1:00pm - 3:00pm<br><br>**Play Space**<br>1:00pm - 3:00pm |
| **Play Space**<br>**@ Valley Family Hub**<br>9:30am - 11:30am<br><br>**Baby Buddies**<br>**@ Valley Family Hub**<br>1:30pm - 2:30pm | **Infant Massage**<br>**@ Valley Family Hub**<br>**Bookable**<br>10:00am - 11:30am<br>(6th October to 3rd November) | **Baby Buddies**<br>**@ Egremont Family Hub**<br>10:30am - 11:30am<br><br>**Little Strollers**<br>**@ Egremont Family Hub**<br>11:30am - 12:30pm | **Little Storytellers**<br>**@ Egremont Family Hub**<br>1:00pm - 2:30pm | |

Family Hub on the Harbour, Swingpump Lane, Whitehaven, CA28 7LZ  Call Us: 01946 506 378
Email: familyhub.whitehaven@cumberland.gov.uk Follow us on Facebook/Instagram: @CumberlandFamilyHubs

**Sensory Room:** A calm and engaging space designed to stimulate senses through light, sound, texture and movement. Suitable for ages 0-19 (25 with SEND). **Please contact the Family Hub to book.**

**Play Space:** A parent led drop-in session where parent/carers are encouraged to play and interact with your child/ren in a friendly environment. Suitable for children 0-5 years.

**Baby Buddies:** An interactive group for bumps and babies 0-12 months and their parent/carers.

**Weaning Workshop:** Join us for a friendly session to help parents and carers feel confident as their baby begins the journey onto solid foods.

**Infant Massage:** An opportunity to help you to learn the techniques of baby massage and the benefits to your baby. Suitable from 6 weeks - mobile. **Please contact the Family Hub to book.**

**Little Learners:** Opportunity for children to play and learn together aged 1-4 years. Regular workshop sessions will be held focusing on eating, dental health, toileting and more.

**Family Hub Cuppa & Chat:** Family Hub Cuppa & Chat: A friendly drop in for parents and carers to chat about parenting, family life and any worries you have. Come and find out what support is available from your local Family Hub.

**Family Hub Hangout 11 +:** Family Hub Hangout 11+: A drop-in session for children and young people aged 11+ in a relaxed space to socialise, take part in activities and develop new skills. Come along to talk to the Family Hub team to get information or support on things that matter to you.

**Benefits & Employment Drop In:** Offering support on finances, benefits, employment and getting back to work.

**Howgill Babbling Babies:** Ran by Howgill - A drop in session with stories, rhymes and activities. From birth to active walking.

**Together We Sling Library:** Support for parents to carry their child with different types of carriers and slings.

**#CoffeeandCraic:** A drop in session for care experienced young people to speak to a Personal Adviser and access support from other organisations.

**Home Education Chess Club:** Join our friendly and welcoming club for home educated children and young people.

**Childminders Drop In:** Join us for our Childminders Drop-In session at the Family Hub. This is a welcoming space for childminders to meet, network, share ideas, and access information about local services and support.

**Valley Family Hub -** Whinlatter Road, Whitehaven, CA28 8DA

**Egremont Family Hub -** Southey Avenue, Egremont, CA22 2HH

## Starting School in 2027




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

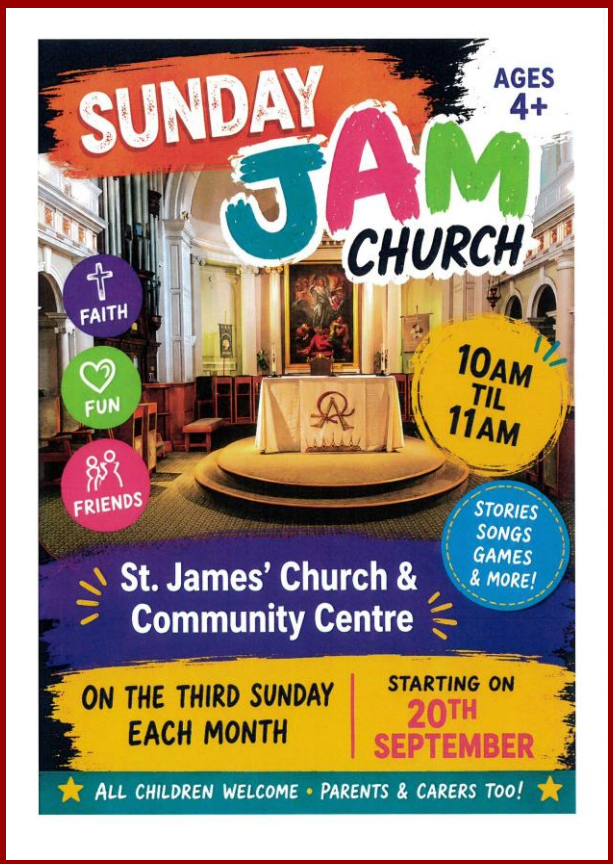
For anyone who does not already attend our school but would like their child to start next year in either Nursery or Reception we have arranged some Open afternoons and an Open Evening. Please note that if your child already attends our school you do not need to come to these. Please pass these dates 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
Open Afternoon
Monday 5th 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


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
APPLY ONLINE AT
www.cumberland.gov.uk/schools-and-education
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**
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"Choose the Right Path"

## Church and Community Events



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 18 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.

**Referrals**

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, 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 150 years.

Contact us: Young Carers Cumberland

Click here to email us | Or call us, on 01228 474171 | family-action.org.uk

family action

# Parent Carers Cumberland

**Promoting and improving the opportunities for parent carers in Cumberland.**



family-action.org.uk

## Who are Parent Carers 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.

**Contact us:**

Click here to email us

Or call us, on 01228 474171

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

Cumbria **Fostering**




Find out about

# fostering?

## ...and how you can change children's lives

Come along to our information drop in at **Workington Library** on **Wednesday 14 October between 1pm and 2pm**. Speak to our friendly team and foster carers and start your journey.

**0300 019 0200**

**cumbriafostering.org.uk**

Cumberland Council | Westmorland & Furness Council

Working for **Cumberland Council** and **Westmorland & Furness Council**

## Our weekly celebrations



**Headteacher Award**

Georgie

**Learners of the week**

Great Gable- Brandon

Melbreak- Sonny

Catbells- Nero

Scafell- Blake

Skiddaw-  James

**Handwriters of the week**

Reuben, Reggie C, Esther and Max

**Achievements outside of school**

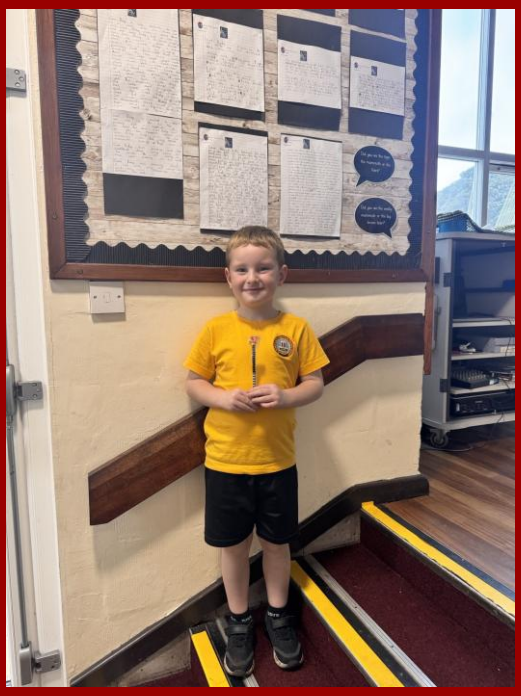
Penny, Lowe, Delilah and Bodhi S



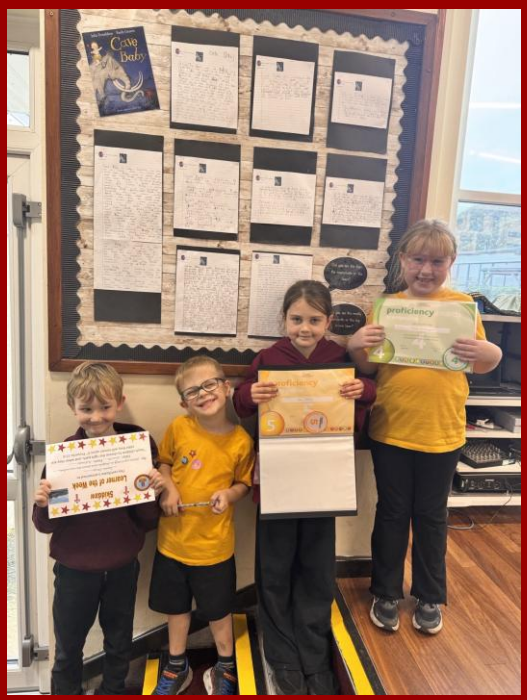




Science
Seasonal Change
Catbells
Learner of the Week




The Journey Home
Monday
Tuesday
Wednesday
Thursday
Friday
Saturday
Sunday
Scafell
Learner of the Week


Cave Baby
proficiency

Cumbria Safeguarding Children Partnership

CSCP



# If you SEE something... SAY something!

Are you concerned about a child or family?

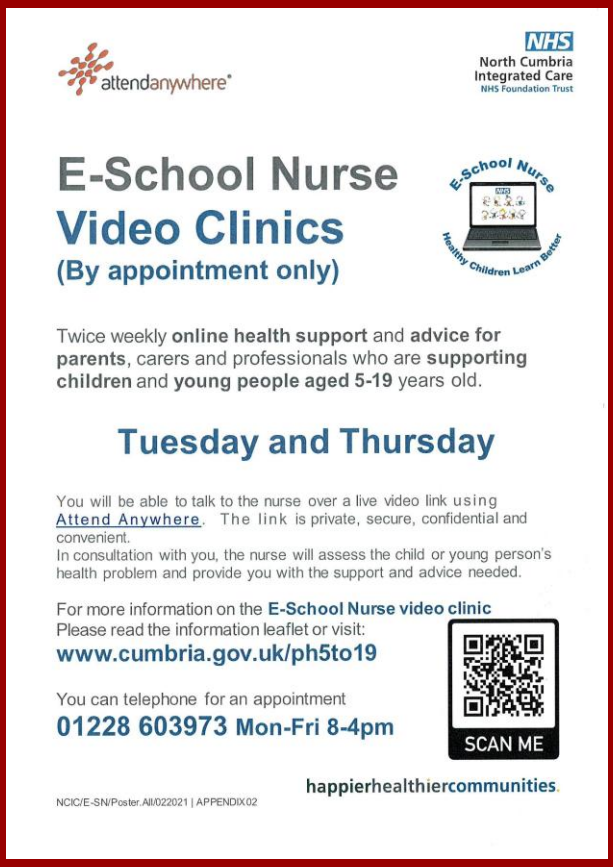
If you **see** or hear something that worries you...
**say** something!

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




## 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.

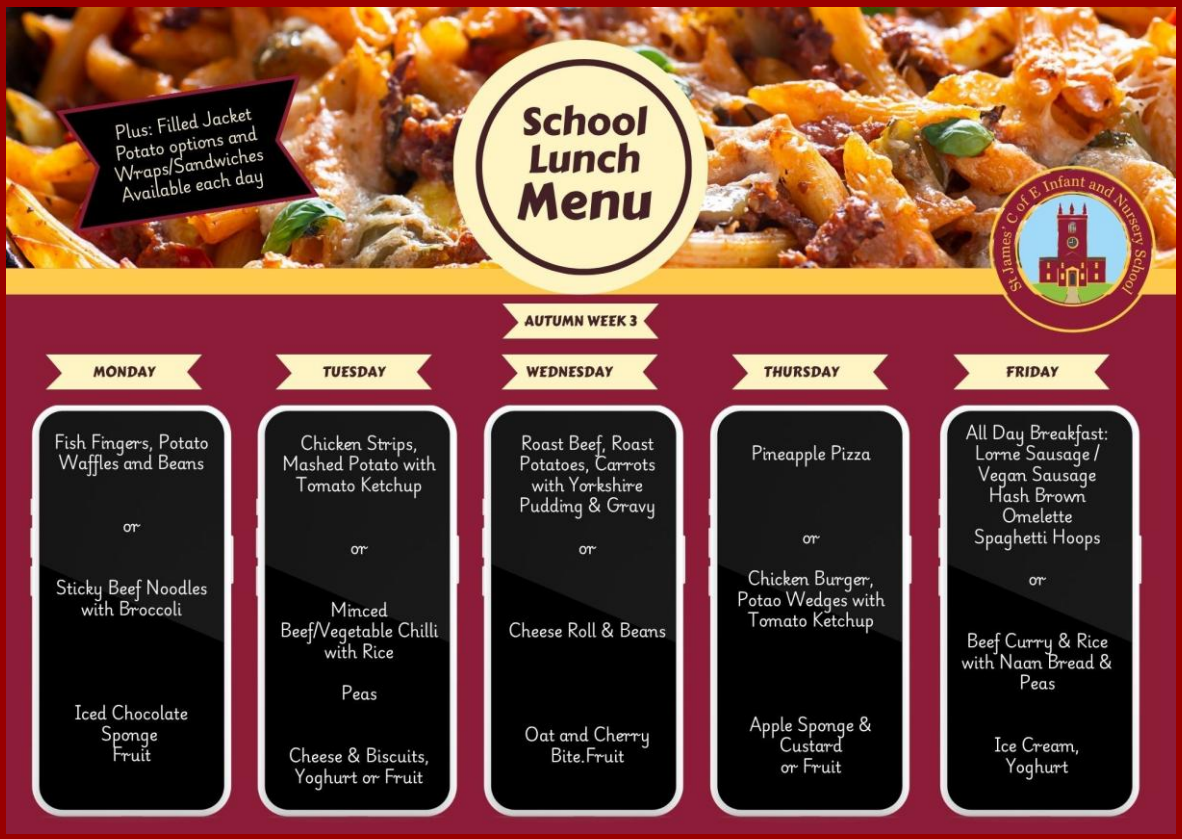
**Activities**

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.



## Upcoming diary dates




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