

St James' Church of England Infant and Nursery School

23rd October 2026



As we reach the end of the first half of the Autumn Term, I would like to thank all of our children, families and staff for a fantastic start to the year. I have been incredibly pleased with how well the children have settled into their new classes and routines. They have shown great resilience, enthusiasm and, most importantly, our current Christian value of **Courage**, embracing new challenges and opportunities with confidence.

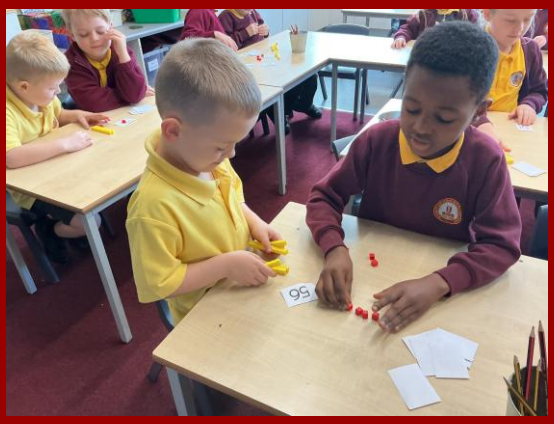
Our Nursery children have been busy reciting the poem *Wash Your Hands*, creating wonderful collage self-portraits and developing their understanding of the seasons through sorting different types of clothing. It has been lovely to see their confidence and independence growing each week. In Reception, the children have continued to enjoy their focus story, *Anansi the Spider*. They showed great creativity when designing "lost" posters for Anansi and have been learning about their senses in Science, with a particular focus on smell. They have also demonstrated impressive observational skills whilst creating portraits of their friends, carefully replicating their features. This week has been a checkpoint week for Year 1 and Year 2, providing opportunities to revisit and assess learning from across the half term. The children have been immersed in the beautiful text *We Are Water Protectors* and have shown great understanding and engagement during their discussions. In Maths, they have been representing numbers using tens and ones, whilst in RE they have been sorting stories from the Old and New Testament.

After a well-deserved half-term break, we return to school on **Monday 2nd November**. We have an exciting term ahead, including STEM experiences, additional outdoor learning opportunities, a visit to Levels for our Year 1 and 2 children and the beginning of preparations for our Nativity performances. It promises to be a busy and memorable few weeks!

Have a wonderful week,

Mrs Moore







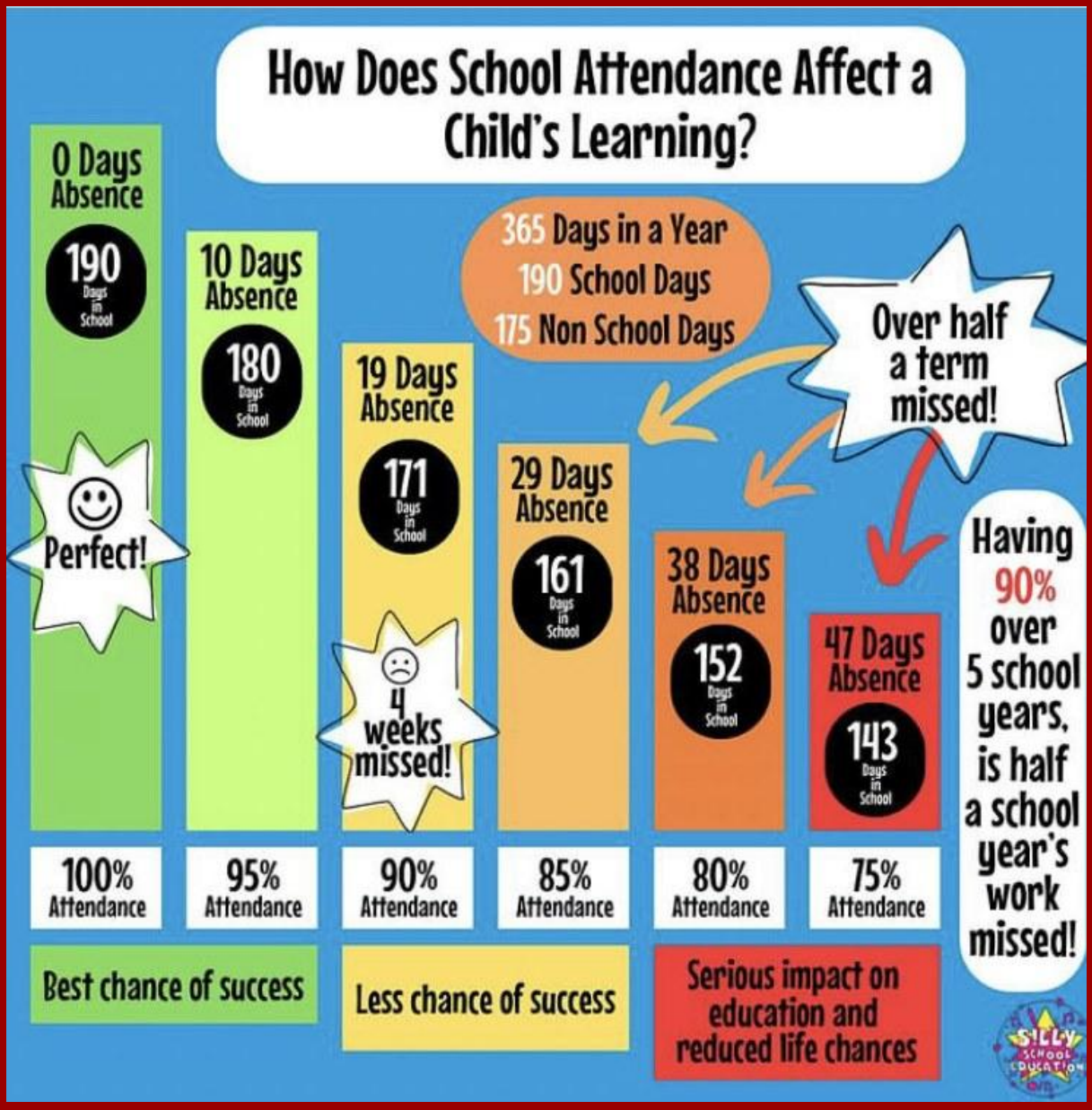
Parent Teacher Association



We are delighted that one of our parents has expressed an interest in establishing a new and active PTA for our school. A PTA can play an important role in supporting fundraising activities, helping at school events and bringing our school community together.

If you would be interested in being part of this exciting group and attending our first meeting, please email the school office at **admin@st-james-inf.cumbria.sch.uk**. We would love to hear from you.

Nursery attendance appeal



We would also like to ask for your support with Nursery attendance. We have noticed that 8 out of the 10 children currently classed as **persistently absent (below 90%)** are of Nursery age. Developing good attendance habits from the very beginning of a child's education is extremely important and helps children make the most of the opportunities available to them. We understand that there are occasions when children are unwell, but we kindly ask families to ensure children attend whenever possible. Nursery staffing ratios are calculated based on the places allocated for each session and regular attendance helps children build friendships, establish routines and make the best possible progress in their learning.

We hope you all have a wonderful half-term break and look forward to welcoming everyone back refreshed and ready for another exciting half term at St James'.

School Council Meeting



Following a recent meeting with Mrs King, our School Council discussed ways that we can help people in our local community who may have less than others. The children shared some thoughtful ideas and one suggestion stood out in particular: rather than collecting donations for the Food Bank only at Harvest time, why not support it throughout the whole year? We were so impressed with this idea that we have decided to put it into action. A Food Bank Collection Point will now be available in our main entrance, making it easy for families to donate whenever they can. To help maintain a steady flow of donations, we will introduce a different focus item each month. We are incredibly proud of our School Council for showing such compassion, leadership and commitment to helping others.



Black History Month



As part of Black History Month, our Year 1 and Year 2 children have been learning about individuals who have helped to bring about positive change. The children refreshed their knowledge of the story of Rosa Parks before learning about the life and achievements of Martin Luther King Jr. and our local trailblazer, John Kent, Cumbria's first Black police officer. Through assemblies led by Mrs Butterworth and Mrs Cocksedge, the children explored how our Christian values of respect, courage, dignity and justice can help us to make a positive difference today. The children were shocked to learn how unfairly people were treated in the past and had some thoughtful discussions about the importance of treating everyone with kindness, fairness and respect.





Reception visit to Stocks Wood

As part of their learning about woodland habitats and their autumn topic, Reception children will be visiting Stocks Wood on **Friday 13 November**. This exciting outdoor learning experience will give the children the opportunity to explore seasonal changes and observe woodland wildlife in its natural environment. Further details will be shared in a letter shortly, but children should come dressed in their **school jumper**, with **joggers or leggings suitable for outdoor activities**, and **wellies**. We are looking forward to a wonderful day of autumn exploration! 🍂🌳

Funding Needed to Unlock Our New Nature Area

As many of you will be aware, we have been working with the council to secure a lease for the area of land adjacent to our nursery. Our aim is to expand our outdoor green space and create a dedicated nature area where children can enjoy Forest School experiences, outdoor learning and opportunities to connect with the natural world.

This has been a lengthy process, involving extensive discussions and legal work to establish a lease agreement. We are delighted that we are now nearing the end of the process and are one step closer to bringing this exciting vision to life.

In order to make use of the land, we need to either relocate our existing boundary fence or install a new one. To date, we have obtained two quotations for moving and reinstating the current fence, with the lowest quote coming in at approximately £13,000. As a small school with limited financial resources, this cost is unfortunately beyond our current budget.

We are therefore seeking support. If anyone is aware of grant funding opportunities, charitable organisations, local businesses or community groups that may be able to help us fund this project, we would be incredibly grateful to hear from you.

This development would provide a valuable outdoor learning environment for our children for many years to come, supporting their wellbeing, curiosity, creativity and appreciation of the natural world. Any support in helping us achieve this vision would be greatly appreciated.

Joiner wanted please



We have a small maintenance job and wondered if anyone could help. We have two wooden doors in our photocopying room that need rehanging. They have come off the runners/sliding mechanism and are no longer operating correctly.

If you are able to help, or know someone who may be able to assist, please could you contact the school office.

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







Storysacks and craft after school club



We're delighted to be offering another round of our popular **Storysacks and Craft Club**, delivered by **Whitehaven Library Service**.

The sessions will run every **Tuesday from 3 November to 8 December** (six weeks) from **3.15pm to 4.15pm**.

Each session will include a storytelling activity followed by a craft linked to the story, providing children with a fun and engaging opportunity to develop their love of books, creativity and imagination.

Parents and carers are very welcome to stay and enjoy the sessions with their child if they wish; however, parent attendance is entirely optional.

Places can be booked via School Money. We look forward to welcoming lots of children to this exciting after-school club.





Remembrance Service for Year 1 and 2

Year 1 and 2 will be leading our annual Remembrance Service in St James Church on **Friday 6th November at 10.30am.** Year 1 and 2 parents are welcome to join us as we remember and pay tribute to those that sacrificed so much.

We will once again be selling poppies and other items in aid of the Royal British Legion when we return after half term. Our School Councillors will be taking the collection box round the classes each day in the run up to Remembrance Day. If your child would like to buy a poppy, wristband, cross, zip tag etc, they should bring in their money to class.

Children In Need



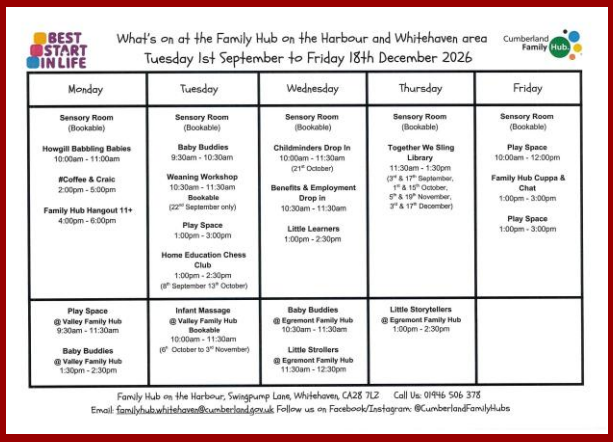
BBC Children in Need is a charity that supports children across the UK who face challenges such as mental health, poverty and inequality. We will be getting involved by fundraising on Friday 13th November. The children are welcome to come to school dressed up, they can choose whatever theme they like and be creative in exchange for a £1 donation. Yellow and spotty outfits or pyjamas and onesies tend to be the firm favourites! Please visit Dress Up Ideas - BBC Children in Need for inspirational ideas.

Battery Recycling



We have a battery recycling box in the school office. If you would like to recycle your used batteries please hand them into the school office. Please note this is for household batteries only. We have arranged a collection for next half term.

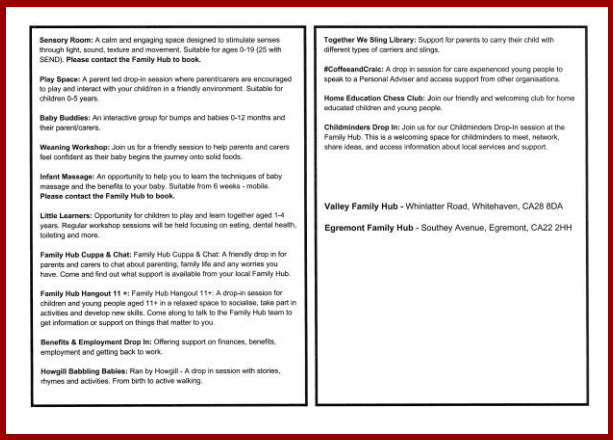
Whitehaven Family Hub



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

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

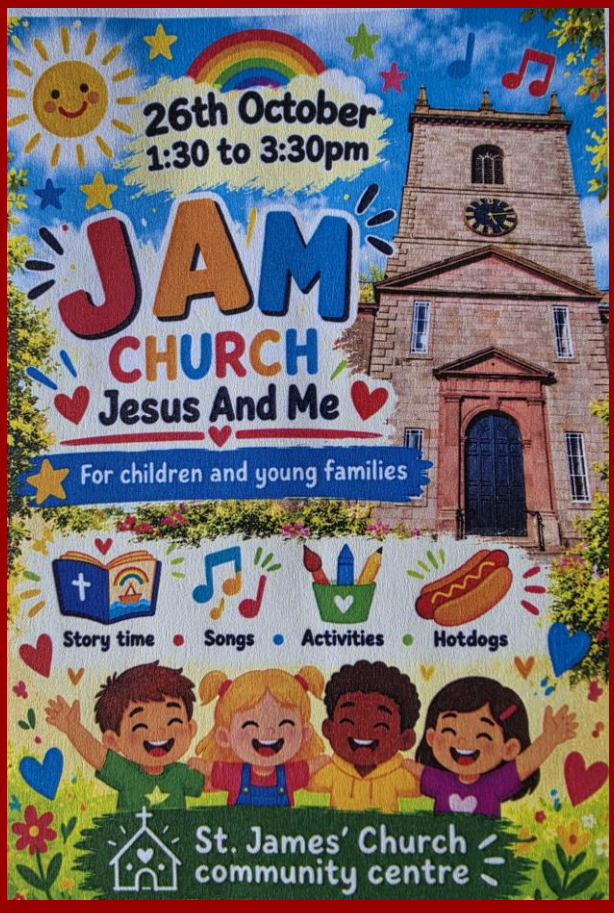
Childminders Drop In: Join us for our Childminders Drop-In session at the Family Hub. This is a welcoming space for childminders to meet, network, share ideas, and access information about local services and support.

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

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

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

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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

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


CARLISLE UNITED FOOTBALL CLUB
COMMUNITY SPORTS TRUST
HOLIDAY
ACTIVITIES
LOCATIONS:
Carlisle (Football & Gym and Dance)
Penrith (Football only)
Maryport (Football only)
Ages 5-13
27 - 30 October
BOOK NOW VIA ABLER:
For further information
Email: Sam.Tickner@carlisleunitedcst.co.uk or Phone:
01228 554169


HAVEN WARRIORS
SQUAD BUILDER
RAISING FUNDS TO BUILD A STRONGER
SQUAD FOR WHITEHAVEN RLFC
HALLOWEEN
PARTY
GHOSTED BY TONY PEARCE
SPOOKY FUN FOR EVERYONE!
DATE
FRIDAY
30TH OCT
TIME
STARTS
4PM
FINISHES 7PM
ADULTS
FREE!
KIDS
£5
FOOD & DRINK
INCLUDED!
FOOD & DRINK
AVAILABLE TO BUY
GAMES | TREATS | MUSIC | FUN & PRIZES
COME IN YOUR BEST COSTUME!
ALL WELCOME – KIDS, FAMILIES & SUPPORTERS
ALL PROCEEDS GO TOWARDS
BUILDING A STRONGER SQUAD FOR
WHITEHAVEN RLFC
TOGETHER WE ARE HAVEN

Our weekly celebrations



Headteacher Award

Cleo

Learners of the week

Great Gable- Ayla

Melbreak- Paige

Catbells- Daisy

Scafell- Ezra

Skiddaw- Georgie

Handwriters of the week

Ruby, Bodhi S, Sonny and Edie

Achievements outside of school

Blake, Noah, Sam and Sonny


Mutual Respect
Tolerance
Individual Liberty
Tolerance of those with different faiths
Mutual Respect
Individual Liberty


Great Gable
Learner of the Week
This certificate is presented to
for
Date:
Signed:
"Teach children to choose the right path, and when they are older they will remain upon it" Proverbs 22:6


Mutual Respect
Individual Liberty
Mutual Respect
Individual Liberty


Mutual Respect
Individual Liberty


Mutual Respect
Tolerance
Learn to Swim
Learn to Swim


Mutual Respect
Tolerance
HEAD TEACHER'S AWARD

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

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

You can telephone for an appointment
01228 603973 Mon-Fri 8-4pm

SCAN ME

happierhealthiercommunities.

NCIC/E-SN/Poster.All/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.



Upcoming diary dates



********** ****OCTOBER HALF TERM**********

Wednesday 4th November- Year 1 and 2 Moving Pictures Mechanisms workshop with Rosehill Theatre (in school)

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

Monday 15th November- Road Safety Week

Tuesday 17th November- Skiddaw and Catbells Great Fire of London immersive cinema experience at Levels

Wednesday 18th November- Scafell Great Fire of London immersive cinema experience at Levels

Thursday 19th November- Year 1 and 2 Pyjama Drama Road Safety workshop

Friday 20th November- Children In Need- non uniform (see above)

Thursday 26th November- Nursery and Reception STEM workshops led by Sellafield Education Outreach Team

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