Wednesday 22nd March

Dear Parents,

This term has been packed with many wonderful events and learning experiences; in and outside school. Scafell Class enjoyed a fantastic 3 day trip to Edinburgh just before half-term. Eco-team and School Council have been involved in fundraising for school, as well as for charity and initiatives to support Fairtrade. The Toddler Taster Sessions this term have been very well attended.

Levens School sporting achievements so far this year should to be celebrated. KeySteps Gymnastics stages 1 and 2 got through to the final round after months of preparation and practice and they thoroughly enjoyed every aspect of the competition. Levens School is currently in first place in the Dallam Primary Cup Challenge with one competition remaining and running club enjoyed their second XCountry event this year at Elleray in Windermere. Well done to all our competitors and thanks to our committed staff Mrs Craggs, Mrs Coker and Mrs Mason for organising and leading our children at these events.

Mrs Mason’s Cooking Quiz raised £670 for school cooking and this money will be used to continue our extra-curricular cooking activities and in particular our Year 5 Tea Club taking place in the summer term.

**School Website:**

Since the launch of our new website in September 2016, we have had over 12,000 visits. It has been lovely to receive so much positive feedback about the website from our parents and the wider community. Each week, the staff blog many of the wonderful learning experiences, sporting achievements and exciting experiences like our trips off-site, Comic Relief and Pupil Parliament. We looked at our website blog in our Good Work Assembly recently where I encouraged the children to look at the website with a grown up at home. It is such a good way for you to keep in touch with some of the fabulous things taking place at school. You may also notice that the older children in Scafell Class are now getting the opportunity to write their own blogs.

**Events:**

The website is also a very important way to keep in touch with forthcoming events, some of which are outlined below and often require specific letters that are distributed in plenty of time to make arrangements and permission slips to be returned. Please check the website for further details:

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| Dates: | Event | Details |
| Monday 27th April | Dallam English Day Year 5 pupils | Please let us know asap if you can help with transport. |
| Monday 27th April | KS1 SATs meeting for parents 5.30pm  KS2 SATs meeting for parents 6pm | Meetings due to run for 30minutes. |
| Thursday 30th April | Experience Easter at St. John’s Church.  KS1 9am  KS2 10.45am | The children will be walking down to church to enjoy different workshops to understand about what Easter means to Christians.  Let us know if you would like to accompany us on our walk to church. |
| Thursday 30th April | Forest Schools Bowfell Class | 1-3pm |
| Friday 31st March | Good Work Assembly 2.30pm | Please come along to enjoy finding out about our learning of the week. |
| Monday 3rd April | Year 6 Mock SATS week |  |
| Thursday 6th April | Easter Service at ST John’s Church  9.30am  Forest Schools Bowfell Class | Everyone welcome to attend our special service at the end of term. |
| Friday 7th April | Finish for Easter at **2pm** |  |
| Monday 24th April | Summer term begins |  |
| Wednesday 26th April | Skiddaw Class start athletics at Dallam (3weekly sessions) |  |
| Friday 28th April | Good Work Assembly 2.30pm | Everyone welcome |
| Wednesday 3rd May | Primary Rounders Tournament for years 3/4 1-3pm | Details to follow |
| Monday 8th May | Year 6 SATS week | Breakfast Club 8am Monday-Thursday Year 6 only. |
| Monday 15th May | Toddler Taster Session: Gardening  AND  Tempest School Photographs | Details to follow |
| Wednesday 17th May | Primary Cup Challenge Kwik Cricket  3.30pm until 5.30pm | Year 5+6 fight to keep first place and win the cup! Come along to support the team! |
| Tuesday 23rd May | Scafell Hill Walk Day with Dallam Outdoors. | Details to follow |
| Thursday 25th May | Skiddaw Hill Walk Day | Details to follow |
| Friday 29th May | Good Work Assembly 2.30pm  School finishes for half-term at 3pm | Everyone welcome |

**Site Access:**

As you will be already aware, schools across the county are reviewing their site security procedures and risk assessments in order to ensure that procedures are adequate to ensure all our children are safe.

Our particular site is accessible from five different areas, therefore following a risk assessment and with advice from the local authority and our health and safety advisory body, we will be making some changes. The far entrance gate next to the dining hall on Church Road is the main entrance to school and new signs are going to be installed to make this clearer to parents and visitors. Further access is already provided through the two gates that lead onto the playground from the playing fields. Gates leading onto our school site should remain closed at all times and we would ask for your cooperation when arriving and leaving school. Access through other gates, including the gate leading to and from the school carpark, will not be permitted. Procedures for parents collecting children from YoYo remain unchanged.

**School Building Access:**

Recently we have had circumstances where visitors and parents to school have been able to access the building by ‘slipping’ through the front door as others leave. In order to ensure our school building is secure and that we know who is in the building for the purposes of safeguarding; all parents need to make sure they have left the school building by 8.45am when the morning bell rings. At this time the front door of school is closed so that we are confident the building is secure and so that we can quickly identify missing children. It is also essential for our fire evacuation procedures. During school hours, 8.45am-5pm, (unless collecting from YoYo) all visitors to school must use the attention bell next to the intercom at the main school entrance and wait to be greeted by a member of staff. Parents should not be opening the front door for other visitors or parents at any time. The children have been reminded that they are not allowed to open the front door to any visitors coming onto our school site; including parents or family members that they may know or recognise. Children have also been reminded that if they are late arriving in school, either with or without their parent, they are to report to the office so that their attendance can be recorded.

The dining hall will soon be fitted with a keypad on the door so that only authorised personnel can access this building. We must ensure this building is secure throughout the day, as it is away from the main building it will be locked until the lunchtime session is due to start. Once this keypad is fitted in the next few weeks, lunchboxes will be stored in school. Please could we recommend that lunchboxes might include a cold-sachet or ice-block to keep them cool as the weather gets warmer over the next few weeks.

In order for us to be confident that we are doing enough to safeguard our children at all times, it is important that we have the cooperation of everyone in these procedures. It would be complacent for us to suggest that because we live and work in a small rural community we do not need to implement measures to reduce risk and keep our children as safe as possible.

With my best wishes

Jane Farraday