



Kirkoswald C of E School  
Kirkoswald  
Penrith  
Cumbria  
CA10 1EN

Telephone: 01768 898461  
Email: [admin@kirkoswald.cumbria.sch.uk](mailto:admin@kirkoswald.cumbria.sch.uk)  
[www.kirkoswald.cumbria.sch.uk](http://www.kirkoswald.cumbria.sch.uk)



Headteacher: Mr. Leigh Andrews

## Newsletter

Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> February 2025

Dear Parents/Carers,

I have some thanks to pass on! Thank you to all of the parents who attended the Class 1 Reading Workshop this week. It was great to see so many parents involved. Thanks to those who have donated quality cars, diggers, dinosaurs, figures etc for our creative outdoor play areas. The children have already been making the most of them at break times. Lastly, thank you also to the parents who have signed up to volunteer at the events below. We are very grateful for the much-needed help! Please note, some events we require drivers, whilst some we would appreciate helpers to come along on a hired bus with a member of staff. If you would like to be added to the list, please do get in touch.

**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.

**Date Change** – We have a clash for our Easter/Spring Celebration and will have to unfortunately change the date to Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> April – 2pm at The Chapel. Apologies for the inconvenience.

**Attendance – Every Day Counts.** Historically, at Kirkoswald CE Primary School, staff have endeavoured to be as reasonable as possible where occasional, one-off term time absences are concerned but, as you are aware, there has been a change in the government's position on such absences during term time for those in statutory education and this has affected my ability to authorise them. The Department for Education allows a Head Teacher the discretion to consider authorising a leave of absence in term time, only in 'exceptional circumstances'. This is monitored closely by our Local authority Attendance Officer on a half-termly basis. We are having more requests for term time absences which would not be deemed 'exceptional circumstances'. Additionally, you may be aware that any child of statutory school age, who has 10 sessions (5 days) of unauthorised absence would be highlighted by the attendance officer and issued with a fixed penalty notice, of which 585 have been issued across the Local Authority.

May I also take this opportunity to remind you that our school day starts at 9:00am, when key teaching and learning begins. Any child arriving after the register closes at 9:20am, is automatically recorded as late (code U) which is not authorised, and will count as an absence for that school session.



Clearly there are, and will be, unavoidable absences due to illness. Please see the following guidance when deciding when to and when not to send children to school <https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>

Whilst I do understand – I am a parent as well - please know that I am having to explain authorised and unauthorised absences as well as lateness to the Local Authority. Do come and see me with any queries around this, or for further detail, our attendance policy is on the school website.

**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

**Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> April – 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.**

Yours sincerely,

Mr L. Andrews  
Headteacher

