



LEVENS CE SCHOOL

Loving to Learn, Growing Together, Caring for All

Headteacher: Mrs Jane Farraday

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Friday 10th February

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have almost arrived at the half-way mark through this academic year and it has been a pleasure to see how much the children have grown and made progress in so many aspects of their learning and development. Thank you to everyone who has supported events taking place so far this term including our special assembly for Reverend Ruth, our Curriculum Open Morning and all the parents who braved the crisp outdoors to support our children in the Dallam Cross-country event recently. A huge thank you to Mrs Coker and Mrs Mason who went the extra mile to prepare and organise running club members to take part. Next week, our hopeful gymnasts in years 2,3 and 4, trained by Mrs Craggs, compete in the Key Steps Gymnastics competition at Dallam and we wish them the best of luck.

Dates for your diary:

Please see the website calendar AND the noticeboard outside school to keep up to date with events taking place next term which include:

Wednesday 15th February- **Key Steps Gymnastics competition at Dallam**

Wednesday 15th February – **Friday 17th February – Scafell visit to Edinburgh**

Friday 17th February - **Good Work** assembly 2.30pm. School closes at 3pm

Monday 27th February - school reopens after half-term

Monday 27th February – **Bikeability Week** for year 5 pupils

Wednesday 2nd March **World Book Day**

Tuesday 7th March – **Parent-Teacher meetings 3.15pm-7pm** (letter to follow)

Wednesday 8th March – **Dallam Cup Challenge Hockey** Year 5/6

Thursday 9th March – **Pupil Parliament Meeting** (letter to follow)

Thursday 9th March – **Bowfell Forest School sessions commence**

Monday 13th March – **Bowfell Trip to 'The Museum of Life', Kendal**

Wednesday 15th March – **Elleray Xcountry event** Years 5/6 and **Dallam Kwik Sticks Hockey** Years 3/4

New parent governor:

Thank you and congratulations to Mrs Paula Walker who has recently been welcomed onto the governing body as a parent governor. We all look forward to her contribution and commitment to Levens School.

School Meals:

Please may I ask parents of children who currently have a packed lunch for part or all of the school week to consider choosing to move to school meals on some or additional days – even if only one day per week. This will enable us to sustain our school meal provision and keep the price as low as possible. If numbers choosing to take the hot meal option fall below 40meals per day, parents will be faced with a contract price increase that could be potentially up to 15p per day from September.

Uniform Prices:

Unfortunately we have been informed by our supplier that all uniform items are increasing by 50p per item with immediate effect, the new prices are available on the school website where you will also find a downloadable form. To minimise stock retained in school, Mrs Coker will now only be submitting orders when she has 6 items to order, as this is the minimum that suppliers are prepared to issue at a time. So if you are likely to need replenishment, please make sure that you allow sufficient time.

Edinburgh Trip:

Just a reminder for our Scafell parents that the children need to be taken to and from Oxenholme Station on the day of our departure and arrival.

Oxenholme Station: Wednesday morning – meet 8.20-30am Train departs at 8.55am.

Arrive at Oxenholme Station: Friday afternoon – 2.05pm Please meet us on the platform.



Curriculum Open Morning:

Thank you to everyone who came along to this event; the first of its kind at Levens School. Attended by 15 parents as well as our co-opted governor Suzan Bishop, visitors were able to witness teaching and learning in maths across the school. Feedback informs us that parents welcomed this opportunity and were interested to see how learning is organised and how it progresses through the school. We've already received some very positive feedback: "It was a very interesting visit; pupils are confident and have a very positive attitude to learning." If you were unable to attend this event; further curriculum open events will be scheduled again in the future.

In the meantime, please may I remind parents that our website blog is regularly updated by the staff who post photographs and commentaries about all kinds of learning across our curriculum. This is a great way for you to keep in touch with your child's learning and can also be used as a prompt for discussions with your child at home.

School Trips and Residential:

As you are aware, the teachers at Levens School endeavour to enrich all our learning experiences in school with trips at various times of the year. We carefully consider the number of trips and costs when planning such events. To ensure they can go ahead, we rely on the support of all our parents making the voluntary donation which has been carefully costed to pay for transport and facilities provided at the venue. If the donations do not cover the total costs, the school budget has to cover the shortfall. However, as you are already aware, our school budget is extremely tight and is not in a position to subsidise trips for parents. Therefore, if sufficient donations are not made; future trips may have to be cancelled. Please, if you can, support our trips by including a donation when you return your child's form.

After-School Clubs and YoYo:

Please can I request that parents are prompt collecting children from our after-school clubs and for YoYo Club. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

World Book Day – Wednesday 2nd March:

This year we have decided to ask the children to bring a bag: a small rucksack, holdall, basket containing a selection of items that their chosen book character may possess. One of our activities on World Book Day will involve sharing the contents of our bags and acting as detectives to try to determine which book character owns the bag! We are also asking the children to bring in a photograph of some 'Extreme Reading'. This could be a half-term challenge – what kind of ridiculous or unusual places can you spend a moment reading a book! We hope to display some of the photographs in our library.

FOLS:

A huge thank you to everyone who has supported fundraising events organised by FOLS in recent months and over the years. So far this year, approximately £700 has been allocated to buy sets of new class dictionaries, science equipment and a range of maps to support our learning across the curriculum in school. All of these resources will benefit all our children currently in school over many years. Thank you FOLS.

Levens Kitchen Quiz:

Well done and thank you to everyone who sold and/or completed a quiz in aid of funds for Levens Cooking. Without this type of fundraising event, wonderful opportunities like Tea Club enjoyed by our Year 5 pupils would not be possible. All our ten year 5s would like to say a huge thank you to Mrs Mason and everyone who supported this in some way so that they can enjoy cooking for their families and friends of Levens School this summer term. Special well done to Willow Kenyon who sold a staggering 34 copies of the quiz! The quiz has already raised in excess of £500.

Wishing everyone a very happy, restful and enjoyable half-term break,

With my very best wishes
Jane Farraday