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Headteacher: Mr. Leigh Andrews

## Newsletter

Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> January 2025

Dear Parents/Carers,

The term races on and we have already packed a lot into January. It has been great to take children out to a swimming gala and to a cricket event. All children loved the events, gave it their best and were fantastic ambassadors for our school. Years 3 – 6 were very excited this week to begin our involvement in a local project to increase biodiversity levels at 'Farlands' near Little Salkeld. They are looking forward to returning over the coming months to learn more about the project and to assist with tree planting, seed dispersing and dam building, all to encourage native plants, insects and animals to the area. The children showed a real mature side last Friday as we were hit by Storm Eowyn. Thank you for your patience with the uncertainty – school operated pretty much as normal. I know that many of you were affected with damage, loss of power and water. I hope everything has been resolved and that you are back into normal routines.

Next week is **Children's Mental Health Week (3-9<sup>th</sup> February)** and the theme is 'Know yourself, Grow Yourself'. Classes will do short activities during the week to increase self-awareness, understanding of emotions, similarities and differences, likes and dislikes etc. This will be linked to forming strong relationships and being equipped for life's challenges. Lots of resources link to the well-known Disney film, Inside Out. The following link has some information and activities for families <https://www.childrensmentalhealthweek.org.uk/families/>

**Eden Valley Sports Partnership** – We have already been making the most of the partnership. There are a number of events each month until the end of the summer term (detailed below). It is fantastic for the children to be able to access the events and try sports alongside and against children from across Cumbria. I know how much this is valued by parents and we are extremely grateful to our parent helpers/drivers. Without you, the events are very hard to attend. I am trying to forward plan and we will be looking to share buses with other schools or hire a minibus/The Fellrunner where possible.

**Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> February** – Y5/6 Dodgeball afternoon. Kirkby Stephen Grammar School.

**Friday 14<sup>th</sup> February** – Y3/4 Multisport event morning. UCC.

**Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> February** – Y3-6 Try Lacrosse afternoon. Kirkby Stephen Grammar School.

**Friday 7<sup>th</sup> March** – Biggest ever girls football session afternoon. Kirkby Stephen Grammar School.

**Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> April** – Year 3-6 Tag Rugby afternoon. Frenchfields.

**Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> May** – Year 2 Tag Rugby afternoon. Penrith Leisure Centre.

**Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> May** – Y3/4 Tennis afternoon. Penrith Tennis Club.

**Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> June** – Y5/6 Cricket Morning. Penrith Cricket Club.

**Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> June** – Y1/2 Multi-Sport afternoon. Kirkby Stephen Grammar School.

**Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> July** – Y3/4 Cricket morning. Penrith Cricket Club.

**Friday 11<sup>th</sup> July** – Fell Walk (Askham Fell) Age groups TBC.

Please note, we will endeavour to enter as many of these events as we can, depending on many factors in school! These are all provisional as it stands. If you are able to help with any of the dates at all, please contact Myself or Danielle. Many thanks.



**Harry Potter Club** – I don't know who has enjoyed it more – me or the young wizards and witches! We have two weeks left (Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> February). After half-term, I will be running a revision club for the Year 6 children.

**Donations** – We are developing an outside creative play area and enhancing our playground resources to foster children's collaboration, creativity and imagination! We would really appreciate any donations of small world toys, figures, dinosaurs, tractors/diggers. Please contact myself or Danielle for donations.

**Dates for the diary:**

**Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> February - Safer Internet Day.** Activities in school.

**Monday 17<sup>th</sup> February – Friday 21<sup>st</sup> February – Half-Term Holiday**

**Monday 24<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> February 2025 – Parents' Evenings.**

**Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> February – Parent meeting for Edinburgh Residential (3:40pm)**

**Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> March – Spring Clean (am) LET US KNOW IF YOU CAN HELP!**

**Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> March - World Book Day.** Details to follow.

**Monday 10<sup>th</sup> – Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> March - Carlisle Music Festival.** Details to follow

**Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> March – Spring/Easter Celebration.** 2pm at The Chapel.

**Friday 21<sup>st</sup> March - Comic Relief – Red Nose Day.** Details to follow

**Monday 24<sup>th</sup> – Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> March.** Class 3 residential to Edinburgh.

**Friday 4<sup>th</sup> April – School closes for Easter holidays.**

**Free School Meals** – I have been asked to share the following information by the council. Please don't hesitate to contact them/us with any questions.



**Is your child aged 4-18...if so they may qualify for extra funding for their school and for you!**

**Applying NOW for Free School Meals** funding means you also get:

- Vouchers for clothing
- Help towards schools trips
- Free holiday clubs!

Even if your child gets free universal school meals in Key Stage One, you STILL NEED to apply for the EXTRA help for clothing etc!

**You should apply if you receive:**

- Universal Credit
- Child Tax Credit
- Income support or Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Guarantee Pension Credit
- National Asylum Support Service (NASS)

**We want to hear from you.**

If you have any questions or need support to apply, get in touch with our friendly team by: ringing 0300 373 3300 and choose option 2 or email: [FSM.ClothingGrants@westmorlandandfurness.gov.uk](mailto:FSM.ClothingGrants@westmorlandandfurness.gov.uk)






As always, please don't hesitate to contact the team with any queries or feedback.

Yours sincerely,

Mr L. Andrews  
Headteacher

Forgiveness