



LEVENS CE SCHOOL

Loving to Learn, Growing Together, Caring for All

Headteacher: Mrs Jane Farraday

Church Road, Levens, Kendal LA8 8PU 015395 60694 office@levens.cumbria.sch.uk www.levens.cumbria.sch.uk
Monday 13th January 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to the start of the new spring term. On behalf of everyone at Levens, I would like to extend a very special welcome to the new families and children who started Nursery last week.

We are also welcoming new members of staff this term. Congratulations to Miss Lauren Butler, Mrs Elizabeth Mackereth and Mrs Martine Harwood who have all secured positions supporting our EYFS and Year 1 pupils. Miss Butler has already made many amazing contributions to the class since her recruitment via a teaching agency last Easter. Mrs Mackereth, who has many years of experience working in early years at Castle Park, has also joined us this term to support Bowfell and our lunchtime supervision. Mrs Harwood continues to support pupils in Bowfell every morning.

John Wood, an extremely experienced and skilled educational consultant and retired headteacher in the private sector, joins our Governing Body. John, a resident in Levens, has already met with governors informally and enjoyed a tour of the school where he met children and staff. He is looking forward to his role and there is no doubt he is going to make a valuable contribution to the leadership of the school.

School Dinners

We are extremely excited to be making the most of our fabulous facilities by making our lunches onsite each day. Congratulations to Helen who has bravely taken on the role of school cook and has already wowed the children and staff with her culinary expertise. New menus are published in our entrance hall and on our website for your information: arrangements for payments and choosing lunches on a daily basis remain unchanged. If you have a junior aged child who usually eats a packed lunch – why not give our new school meals a try? Your child might like a combination of packed lunches and hot meals each week depending on the menu choices. Please let us know if this is something you may be interested in exploring.

Bag2School

Thank you for supporting this easy fundraising initiative again this term. Please can we request that you do not bring your donations into school until the week beginning Monday 27th January, as we have no space in school to store the bags! Additional bags can be picked up from the school entrance hall.



INVESTORS
IN PEOPLE



Christian Value

Our Christian Value this term is forgiveness. We will be exploring this value through our daily interactions with each other; in collective worship, reflection time and through the curriculum. Forgiveness is an essential element of our updated Whole School Behaviour Policy which is published on the school website. Staff in school use restorative justice to empower pupils to be able to resolve conflict and develop greater empathy and understanding between themselves and their peers.

“Be compassionate and kind to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ, God forgave you.” Ephesians 4:32

A Plea for Respectful Parking

On behalf of our pupils and our village neighbours, please may I politely remind everyone to show courtesy and respect when parking in the vicinity of school.

Parents should not park across the new Levens Playing Fields gates at the start or end of the school day. This blocks access for other families; but also makes crossing Levens Lane extremely dangerous.

Please can I also request that parents consider local residents when collecting from YoYo, as well as before and after school. Cars should not be parked directly in front of the staff carpark on Church Road and parents should not use the drives of local residents to turn their vehicles.

Snow and Bad Weather

Please take care arriving at school when the paths and playground are affected by ice or snow. Mr Medcalf kindly clears or grits some areas of our playground for safe passage into school but this does not include areas outside the school gates, including the playing fields.

In the unlikely event that we would need to close the school due to bad weather, a message would be posted on the front page of our website and we would use our text messaging service to inform parents as early as possible. We would also aim to communicate a message via Radio Cumbria.

Tim Farron's Christmas Card Competition

Huge congratulations to Dougal Houston (y4) who was this year's runner up in Tim Farron MP's annual Christmas Card competition with a beautiful illustration of a robin. I'm sure Dougal would be happy to take on private commissions for your Christmas Cards this year – but please act now to avoid disappointment!

Collecting Children at the end of the school day

All the staff take safeguarding extremely seriously at Levens School. Please ensure you have informed us of any changes to pick-ups as soon as possible. The children are taught to wait and remain with their classteacher until they have been handed over to their responsible adult.

Punctuality and Attendance

Please ensure that your child arrives at school in time to be seated in class when the bell is rung at 8.45am each morning, if not your child is likely to be marked as late in the register. The bell is your cue to leave the building immediately and a signal to the staff of their statutory requirement to take the register at this time. Parents should not expect to be able to talk to classteachers beyond 8.45am. Everyone's cooperation is essential if we are to continue to operate our open door morning system whilst meeting legislative and safeguarding requirements.

If you arrive late with your child it is important that you report to the office so that your child's attendance at school is recorded promptly. Thank you.

School events and Diary Dates

14.1.20	Running Club commences – 3-4pm
15.1.20	Football Club commences – 3pm-4.15pm
17.1.20	Celebration Assembly 2.30pm. All welcome.
24.1.20	Toddler Taster 1.30pm-2.30pm Cooking
29.1.20	Dallam XCcountry Competition 1-3pm. Details to follow.
30.1.20	Bags2School Collection today
12.2.20	Key Steps Gymnastics Competition at Dallam
14.2.20	Celebration Assembly 2.30pm. All welcome.
14.2.20	School closes for halfterm holidays
24.2.20	School reopens for sping term 2

Please also refer to our school website calendar for early notification of forthcoming events.

With my very best wishes

Jane Farraday