



LEVENS CE SCHOOL

Loving to Learn, Growing Together, Caring for All

Headteacher: Mrs Jane Farraday

Church Road, Levens, Kendal LA8 8PU 015395 60694 office@levens.cumbria.sch.uk www.levens.cumbria.sch.uk

Tuesday 26th June 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,



This half term started with our amazing trip to YMCA! The children had a wonderful time canoeing on Lake Windermere, flying through the trees on the King Swing, sliding down the Blue Tubes and much, much more. Thanks to FOLS for subsidising this trip again this year. We are already exploring another day of outdoor adventure for Classes 1,



2 and 3 next summer. Class Four's three-day residential trip to Ullswater is already booked – Thank you to parents for your commitment to supporting this fabulous opportunity next July!

Thank you to everyone who attended our two sporting events on the playing fields last Friday. What an amazing atmosphere! We were really pleased to have so much family support cheering and clapping the children; and huge thanks to our team from Barrow Raiders who brought their sparkle to the day too.



Class 3 enjoyed a lovely walk over the fields to Sizergh Castle last week as part of their local history study. We were very lucky to have the company of Jake's grandad, who met us along the way to share his local knowledge of Neolithic settlements and ancient burial grounds!



Bugs in School:

We are hoping that the sickness bug circulating school in the last few days is gradually starting to subside. However, in the meantime we will continue to be extremely vigilant in school ensuring regular handwashing, good ventilation and respiratory hygiene. We also have two new cases of StrepA in the last few days, so please look out for these symptoms too. It is important that your child/children do not attend if they have any signs of illness and pupils should not return until they are 48 hours clear of the last episode of D&V. Thank you for your co-operation and understanding.

Buildings Update:

We are really pleased with the progress of the new extension as we now have toilet cubicles, sinks, doors, windows and more! The plastering, painting and flooring is also nearing completion. Having said that, there is still much more to do before the space will be ready for use and all the internal work in the existing building will now not be undertaken until the summer holidays. On Friday, we welcomed back to school Building Control to inspect and quality assure the extension so far and I am pleased to report that the team continue to be completely satisfied with the standard of the work.

Despite delays, we are still confident that the project will be completed ready for the new term on Tuesday 5th September.

We will be hosting an opening event for all our families early in September; and then another event for our wider Levens community later in the term. I look forward to sharing further details with you soon.

Staff News:

It is with sadness that I share news that Miss Pamela Robinson has taken the difficult decision to step down from her position as teacher at Levens CE School. As you know, Miss Robinson had found the pressures of being a full-time teacher very challenging and recently made the decision to reduce her hours to part-time. On behalf of all of us at Levens, I would like to thank her for her outstanding contribution to the school over the last two years and wish her all the best for the future. She will be greatly missed by everyone. We are currently in the final stages of recruiting a fulltime teacher for Class 2 starting in September. As soon as confirmed, I will update parents again.

Mrs Haslam, Ms Chapman and Mr Dean will remain in their current class teacher roles in the autumn term.

I am also able to advise that Miss Butler has been visiting school this term and recently conducted some home visits for our new Nursery starters joining us in September. We are very pleased to be able to inform parents that Miss Butler intends to return to school at the start of November.

Rona's gift:

Thank you Rona for the gift of your beautiful long hair to The Little Princess Trust supporting children who have suffered hair-loss due to cancer. What a truly generous donation. Furthermore, Rona is now trying to raise enough money to manufacture the wig too. To find out more about Rona's fundraising, please follow this [link](#).



Security Update:

Please may we request that you help us maintain the security of our site when leaving the school premises. On occasions, people have gained access to our playground when they have taken an opportunity to enter the school grounds through the green gate at the same time as someone else leaves. As helpful as you may intend, this is a security risk and even if you know the person trying to gain admittance it is very important that this is only done once access has been granted by staff via the intercom.

Sometimes, if staff are busy elsewhere in school, visitors have had to wait. We apologise if this is something that has happened to you and thank you for your patience.

Online Payments:

Thank you to everyone who took part in our survey earlier this month. We received 52 responses from parents with very differing views on whether to support a move to online payments. Governors and staff have also shared their views and I will be revisiting the proposal with governors at our full board meeting next week. Further news to follow.

FOLS News:

As part of the Levens Big Weekend, FOLS will be hosting a summer fair on the playing fields between 10am and 1pm this Saturday and it would be wonderful to see you all there. There are a range of fun games to enjoy and great prizes to be won! If you would like to help on the day, please get in touch with one of our committee members or see the FOLS Facebook page.

This Friday, is a non-uniform day in return for a small prize to be put onto our tombola. This could be a small toy, game or bottle to fit on our game board with each section measuring about 10cm². Please bring your donations to our dining room this Friday morning and leave your uniform at home! Due to the Marquee being in place by Friday, there will be no rugby this week, instead we have archery taster sessions taking place today and Wednesday.

YoYo provision and school meals:

It will be assumed that those booked into regular slots for YoYo presently, will be continuing into September. The same assumption will be made for regular school meal eaters, so it is really important to email the office with details, should you wish that to change. Parents of the current Year 2 pupils will receive a separate letter about meals before the end of term

Save the Date:

Please make a note of some important dates coming up later this term. Not every date is listed here so please do check the calendar.

Archery Taster Sessions for Years 1-6 – Tuesday 27th and Wednesday 28th June.

Class 4 Open-water swimming at Fellfoot – Thursday 29th June.

Non-Uniform Day for Tombola Prizes – Friday 30th June.

FOLS Summer Fair on the playing Fields – Saturday 1st July 10am-1pm.

Reception Trip to Treasure Island – Tuesday 4th July.

Cumbria Opera Singing Workshops – Thursday 6th July

Year 6 Leavers' Service at St. John's Church – Monday 17th July at 9.30am.

Our calendar is updated regularly and can be found by following this [link](#).

Finally, a reminder that school closes on Wednesday 19th July at 2pm. The last YoYo session will be on Tuesday 18th July until 5.15pm

With my very best wishes



Jane Farraday