



LEVENS CE SCHOOL

Loving to Learn, Growing Together, Caring for All

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Dear Parents and Carers,

It's been another few busy weeks in school! Class 3 enjoyed a wet and windy, but thoroughly enjoyable trip to Castlerigg Stone Circle and the Keswick Museum to undertake three stone-age workshops last week. This included handling actual stone-age axes that had been found in the Langdale area of the Lake District, in a cave on the Pike of Stickle, which is believed to have been a primitive axe making factory over 4000 years ago.



Class 1 had an incredible day with Woodmatters at the Footprint building in Windermere where they learnt how to turn pieces of willow into charcoal; build and light fires; and work as a team to use saws safely.

This week, Class 2 have also enjoyed a visit from 'Imagining History' to enhance their learning on the Fire of London!

Why not take a look at our website blog where these experiences and more are shared for you to enjoy! Just follow this [link](#).

Anti-Bullying Week:

We have a zero-tolerance approach to bullying throughout every week in each academic year, but this week it has been even higher on the agenda!! This year's theme is 'Reach Out', kicked off by our Odd Socks Day and special assembly on Monday. In class, we have been learning about what to do if you are being bullied, but also that it's not acceptable to stand back and let it happen if you see it or know that it's happening anywhere around us. Please do continue these discussions at home with your children and don't hesitate to get in touch with us if you have any concerns that bullying might be occurring, now or in the future.

Staff News:

I write with the exciting news that Miss Butler is expecting a baby in the spring and will start her maternity leave around February half term. In the meantime, we are doing our best to keep her fit and healthy as she progresses through her pregnancy! I am sure you will want to join with me in wishing her health and happiness in the weeks leading up to baby's arrival!

By now, you will have read that Mrs Wadey is leaving us at the end of the term. I am still in the process of making arrangements for the rest of this academic year and will update parents as soon as I am able. Thank you for your patience.

Diary Dates and Events:

The website calendar is getting extremely busy in the lead up to the Christmas period. Please ensure you check in regularly to ensure you don't miss out!! There are far too many to outline here but they include our Christmas Fair, our theatre visit, Christmas Jumper Day and our infant nativity performances. A link to our website calendar can be found [here](#).

Our School Build:

Following a meeting involving the construction team of our new building project this week, I can now confirm that work will start on site on Monday 5th December, with completion currently anticipated before the end of the summer term. I feel totally reassured that this is going to be a very carefully managed project that will cause minimal disruption to the children's learning and ensure that their safety and their wellbeing will not be compromised.

However, a project of this size, undertaken during term time, is going to be challenging and will require adaptations to some of the systems and procedures usually in place at school. For example, the fenced-off area of the construction site will significantly reduce the amount of space our children have to play out at social times so we will be limiting the number of children playing out by staggering outdoor playtimes. Entry to and exit from Class 3's fire door will be out of use throughout the construction work which will mean our main entrance will need to be the main point of access into school for our year 3+4 pupils. The staff car park will be inaccessible, so staff will need to park on the roads around school or in the car parking area at St. John's Church – this will in turn impact the flow of traffic around school and your ability to find space to park at busy times. If you can walk to school, this would be really helpful during December and throughout the spring term.

There is a lot to consider, evaluate and plan in order to keep school functioning safely and our children enjoying school and making good progress. We will ensure parents and our community receive regular updates throughout this period; and I will write to parents again towards the end of November with any relevant information before contractors arrive on site.

Children in Need Day:

We have risen to the challenge again today to support this amazing charity and children from all round the country who experience difficulties in their daily lives. Thank you for all the cakes that you have baked for us to sell at school and for supporting our 'spotacular' non-uniform day. Later today, one lucky member of staff will be drenched in water! News of just how much we've raised this year will follow soon, but we are confident this our best ever total!

Shoe Box Appeal

We did it – we are sending even more boxes this Christmas! Thanks to everyone who made one, or more, shoe boxes to be sent across to Eastern Europe this Christmas. Some of the pupils have had the opportunity to share their boxes with their peers and in assemblies too. The children have clearly enjoyed putting such care and thought into the contents of each box and have considered deeply the impact their small act of kindness and generosity on another child will have.

A total of 56 left school today – what an incredible effort – thank you!



Wishing everyone in our community a very lovely weekend,

With my sincere good wishes

J Farraday

Jane Farraday