



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

Headteacher: Mrs Jane Farraday

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Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2018

Dear Parents,

What an incredibly busy and positive halfterm we've had here in school; starting with the installation of the portacabin in the first week back. Scaffell Class wrote some fantastic newspaper reports about the landing of an alien spaceship while Skiddaw worked together as a class to write the blog for the school website. Plans are already being made for a more permanent solution to our dining facilities and as soon as we have more details, I will be able to update you further. In the meantime, the children have been able to access more clubs at lunchtime including: hama beads, colouring, lego, gymnastics, dance and JAM club. School Council have also been meeting this term selecting some new playtime equipment from the funds they have raised at events, including the last school disco.

**Dallam Cross-Country:**

Well done to all our runners at the event last week; where many secured positions in the top three, something we have never achieved before. Every single competitor was a wonderful ambassador of our school, tackling boggy and windy conditions as well as other competitors; demonstrating true determination to do their personal best. On behalf of everyone, I would like to extend a huge thank you to Miss Dawson, Mrs Mason and Ms Jones who have supported our Running Club, and particularly Mrs Coker for leading the children and our teams with such passion and enthusiasm. Next up; Elleray!

**Encouraging independence and starting lessons promptly:**

We are encouraging even our youngest children to develop their independence and be organised for the day. Our five nursery children are self-registering as they arrive in school each day and all Bowfell pupils are expected to select their lunch independently. From year two upwards, we are trying to encourage each child to be responsible by organising their belongings and starting their morning task independently. We would really value your support with this.

Please may I politely remind parents to ensure children arrive promptly at school so that they are in class starting their morning task when the bell rings at 8.45am. It would also be very much appreciated if parents could leave the building at this time so that we can begin registration thus identifying children who have not arrived. Once the bell has been rung, teachers are not available to talk to parents as their priority is to take the register to ensure the children have arrived in school; are settled into their morning task; and are ready to start lessons. Parents arriving at school later than 8.45am will no longer be permitted to come into school and will hand-over responsibility for their child at the school entrance with a member of staff. The children have been reminded about the importance of arriving in school promptly and procedures if they are late in an assembly this week.

If you need to get a message to a teacher urgently, please may we advise you to email the office or write a note to your child's classteacher. If you require a meeting; these can usually be arranged within a few days of your request and it is always helpful to know the nature of your query or concern so that teachers can adequately prepare for discussions. Parent-Teacher appointments are scheduled for Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> February; please return requests for meetings by the morning of Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> February.

Thankyou for your understanding and co-operation. We pride ourselves on our 'open door' policy and our welcoming atmosphere; but I am sure you understand that a prompt start to the day is essential to ensure the teaching and learning of our core curriculum including phonics, English and maths is maximised.



INVESTORS  
IN PEOPLE



**Staff Update:**

Some of you may have noticed that Miss Addy returned to Bowfell last week. Gradually, Miss Addy will increase her visits to school and we anticipate that she will be resuming her overall responsibility for the children in Bowfell Class and the staff team after halfterm.

We are very grateful to Mrs Haslam who will be leaving us in due course. From the moment Mrs Haslam arrived in school she has shown a real commitment to our school and to sharing her knowledge and expertise to improve the provision for our nursery and Reception children. She has had an incredible impact in a very short space of time; and we will be continuing to embed the good practice she has introduced as we move through the rest of the term and beyond. I am sure you will join me in thanking her for her contribution to school as we wish her well in the future.

**Diary Dates:**

Thursday 1 <sup>st</sup> February	Scafell trip to Tuille House, Carlisle
Wednesday 7 <sup>th</sup> February	Safer Internet Day
Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> February	School closes for half-term 3pm
Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> February	School reopens at 8.35am
Tuesday 20 <sup>th</sup> February	Parent-Teacher Appointments 3.15pm until 7pm
Wednesday 21 <sup>st</sup> February	Key-Steps Gymnastics at Dallam 12.30-3.30pm
	Skiddaw Class undertaking Tag Rugby coaching lessons in PE
Wednesday 28 <sup>th</sup> February	Dallam English Day Year 5
	Last Running Club
Monday 26 <sup>th</sup> February	Levens Loves to Read Week!
Thursday 1 <sup>st</sup> March	World Book Day
Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup> March	Fair-Trade Day: Stall between 8.30-9am and 3-3.30pm
	Good Work Assembly for parents and families 2.30pm
Wednesday 7 <sup>th</sup> March	Elleray Cross Country Event
Thursday 15 <sup>th</sup> March	South Lakes Pupil Parliament at Netherwood Hotel with Tim Farron
Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> March	Toddler Taster – Forest Schools 9.30am-10.30am
Wednesday 21 <sup>st</sup> March	Dallam Science Day Year 5
Thursday 22 <sup>nd</sup> March	Dance Platform at the Brewery
Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> March	Sports Relief Day
Thursday 27 <sup>th</sup> March	KS1 SATS meeting for year 2 parents 5.30pm KS2 SATS meeting for year 6 parents 6pm
Wednesday 28 <sup>th</sup> March	Y34 Hockey Tournament
Thursday 29 <sup>th</sup> March	School closes for Easter holidays at 2pm
Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> April	School re-opens for summer term 8.35am
Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> April	Easter Service at St. John's Church 2pm. All welcome.

**Please note: further information about many of the events listed above will be provided in letters to the relevant children and parents.**

Information about important dates in and out of school are detailed in our calendar on the school website. Don't forget to take a look at the school blog where we share news from school – It's a great way to be able to keep in touch and open conversations with your child at home.

**Reading in School:**

Do you have a spare 30minutes or an hour on a Thursday afternoon from 2pm? If so we would love to hear from you. Would you like to join Mrs Nelson who comes into school each week to hear our infant children read individually. We are hoping to organise a team of 'reading parents'; willing to come in on a regular basis to support our children's learning. Volunteers in this instance would need to undertake a Disclosure and Barring Service check, due to the nature of the volunteering role, but this is something that school can organise. If you think you might be interested, please inform one of the Bowfell team when you are dropping or collecting from school.

With my very best wishes,  
*Jane Farraday*

