



LEVENS CE SCHOOL

Loving to Learn, Growing Together, Caring for All

Headteacher: Mrs Jane Farraday

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Thursday 28th April 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

It was lovely to welcome everyone back to the start of the summer term and a very special welcome to our new pupils and families who have joined us in Nursery!

Please do take a look at our website calendar to ensure you are up to date with forthcoming events. Our website blog is a great way to keep in touch with some of the things going on in school. Class teachers have now updated their class pages with information about the curriculum for this term, including their summer newsletters, timetables, homework arrangements etc.

[Levens CE School - The website of Levens CE School Cumbria](#)

Brewery Dance Festival

Congratulations to our amazing dancers who performed with grace and style at the Dance Festival at the end of last term in front of a huge audience and alongside schools from all over the South Lakes area.

Huge thanks also to Martha (an ex-pupil of Levens) and Miss Robinson who supported our group with such enthusiasm, skill and dedication. It was certainly a night to remember!



Learning about democracy and British Values

Just before the Easter break, Class 4 organised a whole school secret ballot giving all pupils from Reception upwards a voice in which one of the 15 charities belonging to DEC they wanted our fundraising efforts to support. On Friday, we learnt from our School Councillors that the overwhelming majority of pupils voted to send a cheque for just under £500 to 'Save the Children'.

We continue with this theme as pupils in school elect their new School Councillors and as we explore more about the 5 elements of British Values in assemblies and through our curriculum. This week's theme has been all about democracy; and as we move through the half term we will also be exploring – respect, tolerance, individual liberty and the rule of law.

Our Christian Values

Every term we explore one of our ten Christian Values in assemblies and through the curriculum. These values were chosen by our school community, and most significantly our pupils, during my first year as head teacher here at Levens in 2015. Often children are mentioned in our Golden Book for demonstrating our values in their daily interactions. They are used to help guide us on the right path in life and mould us into responsible, caring and thoughtful citizens. In our assemblies, references are regularly made to events, parables and the people from The Bible that demonstrated these values.

It seems more relevant than ever that our Christian Value for this term is Peace.

The Hebrew term for Peace is 'Shalom'. It has a deeper and more complex meaning, encompassing much more than simply the absence of hostility or war. It includes ideas of healing, health, wholeness and well-being. It means harmony, stability, security in a community. It refers to relationships based on truth and righteousness where people flourish because they are nurtured.

'Those who promote peace have joy'. Proverbs 12:20

Arriving at School

Please may we politely remind parents and families that children should not be arriving on the school site before 8.30am. In recent weeks we have had some junior children arriving unaccompanied as early as 8.20am. Regardless of the age of your child/children, there are no staff on the playground to ensure your child is safe or deal with accidents if and when they occur. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation as we endeavour to keep all our children safe at all times.

'Steps for Stories' Event

FOLS are organising a 5km fundraising walk to take place from Levens Village Green on Saturday 14th May. Registration will be between 9.30am and 11am and all are welcome, including family, friends and neighbours! There will be entertainment along the way, delicious treats, and activities too. All funds raised will go towards our new library refurbishment and library books. Look out for a letter from FOLS very soon and hopefully you can come along and enjoy the fun.

Homework Policy

We have recently uploaded our Homework Policy and invite you to re-visit arrangements and expectations for your child to continue their learning at home by following this [link](#).

Term Dates 2022-23

A reminder that the dates for the next academic year are different to CCC dates:

<u>Autumn term:</u>
Tuesday 6 th September – Tuesday 20 th December
Thursday 8 th September – School closed for Westmorland County Show.
Half term: Monday 24 th October until Friday 28 th October
<u>Spring term:</u>
Wednesday 4 th January – Friday 31 st March
Half term: Monday 20 th February until Friday 24 th February
<u>Summer term:</u>
Monday 17 th April – Wednesday 19 th July
Half term: Monday 29 th May until Friday 2 nd June

Please note that School closes for the summer holidays a day earlier than Cumbria's suggested dates this term to commemorate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee on Tuesday 19th July which actually falls within our spring bank half term holiday.

Attendance Policy

Children are expected to attend school regularly and absence from school should be avoided as much as possible. Headteachers are not able to authorise absences for holidays that could be taken out of term time. More information about our policy on attendance can be found on our website.

If you do need to take your child out of school during term time, parents are requested to download and complete an absence request form published on our website stating the date, length and reason for the absence, but this should only be requested in exceptional circumstances. Applications for absence should be made at least seven days in advance as leave of absence cannot be granted retrospectively.

Parent Governor Vacancies

Hopefully you are already aware of the two forthcoming vacancies on the Levens Governing Body. Being involved in leading the school as a governor can be a very exciting and rewarding role and I would urge you to consider this wonderful opportunity to be more involved in the life of the School.

If you would like more information, please contact the Clerk to the Governors, Mrs Coker, in the first instance. She will be able to offer an indication of the commitment required and potentially arrange a 'no commitment' discussion with a serving parent governor if that would be of interest.

Uniform

As the weather gets warmer, understandably our pupils tend to take off their cardigans and jumpers, discarding them in random places around school and on the playground. In order to be able to return these to their rightful owners swiftly, please ensure all uniform is clearly named.

If you need new uniform for the autumn term, we advise that you get ordering directly from Coniston Corporate soon and in order to guarantee delivery before the end of the summer term using this link <https://www.cceuk.org/>.

Events, Trips and Reply Slips

As we become increasingly busy with trips and events after a relatively quiet calendar over the last two years, it is essential that permissions and payments are made promptly. Please support the smooth operation of our administration processes by being organised and returning these forms in good time.

Sun hats and Sun cream

We strongly advise that all pupils apply sun cream before coming to school each morning and bring a hat into school. Every child in school should also have a water bottle which they can use throughout the day to keep hydrated and feeling healthy.

For more information, please refer to our Sun Safety policy located on our website.

Wishing you all a wonderful extended Bank Holiday weekend and let's hope the sunshine continues long into the summer term.

With my very best wishes



Jane Farraday