



LEVENS CE SCHOOL

Loving to Learn, Growing Together, Caring for All

Headteacher: Mrs Jane Farraday

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Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to the start of the new year: it's been a very positive first week in school. A very special welcome to families who have joined us for the first time in Nursery.

Class and curriculum information:

This week you will have received some information via email from your child's class teacher regarding the curriculum content for this term, expectations on home learning, PE days and any updates on some routines. Further details can be found on our class pages on our website, including this term's class timetables. Please follow this [link](#) to view each of the four class pages.

Celebration Assemblies and other events:

We have now set the dates for our special assemblies this term, the first one is for parents and family members of children in Class 4 on Friday 30th January at 9am.

Other dates are now being set on the calendar, including our next teacher appointments with parents and carers, now scheduled for Monday 23rd February and Thursday 26th February. More details will be shared nearer the time.

Our Christian Value and assemblies during the spring term:

Our Christian value this term is Love and we will be exploring what love means and how God's unconditional love for each and every one of us is everlasting in weekly worship on Mondays. We will explore how we can show real love for one another in our daily lives and the meaning of loyal friendships. The story of Ruth's love for Naomi, found in the Old Testament, is an example of a strong, loving relationship; and a reflection of God's faithful love too.

'Love your neighbour as yourself,' Mark, Chapter 12:13

Also, the class teachers have this week started leading assemblies to teach the children all about their brain development and are encouraging them to have a growth mindset. Learning is challenging and by exploring this with the children in an age-appropriate way, we hope to build greater resilience; independence and a positive approach to all their learning experiences both in and out of the classroom. We also intend to be offering parents and carers some workshops and discussion opportunities later this term – look out for some more news on this coming soon.

Health Snacks in KS2:

Children in classes 3 and 4 are encouraged to bring in a healthy snack each morning to eat during morning break. This should be separate to their packed lunch and should be limited to either fruit, bread sticks, rice cakes, raisins or crackers. Packets of crisps, brioche rolls and cakes are not appropriate for break time. Please also note that all snacks coming into school should be nut-free and grapes/tomatoes cut lengthways. Thank you for your anticipated support with our healthy eating policies.

PE kits and Feel Good Fridays:

You will have noticed if you have read the class newsletters, that in some of our classes we are taking a more flexible approach on Fridays to develop further skills and time to talk. This means that children are no longer required to come into school on Fridays in their PE kits (with the exception of Reception and Nursery) but should always have their PE kits in school. Please also note that on occasions, we have to change our PE days at short notice, sometimes due to weather conditions or to staffing. During the autumn term, some children were without the appropriate kit in school and therefore missed vital physical exercise. We are hoping that by keeping PE kits in school at all times this will support pupils and their families to have the correct kit whenever they need it and never miss out on their PE lessons which occur twice a week.

Just a reminder too please, that earrings must be removed for all physical activity.

ParentPay:

We are so pleased with the response from parents using our online payment system which has been in place for some time now and recently extended to all payments coming into school. It has had a significant impact on our school systems including: improved security with virtually no cash now held on site; a reduction in outstanding payments ensuring that our accounts are not in arrears; a very positive impact on the efficient running of the office and a reduction in labour-intensive paper-based processes.

We will soon be sharing a survey to determine the views of our users. We are really keen to hear from you about how you are finding the system; about whether it is user-friendly; what you consider are the benefits compared to our previous system of half-termly invoices and cash or cheque payments. Please look out for the survey arriving by email and if you can spare a few minutes, we would really appreciate your views so that we can respond to your feedback.

Patterdale Meeting for families:

We are having a meeting for children and their families on Thursday 12th February at 5-5.30pm in the school hall and would encourage everyone to come along to find out about our exciting visit to Ullswater in March. More details to follow soon.

In the meantime, we look forward to sharing more news with you via our website, our Instagram pages and our newsletters throughout the coming weeks.

With my very best wishes,



Jane Farraday