



LEVENS CE SCHOOL

Loving to Learn, Growing Together, Caring for All

Headteacher: Mrs Jane Farraday

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Friday 29th September 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

It's been a fantastic start to the new academic year and lovely to welcome both children and parents into our new school environment! We have had such positive feedback about the enhancements to the existing building and about our new extension. It was lovely to welcome so many of you into school at the start of term touring with your children. We are currently in the process of planning an official opening ceremony and some celebratory events; more news to follow soon.

Three classes have already enjoyed wonderful trips offsite. Class 4 spent a day on Ullswater learning how to work together as a team to build and sail on rafts; Class 3 developed a whole range of survival skills on their day with Woodmatters at the Footprint building in Windermere; and Class 2 have finally started their local history study with their informative voyage back in time to Levens Hall yesterday.



Lots more exciting adventures are planned for all our pupils in the year ahead.

Staff News:

We feel very lucky indeed to welcome Mrs Lydia Crowder to the staff team this term. Mrs Crowder is already having a huge impact on the support we are able to offer our pupils both in lessons and during lunchtimes.

Contacting School:

Just a quick reminder that classteachers are often unable to read or respond to emails during the school day when they are teaching and class emails are not always read daily. For all arrangements for YoYo, collecting your child, or to report absence, please contact Mrs Coker in the office directly.

At Levens, leaders care passionately about the wellbeing of all staff and try to help model and manage a healthy work-life balance. In that respect, please try to avoid emailing staff at the weekends. Thank you for your understanding and support.

Parent Governor News:

I am pleased to advise that a new parent governor is in the process of being appointed to the Board following the closure of nominations last week. The successful candidate will be advised as soon as preliminary pre-appointment processes have been finalised. There will be another parent governor vacancy later this term which will be advertised nearer the time.

Class 4 Residential visit to Ullswater:

The next instalment of £50 is now due. Please forward cheques made payable to Levens School or cash to the office as soon as possible, along with your Patterdale Hall payment card.

Parent-Teacher Appointments:

We hope that you have now returned your request for a preferred date and time for your opportunity to find out how your child has settled into their new class and have any of queries answered. Classteachers will not be able to offer appointments at alternative times due to other commitments, but don't worry if you haven't returned your slip – you will be automatically provided with an appointment on one of our two allocated days.

Notification of your appointment will be distributed via the children on Monday. Teachers will need to remain on schedule during the evenings to avoid overrunning which would result in other parents having to wait. Please may I encourage you to do the same, so that arrangements and follow on appointments run efficiently. We look forward to welcoming you back into school next week.

Celebration Assemblies:

These special assemblies take place in school every week; and you are invited along regularly throughout the school year. Look out for the next one listed on our events calendar on the website.

Reminder of our Term Dates:

Autumn Term 2023

Term Starts: Tuesday 5th September until Wednesday 20th December

Half term Holiday: Monday 23rd October until Friday 27th October

Spring Term 2024

Term Starts: Thursday 4th January until Thursday 28th March

Half Term Holiday: Monday 12th February until Friday 16th February

Summer Term 2024

Term Starts: Tuesday 16th April until Friday 19th July

Half Term Holiday: Monday 27th May until Friday 31st May

Early May Bank Holiday Monday 6th May

Holidays in term time are not authorised – please see the attendance section of our website for more information.

FOLS:

Joining our parent group of volunteers – Friends of Levens School (FOLS) - is a great way to meet other parents and be involved in some of the lovely events in our school calendar.

As always, we are looking for new recruits to join our committed team. Why not come along to our AGM taking place in school on Wednesday 18th October at 6pm. We will be

reviewing committee membership and planning this year's calendar of events. Everyone is welcome!

Christian Value:

Our Christian value this term is forgiveness which is so much more than saying sorry. We can forgive because we are forgiven. "Be compassionate and kind to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you." Ephesians 4:32

School uniform:

Please can we request that parents name all items of uniform. Unnamed or incorrectly named uniform is difficult to re-unite with owners and wastes valuable staff time. If you have purchased pre-loved uniform from one of our sales, please make sure you re-name your child's items accurately.

Please ensure you regularly check our school website calendar as this is constantly being updated!

Just follow this link - <https://www.levens.cumbria.sch.uk/calendar/>

Thank you for taking the time to read our September news and enjoy a lovely weekend.

With my very best wishes

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jane Farraday".

Jane Farraday