

St James' Church of England Junior School
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"With exploring minds, and faith; we grow and learn together."

Newsletter Issue no.33
w/e 16th June 2023

Welcome to this week's Newsletter

PUPILS OF THE WEEK

The children have all been working extremely hard this week. Here are our Pupils of the Week-



Windermere - Nancy H & Lucas M

Ullswater - Sophia R, Lexie R & Chloe T

Derwentwater – Reece F

Bassenthwaite - Jensen F

Ennerdale - Carson M

Buttermere - Bethan L

Attendance winners:

Ullswater had top attendance this week and will get an extra MUGA day.

Overall school attendance this week is: 95.84%



Homework Heroes



Windermere - Evan C

Ullswater - Jayden G

Derwentwater - Nancy H

Bassenthwaite - Conall C

Buttermere - Emilia A

Christian Value Award

Windermere – Lilymae M & Jules F

Ullswater - Zayne M

Derwentwater - Poppy M

Bassenthwaite - Connor J

Ennerdale - Ava L

Buttermere - Oliver G



Each week, all of the children gaining 100% in a reading quiz are placed into a prize draw to win a book of their choice. This week's winners were Jess T & Alfie C.



Every week, children are encouraged to take part in the 'St James' Fitness Trail' and a winner is drawn from everyone who has completed it that week. Well done to this week's winner, Lottie Y, who has won a sporting prize of their choice.



Thank you to all the Lunchtime Hall Helpers, Tuck Shop Volunteers and Craze It Crew who have helped this week!





Hello and welcome to our weekly Newsletter.

What a hot and busy week it has been here at St James'. Children continue to look at Thankfulness as their half-termly Christian value, and a special thanks to Anna Jones for hosting our return Collective Worship in the church on Tuesday.

We have had lots going on both in school and off site this week with children enjoying lots of exciting experiences. See below for details. In the classroom, the children continue to work hard despite the heat, this has included some children tackling their summer assessments, which have gone really well showing the hard work and progress they have made. It was great to capture some of this achievement in our weekly celebration assembly with individual certificates handed out for improved handwriting, excellent group work and outstanding enthusiasm.

Wishing you all a restful weekend, Mr Beattie



School Messages, Notices & Reminders—

Year 6 residential – The Yr 6 children arrived home late last Friday evening after four fun-filled days around Shropshire. This included visits to Chester Zoo, Blists Hill Living Museum, Alton Towers and Chill Factor Ski Slope. It was a tiring but action-packed trip and it was great to see the children making memories alongside their friends after all the hard-work they've put in this year. A special thanks go out to Mark and Nikki at Cloverly Hall for making us feel so welcome in our base for the 4 days with the children enjoying the grounds to swim, play football, tennis or just relax by the tree swing. Please have a look at the multiple galleries which staff have put on, if you missed them last week.

Cross Country – On Wednesday we sent a group of Year 3 & 4 children for a Cross Country event. The idea was to show an improvement on our times from September and of course just to have fun. Despite the hot weather, the staff and students at St Benedict's made us feel really welcome and even cooled us all down whilst we ran with some impressive shots from their water pistols. Well done team on your efforts and a special mention to Harlow T for coming in 1st place with a time of 3m 54s – very impressive running Harlow!

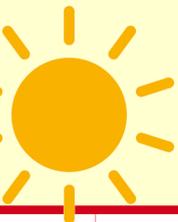


Careers Day – A few weeks ago we sent a flyer home to ask whether any parents/families are able to support our Careers Day in upper school. This is an idea we have run in the past with great success in teaching children about the world of work. We are looking for a range of occupations, and ask adults to come in to talk about their career choice and what challenges/rewards they face on a daily basis. There would also be a time for Q&A for the children and preferably something to show (equipment or PowerPoint for example) that can help the children visualise the role. If you, or a friend or family member thinks they can help, please return the flyer or contact school. We are looking for the workshops to run

between 9.30 and 11.30 on 11th July.

Football – We continued our series of school friendlies with Jericho Primary this week with the turn of a group of mixed Yr 3 & 4 children. The 2 teams represented the school really well during their matches and really enjoyed playing against players in the grassroots teams. A special thankyou to Mr Elder and Mr Tyson for organising. Next week sees a team of Year 5/6 girls play the Jericho teams on Monday and a home fixture with a Year 5/6 boys team from Jericho coming to school to play on our Muga for a futsal 5-a-side game. Because of the limited space on our grounds, we wont be able to invite parents in to watch – sorry.

Cycling Proficiency – It has been a hot week but that hasn't deterred the efforts of a group of Yr 6 children who this week have completed their Level 1 and Level 2 Bikeability Cycling Proficiency. This included a session on our school yard, then 6 hours navigating their way around the busy roads and hills around Whitehaven. It was tough work, with the kids getting a much-needed water break at Tesco but the instructors; Vicki and Kate were really impressed with their efforts and commitment. Well done to all who took part and they will receive their certificates and badges next week.



Heat – It's looking like the forecast is set to return to normal levels next week with a few showers scattered in between. We encourage children to continue to wear sun caps and apply sunscreen before school. We will assess temperatures at start of week to ensure that they indeed drop and become more comfortable. Summer uniform wear is still okay (grey shorts, summer dresses, school polos) but we would ask that children do not come to school in their own summery clothes next week.

School Messages, Notices & Reminders Continued —

Yr 2 Transition – This week senior leaders have been busy meeting up with Mrs Moore and Mrs Sapsed from St James Infants school to share assessment information on our September Year 3 cohort and Mrs Pickering and Miss Pool are due to continue their visits soon to introduce themselves to the children. Next week we welcome the Yr 2 children up for a Collective Worship with myself and a play on our yard with our Yr 3 & 4 children. The program of transition continues with a move up morning planned for Wednesday 5th July and a parent welcome on site with myself @ 2pm on 29th June.

St Benedict's Transition – Some of our Yr 6 children enjoyed meeting Mrs Woodcock from St Benedict's this week to support their transition to St Benedict's Secondary School in September. They made a good first impression and asked sensible questions about what life is like at St Benedict's. Similar visits are planned from some of the other secondary schools in the coming weeks.

St Bees Priory Visit – On Wednesday our Year 4 children were invited along by Rev Becky Gibbs at St Bees Priory to see an art installation in the church of a prayer labyrinth. The children enjoyed a picnic in the grounds followed by some reflection in the church and some joyful singing. Thank you Rev Gibbs for inviting us along.

St James' Infants Summer Fayre— Next week St James' Infants are holding their Summer Fayre and have asked us to encourage Juniors to come after school. It's next Friday 23rd from 2pm with all of the usual fun activities, toys, cakes, refreshments, games, face paints, tattoos and a bouncy castle.

Come to our

School Fayre

Friday 23rd June
@ 2.00pm
Everyone welcome!!!

Join us for
Games Toys/Books Raffle
Cakes Chocolate Tombola
Refreshments
Face Painting Glitter Tattoos
And
a fabulous Bouncy Castle

We will also have a pre loved uniform stall, for anyone looking for nearly new uniform items for September.



Baby & Child First Aid for Parents—We are pleased that we can offer out this training to our families free of charge. ****Please note we are now able to offer this to grandparents, so please contact us to book**** Remaining session – Friday 23rd June 2023 9-12 a.m. If you would be interested in attending please either contact Mrs Maiden or Mrs Brown at the Infants.

Absence Reporting Procedure— Can all parents/carers ensure that if their child is not attending school they notify the school **via telephone**, not by email or Seesaw please. It is in the Attendance Policy that parents should telephone, but we are increasingly getting more emails and therefore will insist from Monday that notifications are made by telephone please (please leave an answerphone message if your call is not answered including the reason for the absence, otherwise we will call back for additional details). Thank you for your understanding.

IMPORTANT MESSAGE

Healthy Steps from NHS England—The Healthy Steps programme has **launched!**

This is a free 8-week email programme designed to encourage families to eat better and move more, with budget conscious, easy and practical ideas.

How can you help? - NHS are asking as many families as possible with 5-11 year olds going to www.healthysteps.uk to sign up in our local area. To help you support the programme, they have created a range of free and useful resources on the [Campaign Resource Centre](#). Here you will find recipe cards, newsletter copy, a social toolkit and more.

How does Healthy Steps work? - Parents/carers can sign up at any time by completing a quiz about their current eating and physical activity habits. Once they've completed the quiz they will receive weekly emails on one of these themes, tailored to their quiz results:

- Reducing sugar, eating 5 a day and meal planning

The content in the emails will then provide families with simple ways to take steps towards healthier behaviours.

Vacancies — From September we will be looking for new people to join our team of Midday Supervisors. If you or a friend or a family member are looking for part-time work, doing something really rewarding and beneficial for the school then we would love to hear from you. We can potentially offer 3/5 days roles, so even if you can't do every day we would still be keen to hear from you. If you are interested please contact Mrs Maiden, School Business Manager.

Term Time Holidays—We have recently seen an increase in parents requesting a term-time absence. Because of this we have reissued the letter sent out to all parents from Dan Barton at the local authority which can be found on our website. We are unable to authorise any absence other than the most exceptional circumstances. We also feel that it is also worth sharing that the Local Authority request all details around term-time holidays, and in cases where they are concerned about issues surrounding attendance, have the authority to issue fixed-penalty notices to families. Thank you for your understanding on this.

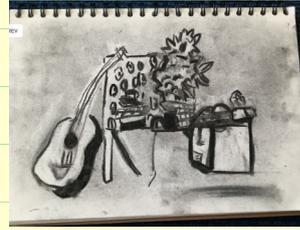
Here are links to some activities which have been happening in school this week (click on pictures) -



Year 5—Performance Poetry



Cross Country



Bassenthwaite—
Sense of Proportion



Derwentwater- Gravity

Check out all of the other [galleries](#) showing the children learning and exploring a range of different topics. Check out your child's [class page](#) here.

Coming up at St James' -

- ⇒ Saturday 17th June – Uniform selling day at West Lakes Academy
- ⇒ Friday 23rd June—Parents First Aid 9-12 a.m.
- ⇒ Saturday 1st July – Uniform selling day at St Benedict's School
- ⇒ Wednesday 5th July- Y6 Taster Day—Whitehaven Academy, St Benedict's & West Lakes Academy
- ⇒ Wednesday 5th July – Year 6 Parents information evening at St Benedict's & West Lakes Academy
- ⇒ Thursday 6th July—Summer Performance
- ⇒ Tuesday 11th July—Careers Morning
- ⇒ Thursday 13th July—Sports Day (Parents welcome from 1-3 p.m.)

⇒ End of Summer Term—Wednesday
19th July

Weekly Clubs & Activities—

- ⇒ Tuesday—
 - ◆ After School Gymnastics Club (Collected from Whitehaven Sports Centre @ 4.30 p.m.) &
 - ◆ **CANCELLED THIS WEEK** Soundwave Music Club (Collect from school at 4.30p.m.)
- ⇒ Wednesday –
 - ◆ 8.00 a.m. Judo Breakfast Club
- ⇒ Thursday
 - ◆ Mr Carruthers Year 6 Drama Club (Collect from school @ 4.30 p.m.)

