



# LEVENS CE SCHOOL

Loving to Learn, Growing Together, Caring for All

Headteacher: Mrs Jane Farraday

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Friday 14<sup>th</sup> January 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

### **Sporting Success at Casterton:**

This week, 6 representatives from Running Club, competed in the South Lakes trials on the most difficult of courses that took them across uneven ground; up steep hills and railway embankments and down mud slides at Casterton. It was a superb event, attended by over 500 children across the locality, but this didn't deter our intrepid athletes who showed determination, resilience and stamina throughout the afternoon. They were also amazing ambassadors of our school and supported each other from start to finish.

Special congratulations to Dougal and Aaron who have qualified for the county finals in Penrith later this month.

We are also looking forward to taking more of our runners to the Dallam xcountry event on Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> January.



From left to right: Aaron, Joseph, Harry, Alfie, Dougal and James.

### **PE provision and after-school clubs:**

It has been wonderful to be able to have specialist sports coaches back in school recently to enhance our provision in PE, but also our extra-curricular offers too. Following on from our Brewery Arts teachers who led our dance lessons last term for three of our classes, we are now offering a dance club on a Wednesday after school for children in KS2. Last week, we also welcomed coaches and players from Barrow Raiders who are leading our rugby league training for the juniors every Friday afternoon. Onside Sports are also here every Wednesday afternoon to support PE in Class 2 as well as our after-school football club.

There are still some places left at our KS1 Football Club and our KS2 Dance Club on Wednesdays from 3-4pm. So please get in touch if you would like your child to take up a place!

### **Reminder about PE kits:**

Please ensure your child has the correct PE kit in school every day (Reception excluded). This includes an appropriate pair of training shoes for outdoor PE and warm layers on these cold January days. During the winter months, pupils are permitted to wear plain black or navy-blue joggers or leggings, instead of shorts. Many pupils also bring a thin, waterproof jacket to wear over their PE hoodies as we do try to stay outdoors, even on rainy days. We would also recommend children bringing socks for PE if they are choosing to wear tights in school.

### **More about our School build:**

Although I am not quite able to share the provisional plans with parents just yet, I would like to take this opportunity to give you a little more detail about our proposed build. County Council have approved proposals to remove our Zen Cabin (the blue fabricated building on our playground) to build out from Scafell Classroom into this space. The plans include a new KS2 classroom, new gender-neutral toilet facilities, cloakrooms, corridors and external exits for classrooms. Further developments to enhance our environment include a new library area; further new bathroom facilities for Class 1 and Class 2; a small meeting room; and a new PE store located at the front of the school building.

We anticipate that proposals will be submitted for planning permission by mid-February. I will ensure you are notified accordingly.

### **Covid Updates:**

You will be aware that the guidance for isolation following a positive test has changed again. Please ensure you are informed of the new expectations around this so that you can ensure you and your family are able to follow this advice. A link to the government Covid website can be found [here](#).

At the time of writing, we have had just one positive case in nursery and I am so very relieved that, so far, we have not had to put in place any contingency plans to cover staff absence or return to class bubbles. Thank you for all you are doing to protect the provision we can offer in school.

### **Christian Value:**

‘Clothe yourselves in compassion, with kindness, humility, gentleness and patience,’ Colossians 3:12

Our Christian Value this term is compassion and in assemblies and our classrooms we have been talking about what this means. The word is stronger than feeling sorry for someone. The word has its roots in the idea of ‘suffering with’ someone, putting yourself in their shoes and trying to understand what they experience. This leads to the desire to act – to do something – to make a difference. This term we will be exploring ways that we can be more compassionate in our daily lives.

### **Celebration Assemblies:**

We have some Celebrations Assemblies for parents coming up very soon. The first is for parents of pupils in Reception and Class 2 on Friday 21<sup>st</sup> January at 9am. Please ensure you only come into our school if you are 100% fit and well, are wearing a mask (unless exempt) and sanitise your hands on entry. We are limiting the number of people who are able to attend this assembly to no more than two per family please.

Our junior assembly for parents is on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> February, also at 9am.

### **Bag2School:**

Thank you for everyone for bagging up old clothes and bedding etc. Your efforts have raised £168 for our school fund. We plan to repeat this simple fundraiser in the summer term.

### **The Mural:**



Every day the children have loved watching the mural in our dining hall progress and now that it is finished, they still look out for each others’ drawings and aspects that they haven’t noticed before. It is such a striking image to enjoy as you step into our dining hall. Huge thanks to Sophie Martin for supporting and encouraging the children with their drawings; sharing her expertise with staff; and including so many of our older children in the actual mural.

We are planning to invite the trustees from the Michelle Trust Memorial Trust, who sponsored this work, to see it very soon.

### **Diary Dates:**

This is a reminder that information about events, trips etc can be found on our website calendar by following this link [here](#).

One forthcoming date for your diary is our spring parent-teacher interviews, that we hope to be able to do face-to-face, on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> March. More details to follow soon.

With my very best wishes

Jane Farraday