

Loving to Learn, Growing Together, Caring for All

Headteacher: Mrs Jane Farraday

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## Dear Parents

Welcome back to the start of the new year. I hope you have all enjoyed a good summer break and been able to relax and catch up with family and friends. It has been lovely to see the children arrive back at school today so enthusiastic about their learning and eager to share their summer holiday stories. This morning we welcomed new pupils all through school; our reception children have enjoyed a lovely first morning in Bowfell and next week we look forward to welcoming our nursery children for the very first time. A special welcome to all our new families joining us this term.

#### Classroom Drop-Ins and Launch of the NEW website

We would like to invite you and your children into school on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> September at 5.30pm to look around school and visit your child/children's new classroom. You will have an opportunity to talk informally with class teachers before we meet in the hall at 6pm to launch the new website. I am very grateful to the people who have worked so hard to develop the site; in particular Mr Wadey who designed and created the site and to the staff who have written and will be maintaining and updating the content.

#### **Communication with parents**

The launch of the new website will see the end of our 'Events List' issued fortnightly. The website contains an interactive calendar which will be updated more regularly and therefore enable you to keep you informed about forthcoming events more effectively. Our School Blog page will allow you to read event reviews and look at collections of photographs; keeping you updated on school news.

### **Lunchboxes**

As the repairs to the dining hall roof are now complete, lunchboxes can now be stored in the lunchbox area in the dining hall.

## **Trespasses and Vandalism**

Unfortunately we have been the victim of trespassers on school property again this holiday who have caused considerable damage to our school environment. As a result the police will be patrolling the areas around school in the evenings and at weekends. We are also very sorry to have to inform you that it seems some local young people children are using the school grounds as a social meeting place to consume the contents of 'laughing gas' canisters. Over 20 have been found littering the playground over the holidays. Please can we urge you to spread the word to the parents of our past pupils that this is taking place so that they can take appropriate action.

Although we know that many families use our playground at weekends and in the holidays, to learn to ride bikes; play basketball or football, it is not appropriate to do so, we additionally have incurred damage to the zen den as the decking area has been used as a













ramp for bike 'stunts', causing movement of the planking sections and tyre marking. Please can we therefore reiterate that the school grounds are completely 'out of bounds' after school times. The local police will be enforcing this when they visit the premises.

Finally, please can I ask everyone in our school community to be vigilant and that if you see something that concerns you, please let us know.

#### **County Show**

Thank you to everyone who has volunteered to accompany Skiddaw and Scafell on their trip to the show this year. We will look forward to you joining us and would ask that you arrive at school at 8.35am on Thursday morning to meet with Mrs Wadey about arrangements for the day. If you stated on the reply slip that you were interested in coming, but did not make a commitment, please can you let us know your intentions as soon as possible. If you would like to join us on Thursday, please let us know by Tuesday morning.

## **Christian Values**

This term we will be exploring our Christian Value, Koinonia. It comes from the Greek word for community. We will finding out about the meaning of being part of a community and how it is relevant to our lives.

# **Dates for your diary**

Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> September: Westmorland County Show (Skiddaw & Scafell) Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> September: Swimming starts Y2-6 (letter to follow)

Monday 19th September: Class Drop-Ins and Website Launch

Tuesday 27th September: Reading and Phonics Meeting for Reception Parents 6pm

Friday 30th September: Harvest Festival St. John's Church 2pm

Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> October: Tapestry Meeting for Reception and Nursery Parents 5.30pm

Saturday 15th October: FOLS Craft Fair

We are all looking forward to working with your children this year and look forward to seeing you over the coming weeks.

With my very best wishes

Jane Farraday