



LEVENS CE SCHOOL

Loving to Learn, Growing Together, Caring for All

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Friday 5th May 2017

Dear Parents,

What a fantastic start to the summer term we have had already! Last week, our amazing young skiers showed true courage and determination at the Kendal School Ski Competition; Year 5 enjoyed a fun and engaging K'nex challenge at Dallam School; our year 3+4 pupils experienced a competitive rounders tournament where they surprised themselves with their success; and our very special Tea Club, organised and led by Mrs Mason and Mrs Coker, have started their programme of fine dining experiences for our families and friends lucky enough to be on the guest list!

To learn more about these activities and some of our daily learning please visit the blog section of our website which is continuously updated by staff in school and is a wonderful way for you to engage in your child's learning and experiences. 10 new blogs have already been added since the start of the summer term!

The calendar is also updated weekly and many of our summer events have been scheduled. Please keep yourself informed by regularly checking this section of the website. Letters with details about specific events are also distributed to the appropriate children and families nearer the time.

Staff News:

Welcome to Mrs Cowan who is joining us this term to complete the final stages of her studies in Skiddaw before starting her teaching career. She has made a wonderful start to her placement and will be working alongside Mrs Wadey throughout the summer term.

Assessment and Statutory Tests:

Next week our year 6 children are embarking on their intense week of statutory assessment tests. They have worked so incredibly hard this year; but particularly in the last few weeks to ensure that they are as prepared as possible to do their best and shine. I am sure you will join me in wishing them well. Our year 2 children are also starting their statutory assessments next week and these will be administered throughout May.

This term, teachers are assessing and collecting evidence about your child's progress and attainment in order to prepare formal reports at the end of the year. Good attendance throughout this term is therefore extremely important and all unnecessary absence should be avoided.

Endurance:

This term's Christian value is ENDURANCE. In our assemblies so far we have introduced the meaning of endurance and shared many of the great stories of determination including those from the London Marathon. We want our children to work hard; strive to do better each and every day; but also understand that sometimes life can be tricky and even painful. Developing our children's growth mindset so that they believe in themselves; follow their dreams and know that anything is possible if you try, underpins all that we do at Levens.

Kidsafe:

Our school has now gained accreditation to deliver 'Kidsafe' training to every child in our school. Mrs Mason and Mrs Wadey will be delivering a 5 week programme of work on empowering the children in Skiddaw to be able to say NO, walk away or tell a trusted person when they face situations that make them feel uncomfortable. The lessons cover topics on a range of issues including: e-safety, trust, bullying, secrets and 'private places'. Children throughout school will have access to this powerful resource over time and parents will be informed of meetings in school where you can find out more about the learning experiences planned for your child. Please visit the Kidsafe website www.kidsafeuk.co.uk or speak to Mrs Mason, our trained Kidsafe instructor, to learn more.

Housing development:

We are aware that building preparation and deliveries have commenced on the land behind Greengate. In response to this we have already voiced our concerns about our children's safety when arriving at and leaving school to the contractors responsible. We will continue to monitor traffic through the village and encourage our older children who may travel to and from school alone to take greater care.

YoYo Club Appeal:

Do you have any spare games, jigsaws, craft items that might be appropriate for our children attending YoYo club? If you have any, unused or no longer wanted, items that need a new home and are in a good condition please let our YoYo staff know so that they can establish whether it is something they would find useful.

Warm weather:

Please can you ensure your child/children has appropriate sun protection throughout the summer term; including a sun hat, sun cream and a named water bottle that can be kept in school. Our playground has practically no areas that offer shade from the sun, so we need to be particularly vigilant. Indoor clubs will continue to be offered during this term so that children can choose a quiet, cool classroom to spend their lunchtime if they prefer.

With my very best wishes

Jane Farraday

