



LEVENS CE SCHOOL

Loving to Learn, Growing Together, Caring for All

Headteacher: Mrs Jane Farraday

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Monday 12th July 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are fast approaching the end of another academic year and we are already looking forward to returning in September with the recent news that many of the current restrictions that we have been living with for such a long time will be eased.

I wish to start by thanking our parents, and every member of our wider school community, who have supported each other and our school throughout these unprecedented times.

The children have enjoyed many wonderful experiences in the last few weeks. Huge cheers and shouts could be heard from the playing fields on our two mornings of sport as they encouraged and supported each other in each of our events. Each class has enjoyed outings with their friends, whether it be up to the woods for scavenger hunts and toasted marshmallows on our new firepit, or a visit to Brockhole sky-high nets and orienteering.

Today, our year 6 leavers will be enjoying a special feast made and served by our year 5 students thanks to head chefs Mrs Mason and Mrs Coker; and later this week they will be celebrated in our intimate Leavers' Service in our school grounds.

If you test positive at the start of the summer holidays:

Please note that if your child develops symptoms and has a positive PCR result in the first week of the holidays, it is absolutely critical that you inform school immediately. You can do this by emailing me directly at head@levens.cumbria.sch.uk.

Arrangements for the autumn term:

I could not be more relieved to have received guidance from the DfE last week about our almost complete return to 'business as usual' for the first time in what will be 18 months of difficult and challenging times in school. We will work with updated Covid operations guidance and risk assessments involving regular LFD testing of staff; good respiratory and hand hygiene for everyone; enhanced cleaning of frequently touched surfaces; and emergency procedures in the event of local outbreaks. However, there are many things that will change. We will no longer require children to be separated in different bubbles, so the children will be able to play out together without restrictions; staff will no longer be required to wear masks; we will not need to continue our one-way system through school or our staggered start and collection times; we will be able to resume whole-school assemblies together in our hall. It's exciting to imagine school as it once was and a return to more normal routines.

On the first day of the new term, Wednesday 1st September, you and your children can arrive onto the school site through either entrance – from the playing fields or the main entrance on Church Road - no earlier than 8.35am. Staff will be there to greet your children and welcome them into school. In the past, parents have often come into our building in the mornings, but over the last year we have found that allowing the children to enter school enables a more settled, peaceful and calm start to the day, we will therefore be continuing this arrangement from September. Everyone can begin their learning almost immediately, extra learning time is gained and we are able to set the right tone to begin our day. We will however be welcoming parents into school on Wednesday 8th September from 3pm to see your child's classroom and meet informally with staff. Parents will have other opportunities to come into school when we resume our Celebration Assemblies in our hall – news of these dates will follow early in the autumn term.

Marathon Running challenge:

A huge well done to everyone in school – staff and pupils – who are reaching the very final stages of completing this magnificent achievement and a massive thank you to Mrs Coker for inspiring us all to go

for gold. Medals for those children who have completed all 26miles will be awarded in an assembly this week.

Thank you to everyone who has already brought in their sponsor money – we have had some amazing donations already!! Every little amount helps, so please do support us with some funds for more outdoor educational visits, however large or small, by gathering your sponsor money before the end of this term.

Class Structure September 2021:

Here is a reminder of our class structure for the new school year:

class name	year groups	location	email address	class teacher
Class 1	Reception & Nursery	Bowfell	Class1@levens.cumbria.sch.uk	Mrs Haslam
Class 2	Years 1+2	Skiddaw	Class2@levens.cumbria.sch.uk	Miss Robinson
Class 3	Years 3+4	Helvellyn	Class3@levens.cumbria.sch.uk	Mrs Wadey
Class 4	Years 5+6	Scafell	Class4@levens.cumbria.sch.uk	Mr Dean and Mrs Farraday

Last Wednesday, Miss Robinson enjoyed spending some time in Year 1 and Reception getting to know the children ahead of her start with us in September. Our Year 4 pupils also enjoyed time with Mr Dean.

New emails addresses and class pages:

We will soon be making changes to our class pages on our website. These will be ready for the start of the autumn term and are a fantastic way for you to stay connected with school and your child's learning. Information about curriculum, newsletters, timetables, PE days etc can be found on these pages and these should be your first point of reference should you require any information related to your child's class.

Please note that we will also have new class email addresses (see above) which will replace the ones currently in use.

Diary Dates:

Thursday 15 th July	Year 6 Leavers' Service in our school grounds – invited guests only
Friday 16th July	School closes for summer holidays between 1.45pm and 2.05pm depending on your family group.
Wednesday 1 st September	School reopens for autumn term for all pupils – Reception-Year 6. Doors open at 8.35am and lessons commence at 8.50am. Children arriving later than 8.50am will need to be signed in at the main entrance and will receive a late mark in the register.
Monday 6 th September	Nursery provision starts this week
Wednesday 8 th September	School Swimming commences for Classes 3 and 4
Wednesday 8 th September	Class drop-ins. An opportunity to come into school, meet your child's class teacher informally and visit their classroom, 3-3.45pm
Thursday 9 th September	School closed for staff training Westmorland County Show
Monday 13 th September	Arts Week – all pupils working with local artist Sophie Martin on a collaborative mural on the theme of 'Community'.
Thursday 16 th September	Football Club with Rob from Westmorland FA recommences

End of Year Reports:

On Friday, you should have received your child's end of year report from their class teacher. You will notice that we have added a 'parent comment' section to our reports this year. Please return one signed copy of your child's report no later than Wednesday 14th July to confirm you have received this document.

Attendance:

This is a very polite reminder that attendance at school is compulsory and that holidays should not be taken in term time. All requests for holidays will be unauthorised and referred to the Access and Inclusion Office for Attendance at Cumbria County Council.

Please refer to the relevant section of our current Attendance Policy that can be found on our website by following this link: [Attendance-policy-Dec-2020.pdf \(levens.cumbria.sch.uk\)](https://levens.cumbria.sch.uk/Attendance-policy-Dec-2020.pdf)

A huge thank you:

Before we finish for the summer, I want to finish with thanking the incredible people that are our staff team. Every single member of staff has given their very best each and every day to ensure our school and our children are safe and happy. Regardless of their roles in school, they have shown incredible commitment, resilience and dedication in the most challenging of years for both our school and their own families. I am sure you will want to join with me in thanking them for everything they have done and continue to do. In my long career in working in schools across Manchester and Cumbria, I have never worked with such a strong team who have incredible expertise; offer huge support to one another; and are extremely passionate about the difference they make. They go that extra mile every minute of every day and I feel so privileged to work alongside them.

Wishing you all a very healthy and happy summer holiday. Let's look forward to feeling more connected in the autumn term and we look forward to seeing you very soon.

With my very best wishes

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jane Farraday".

Jane Farraday