



**LEVENS CE SCHOOL**  
Loving to Learn, Growing Together, Caring for All

Headteacher: Mrs Jane Farraday  
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Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> January

Dear Parents and Carers,

On behalf of everyone at school, I hope you have had a wonderful Christmas and a fantastic start to 2017. The children arrived in school this morning looking excited to be back and eager to share their stories of the festive season. They've had a great start to the new term today.

**Dates for your Diary:**

Please continue to look at the school website regularly to keep yourself up to date with future events. A list of some events taking place this half-term are listed here and many will be followed up where necessary with letters for those children involved:

Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> January	<b>Reception application deadline 2017</b> , please call into the office if you are unsure what you need to do.
Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> January	<b>Edinburgh Information Evening for Scafell Parents</b> at 6pm.
Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup> January	<b>Toddler Taster Session - Cooking!</b> 9.30-10.30am
Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> January	<b>A special Celebration Assembly in school for Reverend Ruth</b> at 2.15pm
Sunday 29 <sup>th</sup> January	<b>Rev. Ruth's last service in St. John's Church</b> at 10.30am
Tuesday 31 <sup>st</sup> January	<b>Curriculum Open Morning for parents</b> 8.45-10am. Further details soon.
Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup> February	<b>Edinburgh Trip Year 5/6</b> (returning 17.2.17)
Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> February	<b>Good Work Assembly</b> at 2.30pm

**Monday 20<sup>th</sup> February to Friday 25<sup>th</sup> February - Half-term week**

Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> March	<b>World Book Day</b> - Details to follow
Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> March	<b>Parent-Teacher appointments</b> from 3.15-7pm. Details will follow.

**Eco-Team and Recycling**

The Eco-team are very keen to receive objects for recycling by tomorrow (Friday) at 3pm please. Items include Christmas cards, batteries, old reading glasses, used stamps and old or foreign coins which are being collected in aid of various charities (see the poster on the outdoor noticeboard). A box is located in the entrance hall for you to place any items you may be able to donate and these will be sorted by the Eco-team ready for collection on Friday afternoon. You are also invited to a Recycling coffee morning on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> January at 10am in the Institute to help support some of these very worthwhile charities.



### **Reverend Ruth Collection**

We have started a collection for a gift for Ruth from the children, staff, parents and governors to say thank you to Ruth for all that she has done to support the people connected to Levens School over the last 10 years. We would like to buy Ruth a seat for her garden to take with her and remember us by. If you would like to make a donation, please do so by sending it within a sealed envelope, labelled 'Rev. Ruth Collection' and place in the classroom boxes. Please do not send in any loose change or cash.

### **Pupil Survey November 2016**

During the autumn term, children from reception to Year 6 took part in a survey which asked 10 questions on a range of school issues including learning, behaviour, playtime experiences, relationships and friendships. The overwhelming majority reported that: they feel happy and safe at school; lunchtimes and playtimes are fun; they enjoy lessons and learning; and like the Golden Book system of celebrating success and achievement in school. Although these results are very positive, we have started to work on some of the issues raised in these questionnaires. For example Pupil Parliament is involved in trying to improve the lunchtime dining experience and during this term, we are going to be offering indoor clubs for children of all ages to attend; many of which will be organised and run by our older pupils. Some of our children are unsure about what they need to do to improve and make progress in their work; therefore the class teachers have been discussing strategies to ensure all our children have a clearer understanding about their individual strengths and next steps for learning.

### **Cooking in School Quiz**

A huge thank you and congratulations to Mrs Mason who is edging towards a super total raised by her quiz initiative. Can we remind families that as the closing date is at the end of the month; please make sure that entries and all cash from sales are back by the last week in January, and also, it really isn't too late to sell a few more, please see Mrs Mason if you can help. Thank you so much for your support that will enable the extra-curricular cooking experiences at Levens to continue.

### **This term's Christian Value**

The value that we will be embracing this term is 'Forgiveness.' We would really appreciate families engaging in discussions with children on how to interpret this, what it means to you as a family and how our children could adopt this value in their particular home situation as well as in their extended lives and globally. We will be covering this value in depth in school and background thought and discussion that incorporates home lives will be hugely beneficial.

### **Paying Invoices**

Please may I request that invoices for YoYo, music lessons and school dinners are paid promptly this term. If you have any concerns about your capacity to pay on time please do not hesitate to talk to us.

We are always very keen to communicate and work with you on a day to day basis and all the staff in school share our ethos of being open, welcoming and approachable. If you want to talk to your child's classteacher, after 3pm is always more preferable unless it is a very quick message. We are keen to get the children settled as they come into the classroom so that lessons can start promptly every morning. A longer discussion with parents at this time of day is inevitably a distraction from this purpose as well as staff not being able to give parents their focussed attention, and privacy when appropriate.

With my best wishes

Jane Farraday