



# LEVENS CE SCHOOL

Loving to Learn, Growing Together, Caring for All

Headteacher: Mrs Jane Farraday

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Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you for all your support during this term. It has been a very busy, productive and enjoyable time and it has been lovely to welcome you all into school for some lovely, festive events.

As you know, pupils from Reception through to year 6 have today enjoyed a trip up to Theatre by the Lake to see The Borrowers. We had the most incredible day. Thank you to FOLS for supporting our experience at the theatre again this year.

Thanks also extend to FOLS for organising our very successful Christmas Fair which took place last Saturday morning and raised £1166 to support our Outdoor Education Days at Lakeside. Thank you for supporting our fair with your generous donations of cakes and bottles; and your support at the event despite a very cold, snowy start to last Saturday. We have received so much lovely feedback from the community about the wonderful festive atmosphere enhanced by Eleanor's dad and his pals who entertained just under 200 people with their musical talents!

Thank you also for supporting this year's magical Winter Wonderland. Levens families visited on both Saturday and Sunday evenings donating over £300 to our FOLS funds.



It has been lovely to welcome parents and families in to school to see this year's nativity performance of 'Bethlehem Bake Off' and again to enjoy and celebrate our musical talent on Wednesday morning at our Music Extravaganza. These are such important opportunities for the children to shine in different ways beyond their experiences in the classroom. This was also seen at our recent Dallam Cross Country event; personal triumphs abounded and parental support outstanding.

We have, of course, also enjoyed our Christmas lunch, our festive jumper day; and our class parties are also well underway!

Still to come is our very special service on Monday morning at 9.30am and everyone is very welcome to join us at St. John's.

### **The School Build:**

As you can see, the contractors have arrived and work has started on our new building. We will continue to keep you updated in the spring term as the work progresses.

In the meantime, we have further plans in place to promote active, happy and fun-packed social times for our children despite the restrictions of the compound in the playground, with the re-introduction of lunchtime clubs run by some of our year 5 and 6 pupils in the spring term. We also have Barrow Raiders running two lunchtime sessions every Friday too!

### **Online Payments for Parents:**

In response to some parent comments on our autumn term online survey, we have started to explore providing online payment for school lunches, YoYo provision, Nursery provision, after school clubs and trips etc. We have approached three providers and are liaising with cluster schools to determine the effectiveness of such systems

and which provider offers best value for money. We are at the early stages of this process, but I am sure you will appreciate knowing that this is being considered and that your feedback acted on. We will update parents once again in the spring when we have gained more information.

**Children In Need:**

We are so pleased with our donation to this very worthwhile charity this year. Our lovely cakes sales over two days and the addition of the staff water challenge certainly boosted contributions to our best ever total. Then, with the very generous donation from one of our parents, we were able to send a cheque for a total of £1000 from Levens School to Children in Need. Well done and thank you to everyone.

**Pre-loved Uniform Sale:**

Eco Team will be hosting our final pre-loved uniform sale of the year in the dining room from 8.30am on Tuesday morning. If you have any good quality, clean and outgrown uniform to share, please bring your donations to school on Monday morning ready for our sale.

**Diary Dates:**

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

Our spring term begins on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> January at 8.35am.

***Don't forget – school closes at 2pm next Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> December, and there is no YoYo provision that day.***

**Snow and Bad Weather**

Please take care arriving at school when the paths and playground are affected by ice or snow – it has been incredibly icy underfoot in the last week. Mr Metcalf kindly clears and grits 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 also text and email parents as early as possible. Remote learning activities would be set by the classteachers should the school be required to close for any reason in the future.

**And finally:**

We are very sad to be saying farewell to both Mr and Mrs Wadey on Tuesday. Mr Wadey has been a very valuable volunteer at school – over an incredible 27 years. He has supported supervision on many trips, accompanied swimming lessons at the leisure centre and more recently supported us with the creation and maintenance of our school website.

Mrs Wadey has been a consistent element of our school over very many years too – having only ever worked at Levens throughout her long 27-year career. Well-loved by the children and hugely respected by the whole school community, she will be sorely missed. We wish them both a happy and healthy start to new ventures in 2023 and beyond.

Thank you for all your support over the autumn term. Thank you also for the intriguing gift boxes now under our Christmas tree delivered by some very kind elves this afternoon!

On behalf of everyone at Levens School, we wish you a merry Christmas and a happy new year.

With my very best wishes



Jane Farraday