

Beckstone Primary Newsletter



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Newsletter no. 7

March 2025



Dear Parents,

Welcome to the March edition of our school newsletter. I hope and trust you all had a fabulous half term which seems a while ago now! There is a lot happening between now and the Easter holidays which, in reality, is a short space of time. We hope this newsletter will keep you up to speed with everything that you need to know about school life this month.

The month of March will see World Book Day, ducks hopefully hatching, 'Poetry by Heart', Cyclewise training for Year 5 and Year 4, many trips out, further sports events, Easter party nights, school Bingo nights, egg decorating and egg dumping. All important dates are on the back page of this newsletter.

In addition to all of the above there are also parents' evenings this month for those not in Year 6. **Please ensure you book your slot on Calendly** when you receive notification from your child's teacher. The evenings are taking place on various nights this time, see dates marked in red/bold on the back page. It is school policy now to only have one appointment per child. All educational research shows that when school and home work together to support a child they have greater educational success so please do attend.

Wishing you all an eggsellent Easter when it comes.

The next newsletter will be an April/May version after the Easter holidays.

Best wishes,
Mr Warbrick



This newsletter has been sponsored by the following local businesses, please look out for their advert and support them when you can. Please mention that you have seen their advert in the school's newsletter!!

- Cumbria Coast Karate
- Harrington Pharmacy
- Premier Blinds & Curtains
- Robinsons & Co
- The Wobbly Wand



No Mobile Phones in School.....	2
Parents' Evenings.....	2
Sporting Success	3
Arbor App.....	3
World Book Day – Get Cosy & Read	3
<i>Non Fiction Reading Challenge</i>	4
Non-Uniform Days.....	4
Easter at Beckstone	5
<i>Easter Bingo Night</i>	5
<i>Easter Competitions</i>	5
<i>Egg Dumping</i>	5
<i>Easter Parties</i>	6
<i>Easter Raffle</i>	6
Safeguarding/Child Protection.....	6
Young Voices 2026	7
Visit from WELL Director	7
Governors Board.....	8
Creativity Cup	9
Community Champion Cup.....	9
The Marie Wright Kindness Cup.....	10
The Blain Rooney Sporting Trophy.....	10
Y5 Bikeability/Cyclewise.....	10
National Recognition & Praise	11
Attendance	11
<i>Cup Winners</i>	11
<i>Term Time Holidays & Tests</i>	11
Foodbank	11
Food & Drink.....	11
Nursery Intakes	12
Arabella Playground.....	14
Loom Band Sale THIS THURSDAY 5 th March	15
Snappy Opera.....	15
Red Nose Day	15
Revisewise.....	15
Advertisements	15
Donations Needed	16
Messy Mary's at St Mary's Harrington.....	16
Facebook & Instagram	16
Bench Donation	16
Mother's Day Messages	16
Ear-Rings for PE	16
PE & Health.....	17
Complaints	17
Poetry by Heart	18
Parking & Breakfast Club Etiquette.....	18
Cumberland SEND Partnership Newsletter.....	18
Workington Town Rugby	17
Hub2U	18
Reception Dance	18
Ducks.....	19
And Finally.....	19
Diary Dates	20

Harrington Pharmacy



25 Church Road
Tel 01946 833565

- ❖ Free prescription collection service from Workington and Distington surgeries, for all ages
- ❖ Regular promotions throughout the shop
- ❖ Selection of household, baby and toiletry products. Plus, perfumes and gifts
- ❖ Free repeat medication check-up service

Opening hours

Mon-Fri 9am-5.30pm
Sat 9am-12.30pm



No Mobile Phones in School



As you may have seen on the news recently the DfE have issued updated guidance to schools on mobile phones. In addition our local M.P., Josh McAllister, has agreed with all schools in his constituency (Primary & Secondary) that they all adopt the same policy with regard to mobile phones not being allowed in school. The policy is very similar to our own apart from ours also covers smart watches. Phones are NOT allowed in school (turned off and in a bag is also a breach of policy) and any found (schools have the right to search for them if they so wish) will mean the pupil has seriously breached the behaviour policy with strict sanctions. If there is a serious and extreme reason for a child having a phone then a form needs completed and if the reason is deemed 'exceptional' in line with guidance a phone can be deposited in the Office in the morning and collected at the end of the day. This would be a very rare thing.

Please can all families ensure their child is not carrying a phone to school.

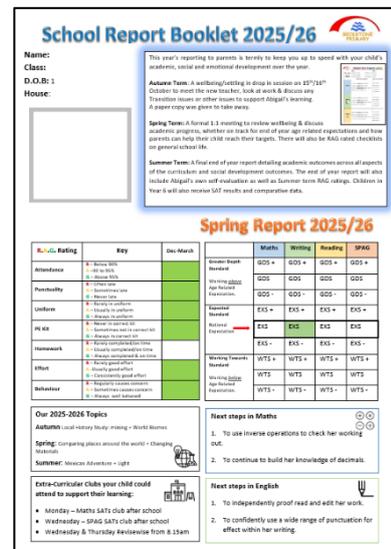
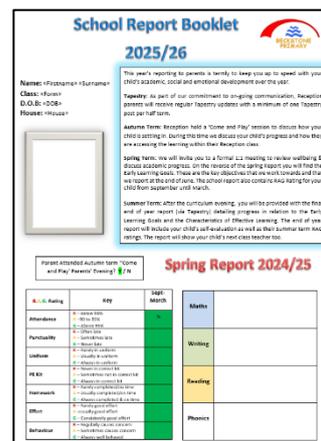


Parents of children in classes from Reception to Year 4 and 5RM should have received booking information via Tapestry /Seesaw to book a 10 minute appointment with your child's teacher on the various dates that are on the back page. The booking is managed by an app called Calendly. The title may say 'Autumn Term'...this is a glitch and should read Spring term.



The appointments are for you and your child (one appointment per child...if there are difficult circumstances then a Zoom appointment at the same time as the in person one could be set up on request but only on an acute need basis. It really is important parents do attend so they hear the same message and so can support their child effectively. The appointment will focus

on an interim report on your child's progress along with RAG ratings for attendance, behaviour, uniform compliance etc as well as reviewing school life in general following on from the Autumn evening.



The report will look like the one displayed for KS1 & KS2 above and the second one for Reception alongside.

Please note that brothers and/or sisters should not be at these meetings but should be in the FREE crèche provided or in

Beckstone Xtra for the ones on Monday 16th March. We will also be asking you to support your children by setting targets for you to support them at home.

BEGINNERS CLASSES ENROLLING NOW

www.cumbriacoastkarate.co.uk



IN MARTIAL ARTS

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KARATE

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HARRINGTON
SCOUT HUT

THURSDAYS 6pm-8pm
SUNDAYS 5pm-7pm

LORTON YEW TREE HALL
TUESDAYS 6pm-8pm

LAMPLUGH VILLAGE HALL
MONDAYS 6pm-8pm

THE GATHER ENNERDALE
WEDNESDAYS 6pm-8pm

LEARN KARATE IN A FAMILY FRIENDLY CLUB
BUILD SELF CONFIDENCE
IMPROVE SELF ESTEEM
IMPROVE FITNESS
LOSE WEIGHT
LEARN HOW TO USE IN SELF DEFENCE
FAMILIES TRAINING TOGETHER

FOR MORE INFO OR TO ENROL CALL

07543 876490

(THIS NUMBER DOES NOT ACCEPT TEXT MESSAGES)

ALL INSTRUCTORS ARE FIRST AID TRAINED AND DBS CHECKED



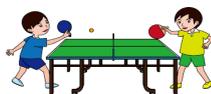
Sporting Success

Key Steps Gymnastics



Our Key Steps Gymnastics team won the local area gymnastics competition by a long way. They represented the school brilliantly. They now go on to the County finals on Monday 23rd March.

KS2 Table Tennis Tournament



We entered 2 teams into the local area tournament. Our A and B teams won their leagues undefeated and Team A competed in the final and were runners up and Team B were won the 3rd place play off. All played brilliantly and displayed

excellent sporting values. This also is the only tournament where staff play as well against staff from other schools. Mrs Chambers and Mr Warbrick both played well and were undefeated helping their teams. The teams are pictured below.



Arbor App



Arbor

As you should all be aware the school has moved its data management program to 'Arbor' from Scholar Pack (which is being discontinued). The new system is quite different yet the transition has been smoothly managed by Mrs Tuck in the Office.

The school will no longer be text messaging and you will get notifications through the App. If you are struggling with this please contact the School office.

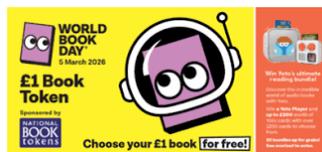
Please note...this is additional to Tapestry % Seesaw, NOT a replacement

World Book Day – Get Cosy & Read

This takes place **THIS Thursday**, 5th March. **Please note:** The offer of discounted world book day books for schools for their pupils on this day is no longer available however the book token sent home just before half term can be used to get the World Book Day Books from a book shop.

WORLD
BOOK
DAY

5 MARCH 2026



The theme for the day is either book characters or bedtime reading so children can come in costumes, nightwear, pyjamas, tracksuits, hoodie blankets, dressing gowns etc. There is therefore no need to buy costumes.

WORLD BOOK DAY
THURSDAY
5TH MARCH

Theme
Book characters or
bedtime reading -
costumes, nightwear,
tracksuits, dressing down
etc

Celebrating with
WORLD BOOK DAY

Children can bring
their favourite item to
read from home. Ten
minute reading sessions
will take place
throughout the day!

Donations of unwanted children's non fiction
books are very welcome!

Most importantly your child is invited to bring their favourite items to read to school from home as they will have the opportunity to read for pleasure at various points throughout the school day. The school Tannoy will announce ten-minute reading sessions within each lesson across the course of the day. They can bring in comics, picture books, novels or factual books. We will also provide reading material for them.

Non Fiction Reading Challenge



On World Book Day the Sports Hall will be turned into a non fiction reading area for the children to explore the world, history, geography and much much more. Non fiction books from around the school will be available for the children to dip into or quiz each other on.

Children reading non-fiction books builds knowledge, sparks curiosity, develops critical thinking, and improves reading skills by providing factual information on topics they love, from science and history to culture, often using engaging visuals, activities, and relatable stories that boost academic success and a lifelong love of learning.



We would very much welcome donations of any unwanted children's non fiction books, encyclopaedias etc that would support this event. Please help if you can.

Non-Uniform Days

There are three non-uniform days this half term. The first is on Thursday 5th March. The theme for the day is either book characters or bedtime reading so children can come in costumes, nightwear, pyjamas, tracksuits, hoodie blankets, dressing gowns etc. There is therefore no need to buy costumes.

The second day is the day after, Friday 6th March which is in memory of Arabella as it will be a year since she last attended school.

WEAR PINK OR PURPLE
For Arabella
FRIDAY 6TH MARCH

THIS NON UNIFORM DAY IS IN MEMORY OF ARABELLA. 6TH MARCH IS A YEAR SINCE ARABELLA LAST ATTENDED SCHOOL.

THE THEME IS PINK & PURPLE, ARABELLA'S FAVOURITE COLOURS.

DONATIONS TOWARDS THE PLAYGROUND ARE WELCOMED.

The theme is to wear pink or purple (her favourite colours) if you can. Donations towards the playground would be welcomed via ParentPay to the 'Arabella Adventure Playground'. We are hoping to open it after the Easter holidays (see later article).

Finally on Friday 13th March where we will be asking for donations of chocolate in return for wearing no uniform. The chocolate will be used for Bingo prizes and for egg and bonnet prizes.



Chocolate Non Uniform Day

Friday 13th March

Chocolate donations
would be gratefully
received to support
Bingo Night and Egg &
Bonnet prizes.

Thank you



Easter at Beckstone

EASTER ACTIVITIES MARCH 2026

Easter Parties

3:15pm - 5:15pm

Thur 19th - UKS2 Easter Party Night
Mon 23rd - Rec Easter Party Night
Tue 24th - Y1&2 Easter Party Night
Thur 26th - LKS2 Easter Party Night

Easter Activities

W/C Mon 23rd - Egg & bonnet design week & Egg dump competition. At the start of the week :

NUR & REC - Bring 1 egg for dumping & bring a decorated bonnet from home

KS1 & KS2 - Bring 2 eggs. 1 for the egg dump & 1 to decorate in school

Wed 25th - Easter Bingo Night

Fri 27th - Egg dumping final in assembly, Easter raffle drawn & school breaks up for Easter



Easter Bingo Night



Easter Bingo Night

Wednesday 25th March 6pm

Tickets £6.00
Ticket price includes
1 Bingo book, a hotdog and drink

To book a place please pay via Parentpay
There are limited spaces!

On sale on the night: Extra books, stand up bingo, raffle tickets, crisps, cakes etc.



The Easter Bingo Night will take place on Wednesday 25th March and with doors opening from 5.30pm for a 6pm prompt start. Tickets went on sale last week.

All tickets are priced at £6.00 (which includes a Bingo book, a hot dog and a drink). Additional books and raffle tickets will be on sale at the door both priced at £1. Additionally, there will also be traybakes, flavoured water, crisps and sweets for sale and a 'stand up bingo' game after the interval costing £1 (or £2 for a large candy floss) with a prize for the last standing adult and child.

Easter Competitions

Children in Nursery & Reception are invited to bring bonnets that they have decorated at home with a parent in the last week of term. There will be prizes for the most original and they will go on display outside the classrooms.



All children will need to bring a **hard boiled** egg for egg dumping and children in Key Stage 1 & 2 will need 2, one for decorating and one for dumping in the last week of term. They will decorate their eggs in school and they will be judged by the cook on the final Thursday of term.

Egg Dumping

Children are invited to take part in an egg dumping competition in the last week of this term in their classes/Nursery groups. Each class winner will then go through to the 'Grand Final' on the last day of term (Friday 27th March) where the 'School Champion' will be



crowned. Children wishing to take part will need to bring a **hard-boiled** hen's egg to school (not duck, not dinosaur or concrete and not varnished!) on the Monday of the last week– we will endeavour to remind you about this.

Easter Parties



Parties take place every other half term. The ones planned for this half term take place on Thursday 19th March for UKS2 and then in the week beginning the 23rd of March with YR on the Monday; KS1 on the Tuesday and LKS2 on the Thursday.

Once the deadline of Wednesday 18th March has passed there is no leeway to take any more bookings as refreshments will have been bought according to numbers.

The cost for each night is £6, which is payable on ParentPay. The cost includes care and copious refreshments. Further details will go out soon.



The evenings finish at 5.15pm – please collect your child from the Sports Hall Door.

Easter Raffle

Easter Raffle
Tickets £2.00
via Parentpay

1st prize - Large Cuddly Toy & Chocolate Egg
2nd Prize - Easter Basket

This will be drawn on Friday
27th March

There will be an Easter children's raffle at £2 per entry in the run up to the holidays. There will be an Easter

Panda and a hamper of chocolate goodies as prizes. Tickets can be bought on ParentPay.

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Safeguarding/Child Protection

SAFEGUARDING TEAM
Safeguarding is EVERYONE'S responsibility...

Mrs. Boyd
 Designated Safeguarding Lead

Mrs. Needham
 Deputy Safeguarding Lead

Mr. Warbrick
 Deputy Safeguarding Lead

If you have any worries or concerns about a child please do not hesitate to contact school: 01946 830423. Or alternatively out of school hours using the following email: safeguarding@beckstone.cumbria.sch.uk to share any worries of concerns. This will be managed by one of the Safeguarding Team. Alternatively you can seek further information from the Cumberland Safeguarding Children Partnership website/Childline/NSPCC highlighted below.

ChildLine
 0800 1111

NSPCC
 0808 800 5000

Full details on the county's policies, procedures and processes with regard to safeguarding plus analysis of outcomes of serious case reviews can be accessed through the Cumbria LSCB website at www.cumbrialscb.com the site also has a parental information zone.

In addition to the above the school has a 'Safeguarding Zone' on its website which contains the above link as well as relevant school policies, further information and

a diagram showing how we keep your child safe in school. It is well worth a look.

Sharing information is in the best interests of children and their safeguarding. The school reserves the right to share and receive information from other agencies that may have had dealings with your child.



If you ever have any concerns about the safety or wellbeing of a child, then you can ring your concerns through to the County's 24 hour 'Safeguarding Hub' number and you can remain anonymous if you wish. Callers can outline their concerns and the Safeguarding Hub will give advice (consultation) and if necessary, undertake an assessment of need.

There is now also an adult NSPCC helpline where any concerned adult can seek advice if they are concerned about a child and would like advice on whether to make a referral. The number to call is:



Young Voices 2026

43 of our children travelled to Manchester Arena on Friday 13th February, the day before half term, to attend the Young Voices 2026 concert. Choirs from across the North of England will gather for this musical spectacular which is greatly enjoyed by all who take part.

Everyone who took part in the trip really enjoyed it and despite the late night and late hours to bed.

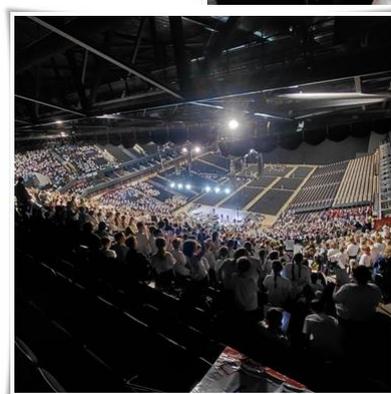
SCAN ME



A big thank you goes to Mrs Needham who organised the trip and trained the choir – an amazing job.

There are a plethora of photos and videos on the school web site (some are below & in the next column).

https://www.beckstone.cumbria.sch.uk/pupil_zone/film_photo_gallery/2025-2026/young-voices/index.html



Visit from WELL Director



John Sanderson (Interim Director at WELL) visited before half term. He was very impressed with our school. He described it as "an amazing place where learners can grow". He commented on the fantastic quality of education we offer here and was impressed with all the lessons he observed. He was astounded by the recent letter from Bridget Philipson regarding our outcomes at the end of KS2 for disadvantaged students (and said we should have it framed!). John spoke highly of our students and how kindly and confidently they spoke about their own learning. He said "you don't see that everywhere and it doesn't happen by accident. That's down to the work you all do here."

After meeting with our Teaching Assistant team, he said we are extremely fortunate to have such passionate, skilled and dedicated professionals. He recognised the importance of the ELSA (Emotional Literacy Support Assistants) roles and how deeply they're positively impacting our students. He also said he'd look further into more bespoke, tailored CPD for TAs similar to the MITA Inset Day. John also commented on the way our school is presented, he said it was "immaculate" and shows how much pride we all take in our roles. He said it's clear to see that we are here to serve our students and community and that we do so brilliantly.





Governors' Board

Governors Blog

We've nearly made it everyone. Spring has nearly sprung! March 20th marks the spring equinox. For all those keen upper KS2's that is when the day is as long as it is short because of Earth's position to the sun. It's longer and warmer days what a relief.

March in school is always exciting. It's World Book Day. A chance for the children to immerse themselves in their favourite character and enjoy some shared reading time with grown ups or older siblings.

We also remember our friend Arabella. The 6th of March is a day to create an explosion of her favourite colours of pink and purple for a non uniform day.

As you'll be aware we are planning a new playground for the children to enjoy in memory of Arabella. The planning permission has been submitted and whilst we don't have a date for consideration by the planning panel it all looks to be going well.

A special mention must go to my fellow Governor Blain Rooney who organised an amazing charity event on 14th February. The event raised over £10,000 for the playground fund which is an huge amount and a testament to Blains passion for the cause. The total fund now stands in the region £50,000 which is all from the generosity of time and money from not only you the Beckstone family but our local community and businesses. It's shaping up to be a truly amazing space.

We welcome all things Easter in March with lots of exciting activities for the children. I hope you can all get involved in the creative projects.

The last Friday in March also sees the return of the annual Egg Dumping competition. It's a fiercely fought competition in school so I wish you all the best egg picking luck.

Best wishes

Kate Mahone
Vice Chair of Governors and LA rep



Governor



Gallery

 From: 19.05.22 To: 19.05.25 Simon Esak Chair & Co-opted	 From: 07.12.20 To: 07.12.23 Kate Mahone Vice Chair & LA	 From: 28.06.25 To: 28.06.28 Laurie Block Co-opted	 From: 14.06.22 To: 14.06.25 Ryan Close Parent	 From: 28.05.25 To: 28.05.28 Danielle Miller Parent	 From: 28.05.28 To: 28.05.28 Sadhur Mubari Parent	 From: 18.11.14 To: 18.11.18 Blain Rooney Co-opted
 From: N/A To: N/A David Wierzbick Headteacher	 From: 11.07.21 To: 11.07.24 Hayley Wells Staff	 From: 23.06.25 To: 23.06.28 Mrs Needham Co-opted	 From: N/A To: N/A Claire Tuck Clerk	 From: N/A To: N/A Philippa Vaughan Staffing & Finance Associate	 From: 20.04.21 To: 20.04.24 Rev. Dom de Mattos Co-opted	 From: 16.11.24 To: 16.11.28 Elena Galante Parent

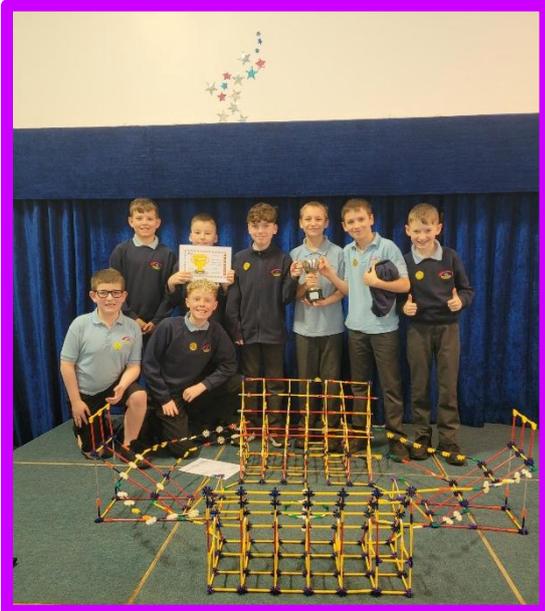
Creativity Cup

Spring 1

Greyson from Year 3 was the winner of the Creativity Cup. Greyson is outstandingly creative. He possesses a uniquely amazing skill for drawing. He uses line work, colour and perspective expertly. He'd make a fantastic book illustrator in the future!



Spring 2



The K'Nex Club have worked as a team to construct a range of amazing structures full of creative challenges:

- Christmas Tree
- Football stadiums
- Punch Ball
- Monuments
- Atak from Star Wars.

They worked creatively to design and build these overcoming many tricky challenges.

Community Champion Cup

Spring 1



The Community Champions Cup was won by the 'Bright Stars Club'. They raised over £2,000 for the Arabella Playground through their fundraising events throughout the Autumn term at Halloween and Christmas, all giving freely of their time. Indeed, their endeavours were recognised by the Bright Stars sponsor, the Centre for Leadership Performance, and were recognised as the winners of the 'Most Profitable Social Enterprise'. The next photo shows them with their winning cheque and their certificate is also shown.

Spring 2

The Community Champions Cup was awarded to Mr Blain Rooney, Governor, for devising and organising the recent amazing fund raising Charity evening raising over £10,400 towards the Arabella Playground.



The Marie Wright Kindness Cup

Spring 1

The winner of the Kindness Cup was Tillie from Y5. Tillie always puts others before herself and shows respect and understanding to both her peers and adults. She is a great role model to others!



Spring 2

Ezri from Nursery was awarded the Kindness Cup. He is a kind and gentle soul who always uses his amazing manners with both his friends and teachers.

What makes Ezri truly special is at only 4 years old he has the awareness to always help and look out for his friends, helping and cheering them up. He always shares anything he has. He shows that being kind and helpful makes a big difference!



The Blain Rooney Sporting Trophy

Spring 1

This was won by Zac from Year 4. Zac possesses all of the sporting values and shows kindness and empathy to all of his peers. Zac always has a positive attitude and puts 100% into everything he does!



Spring 2

The winner of the Blain Rooney trophy for Spring 2 was Ivy from Year 3. Ivy possesses all the school's Sporting Values.

She is a delight to have in PE lessons and is rapidly becoming an outstanding sports person. She always puts 100% into all that she does. She recently came 4th in the Cross Country finals which is amazing as she is only in Year 3.

A well deserved winner of this award.



Y5 Bikeability/Cyclewise

All Year 4 & 5 families were contacted to book a place for their child on 'Bikeability' training. This takes place in the week beginning 16th March. From Monday to

Thursday it is for Year 5 and it is for Year 4 on Friday.

All children taking part will need warm and waterproof clothing. They will also need a cycle helmet (the instructors will have spares if they forget). In addition, all bikes need to be road worthy and have air in their tyres and brakes that work!

The pupils' bikes can be locked in the front yard in the morning (but not ridden on site amongst all coming to school) and the Y5 ones will be brought in and stored in school each evening.



National Recognition & Praise



Department
for Education

Further to the reproduction of the letter to the school from the Secretary of State on the last newsletter praising the school its results and support for disadvantaged children this has been picked up by the local media and the school is being featured in a number of articles. The link to the News and Star article is below and is well worth a read.



<https://www.newsandstar.co.uk/news/25855374.four-west-cumbrian-schools-earn-national-recognition/>



Attendance

Cup Winners

The class with the best attendance for last half term was 1/2DT with an attendance rate of 97.00%, well over the national. They are pictured below with their trophy



Please can all families ensure their child attends school as regularly as possible and on time – indeed this is a statutory duty on parents.

All schools are referring any child who has 10 unauthorised absences to the County Attendance Officer. The Attendance Officer, Linzi Bennet, will then be in touch with those families and will send a warning letter or a fixed penalty notice.

The decision to issue fines is not made by the school and any money that comes from this goes to the County NOT schools.



Term Time Holidays & Tests

There is active discouragement of taking holidays in term time as it disrupts a child's learning.

Taking time off at the statutory testing time needs to be avoided completely.

KS1 Optional SATs – The month of May 2026

KS2 SATs - Week beg. 11th May 2026

Y1 & Y2 Phonics Screening Check Week – Week beg. 8th June 2026

Y4 Times Table Check – 2 weeks from Monday 1st June

School
is the key to
future success!



Reg Charity No 1067541

Shopping List

Please help local people in crisis by buying items from the list below and giving them to the North Lakes Foodbank

Thank you!

- * Milk (Full Fat or Semi- Skimmed UHT)
- * Fruit Juice (1 ltr carton UHT)
- * Pasta Sauces (jars or sachets)
- * Biscuits or snack bars
- * Cereals (Medium sized boxes)
- * Tinned Meat
- * Tomatoes (Tinned or Carton)
- * Tinned Fish
- * Tinned Fruit

FOOD & DRINKables
o Cuppa Soup)
Tinned)
otato

- * Sponge Pudding (Tinned)
- * Sugar
- * Jam
- * Pasta (Medium bags of dried pasta. No sachets of 'pasta & sauce' mixes)
- * Tea Bags/Instant coffee (Med)



No Low Calorie Foods

Foodbank

Please note we collect for the Foodbank all year round and there is a collection bin in the green shelter in front of school. Donations are welcome at any time of year.

Food & Drink



- **School Meals** currently cost £15.50 per week (only £3.10 a day) payable on ParentPay. Our kitchen received the top mark for hygiene last month 😊 We would recommend a hot meal for all the children, particularly as we are in the winter months and would encourage those on packed lunches to make a change.

Menus are always on our school web site



- **Packed Lunches** a reminder of the following:

We encourage parents to provide healthy well balanced packed lunches.

Preparing a healthy

well balanced child's lunchbox, includes:

- Starchy foods – these are bread, rice, potatoes, pasta etc
- Protein foods – including meat, fish, eggs, beans etc
- A dairy item – this could be cheese or a yoghurt
- Vegetables or salad
- A portion of fruit
- A healthy drink such as water or milk

With concerns nationally over long term health damage from a poor diet there are clear rules on what schools can allow in packed lunches.

In simple terms the following are not allowed:

- Crisps
- Chocolate (in any form)
- Sweets
- Cake
- Fizzy drinks



- **Milk** is vital for growing children as it strengthens bones and teeth. Children in Reception and Nursery are entitled to free milk as are children who are eligible for free school meals and clothing vouchers (not the universal free meal for all Reception & KS1 children).



- The cost of milk for next half term (Summer 1) for those that want it is **£15** and needs to be paid by **Friday 17th April 2026** via ParentPay NOT cash or cheque. Due to the administrative burden of checking attendance and the inability to change the order daily unfortunately milk money cannot be refunded for absence.

- Snack money for Nursery and Reception is **£15** for next half term. This is paid on ParentPay and please pay by **Friday 17th April 2026**.



- Fruit is **£15.00** for next half term, again payable on ParentPay by **Friday 17th April 2026**. This is for playtime snacks.



Nursery Intakes

If you know of any children with birth dates between the times shown on the flyer in the next column and would like their child to come to this school, then please ask them to get in touch with the School Office as soon as possible.

Forms for applying for any of these intakes can be downloaded from the Cumberland website for application forms:

<https://www.cumberland.gov.uk/schools-and-education/apply-school-place-or-change-schools> (or use

the QR code) ring the School Office and we can post them out. When returning the form, we need to see the Birth Certificate and proof of address.



Please note that a child can attend afternoon Nursery as soon as they turn 3 (as long as they are toilet trained) so can settle in prior to starting properly in the term after their 3rd birthday. Further information is available from Nursery or the School Office.





The Wobbly Wand

Handmade, whimsical
arts & crafts

www.wobblywand.co.uk



Wobbly Wand's Page



BECKSTONE NURSERY PLACES 2025/26

APRIL 2026
Children born between
1st Jan - 31st Mar 2023

SEPTEMBER 2026
Children born between
1st April - 31st Aug 2023

JANUARY 2027
Children born between
1st Sept - 31st Dec 2023

APRIL 2027
Children born between
1st Jan - 31st Mar 2024

Children can attend 'Afternoon Nursery' as soon as they turn 3 - further information is available from the school office.
Nursery application forms can be collected from the school office or found on the Cumberland website.
Please apply as soon as possible!

Beckstone's Extended Services

Our extended services include the Breakfast Club £5.50 from 7.30am and £5.00 from 8am. **Last entry is at 8.25am.** Prices have risen due to increased costs but are still very competitive.



You may have seen on the News about the rollout of free breakfast clubs. These are designed to run only from 8.15am and at the moment as we have a successful Breakfast Club that runs for nearly triple that time and at times nears capacity for the room/staff ratios any extension and difference to what we currently offer would cause major upheaval and implementation issues. As a result the school is not an adopter of this scheme but it may look into it in the future, particularly if there are

changes to the model proposed that would dovetail into our current offer.

Our popular afternoon childcare provision is afternoon Nursery – see table on the next page – please note these places (**MUST BE BOOKED IN ADVANCE**) with pick up times at 2.15pm and 3.15pm apart from a Friday when it is only 3.15pm

Please note that unfortunately we are unable to offer facilities for packed lunches for Nursery children.



Beckstone Xtra runs from the end of the school day until 5.15pm (the cost is £5 per hour). Beckstone Xtra is available from 3.15 to 5.15pm **for anyone who books in**

advance at the Office or via bookings@beckstone.cumbria.sch.uk

Beckstone Xtra Themed Days

Monday Art & Crafts
Tuesday Dancing
Wednesday Homework
Thursday Baking
Friday Computers

****** Please also note that children need to be booked into Beckstone Xtra by 12pm. If a booking is cancelled after 12pm on the same day you will be charged *****

Please be aware that Beckstone Xtra attendance is not logged on to ParentPay until the day after attendance so a Friday session will not be charged to your account until a Monday or if an end of term the first day back.

Please note after school learning/sport clubs cost £15.00 per half term.

Beckstone Primary School Nursery

Morning nursery sessions run every day from:
8:45 a.m.—11:45 a.m. (3 hours)

If you are entitled to 30 hours, these run from Monday morning – Friday lunch time (12:45pm).

Monday – Thursday collection times: 11:45am, 2:15pm and 3:15pm

Friday collection times: 11:45am, 12:45pm (30 hours only) and 3:15pm (£7.50 for afternoon)

Unfortunately, there is no option for 2:15pm pick up on a Friday.

The cost of a lunch is **£2.50** to be paid via Parentpay.

If you are not entitled to 30 hours and your child attends afternoon nursery you will be charged as follows:

£2.50 per day for a school dinner

£11.50 (plus £2.50 for dinner) until 2:15pm

£15.50 (plus £2.50 for dinner) until 3:15pm

Unfortunately, there is no option for 2:15pm pick up on a Friday.

There would only be a charge if you go over your 15 hours in the week.

15/30 hours can be used for Breakfast Club and Beckstone Xtra until Friday 12:45pm, with another setting or banked for Summer Camp.

Please inform the office as soon as your child starts if you are doing this.

Afternoon nursery places must be booked in advance either in person to the office or via email bookings@beckstone.cumbria.sch.uk

Bookings can be made in advance.

Arabella Playground

If all goes to plan, we are hoping the major part of the installation of the playground pictured below will take place in the second week of the Easter holidays with a

view to have an opening ceremony on the Friday of the first week after the Easter holidays. The timings may be subject to change.

Further information about the project was covered in a planning permission in the News and Star. This can be read following the link or QR Code.



<https://www.newsandstar.co.uk/news/25802522.west-cumbrian-allotments-become-adventure-playground/>

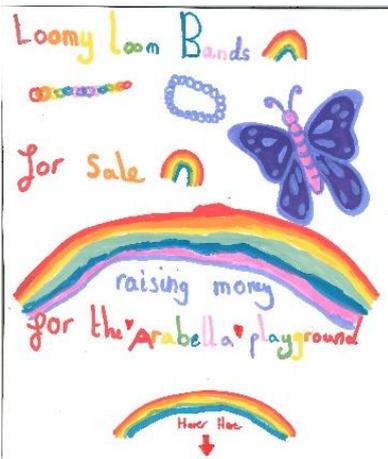
The fund raising has been amazing and heartwarming but we are still short of our target. Further non uniform days, a 'Playground Ball', forthcoming donations from proceeds of other events e.g. the recent successful 'Evening with Jon Parkin' organised by Blain Rooney (raising over an astonishing £10,000!!) will help. If you would like to donate then you can do so on the ParentPay app.

The playground project was featured on BBC Radio Cumbria on the Monday of half term. All who took part spoke passionately about the project and what it means for the memory of Arabella. The interview can be heard here:

https://www.beckstone.cumbria.sch.uk/pupil_zone/film_photo_gallery/2025-2026/arabella-playground.mp4



Loom Band Sale THIS THURSDAY 5th March



A number of our pupils under the tutelage and support of our Chair of governors, Mr Turk, have been busy on their own fund raising enterprise to help with the funding needed as described in the last article.



They have spent time at home and in playtimes and lunchtimes to make bracelets, rings and key rings. They will be on sale during the school day and after school on Thursday. They will make the ideal accessory for the Arabella non uniform day on the following day.

Please support their hard work and enterprise if you can.



Snappy Opera

Our Year 6 pupils have been working with Snappy Opera in school this half term. Snappy opera

is an award winning school programme, making and performing new mini operas with primary ages children.



This is an amazing arts enrichment project for our pupils and a rare valuable opportunity. All year 6 children have been given a role and have been working hard to rehearse a show that will be performed to the public at Whitehaven Civic Hall on Thursday 26th March. Children will practice during the day and then perform the show from 6pm - 7:30pm.

Parent tickets are £2.50 and details on how to purchase tickets and arrangements for the day were sent home via a Google form before half term. Children can go home with parents after the show. Please note we have only been allocated two tickets per child and tickets are via the link on the form not from the school office.

In addition to the performers, we were asked to provide props, a lighthouse and a bird cage. Huge thanks have to go to our Chair of Governors who has made a collapsible lighthouse and a human sized bird cage!!



Further information can be found here:

<https://list.co.uk/event/snappy-operas-festival-2026-cumbria-gala-performance-514494?venue=The+Solway+Hall>

Red Nose Day

Due to the many fund raising and other events/activities at school this half term that may require money the school will not be marking this day on the 20th March to support families. If parents wish to support there are many retailers in the locality with donation boxes or selling merchandise.



Revisewise

The Revisewise clubs are now on a Wednesday or a Thursday morning from 8.15am until the start of the school day and are for Year 6 children who can attend one or both. The sessions are designed to consolidate learning and will run up to SATs in Year 6.



Advertisements

If you run a business or know of someone who does (even baby-sitting services) then please do get in touch with the School Office. An advert costs £5 a month, goes to at least 500 local households (parents, staff etc.) and also provides much needed funds for the school. Adverts are subject to the approval of the Governing Body.

Donations Needed

The school would very much welcome

- Spare clothes for EY children
- Spare underwear for Early Years children
- **Spare clothes for KS1 children**

Holiday Activities



In the run up to the Easter holidays we will be adding any information or flyers



we receive about Easter holiday activities into our 'Holiday Activity Ideas' zone of the web site, which can be found in the Parents' drop-down menu or by following the QR code. Do have a look as there may be activities of interest to you and your family.

https://www.beckstone.cumbria.sch.uk/parents_info/holiday_activity_ideas.html



Of note are the 10p swims and other Cumberland holiday sponsored activities. Over recent holidays the school has only received the information after the school has broken up so please do check the site as if that happens again we will upload the information after school has broken up.

Messy Mary's at St Mary's Harrington

Messy Church is held on the third Saturday of every month in St Mary's Church Hall from 4pm to 6pm. Messy Church is for all the family and includes a number of craft activities, songs, a story and some prayers all based on the theme of for the day. It then finishes with a shared meal together. All are welcome. (Please note that all children must be accompanied by an adult).

Facebook & Instagram



The school is on Facebook and Instagram.



Instagram

You should be able to search for the pages or you can use these addresses/QR codes.



Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/beckstoneprimaryschool/>

<https://instagram.com/beckstoneprimary?r=nametag>

Bench Donation



A group of apprentices at Lakes College very kindly made the school a bench (with another one to follow) which will be put to good use by staff and pupils when it is moved to the garden at the rear of the school. The bench is pictured below with the apprentices, Lakes College staff and the School Council.



News & Star Mother's Day Messages

with *The Cumberland News*

All the children in the school have written messages to their Mums which will be included in an edition of the News and Star at some point during the week before Mother's Day on Sunday 15th March.



Ear-Rings for PE

A reminder that if your child has pierced ears then on PE Days they need to be removed or you need to provide plasters to cover them as part of the Health & Safety guidelines we have to follow for PE. Thank you for your co-operation in this matter.

Also, please remember hooped earrings are NOT allowed to be worn in school.



PE & Health

Newly released data causes some concerns for the young people in our area.

In Cumberland, only 46.1% of our children and young people are classed as 'active', which is below the national average of 49.1%.

The Youth Sport Trust have conducted some research to try and project what the children in 2035 will look like. They have told us from their research/findings that there will be double the amount of children with Type 2 Diabetes, which is a preventable condition and something nobody ever suspected they would see in childhood.

Currently, it is also reported that they are seeing more children in Early Years settings now with 'flat heads', simply from spending too much time on their back, sometimes from too much screen time and not having enough tummy time.

The term 'blank face syndrome' is also now being used to describe children that haven't developed the musculature in their faces because they haven't had the opportunity to interact with people/humans, to develop different facial expressions. This has led to lots of children being misdiagnosed with a whole range of neurological conditions, when it's simply a lack of facial expression and interaction with other humans.

Finally, they're seeing young people now presenting to the Health Care profession with symptoms of 'sedation' where they've spent so long in front of a screen, that it actually makes it seem like they have been sedated.

There are lessons to be learnt from the above, your child's health is paramount and needs to be an absolute priority from healthy lunches to exercise and a reduction in screen time:

Complaints

The Department for Education has issued a new guidance booklet for parents on what to do if you have a



Let's Celebrate!

100 YEARS of Workington BUS STATION

12PM - 4PM
Saturday 14th March

Vulcan Park Workington

On the Day!

- Unveiling of the new Bus Station Clock by Cllr David Farrar, Mayor of Workington, donated by Workington Town Council at 12:30pm
- Stagecoach commemorative livery bus on display
- 100 Years Celebration Rose Planting
- Wilmots Funfair with Rides (chargeable)
- Delicious food from Wilmots Catering
- Gray Facepainting and Arts
- Vintage and Heritage Buses attending from The Workington Transport Heritage Trust
- Monty's Ices
- Graffiti Workshops with Beardy Synergy
- Bus Station Birthday Cake Trail
- Commemorative Pin Badges for sale with all proceeds going to the Mayor's chosen charities

Loads of fun for all the family!

complaint. It can be found on our web site here: https://www.beckstone.cumbria.sch.uk/statutory_info/complaints_procedure/parent-guide-to-school-complaints.pdf

Poetry by Heart

Children from Reception upwards will be learning poems for a showcase of poetry on Friday 13th March with some of the entries being entered into a national 'Poetry by Heart' competition.



Each Reception and Key Stage 1 class will recite a choral class poem.

Classes in Y3&4 will be 'freestyling' their poems and our older children will be choosing 'classic' poems. These year groups will have a mixture of individual, group and class performances.

UK Chief Medical Officers' Physical Activity Guidelines

Every Move Matters - Make activity a part of your everyday

Age Group	Aim for at least	Benefits of being active	Spread activity throughout the day
Early Years (Birth-5 years)	180 Minutes PER DAY (under 1's) and 30 Minutes PER DAY (Under 1's)	Builds Relationships & Social Skills, Develops Muscles & Bones, Encourages Movement & Coordination	Object Play, Games, Climb, Bike
Children & Young People (5-18 years)	60 Minutes PER DAY	Builds Confidence & Social Skills, Improves Health & Fitness, Improves Concentration & Learning	Run/Walk, Workout, Active Travel, Dance
Disabled Children & Young People	20 Minutes PER DAY	Increase Confidence & Concentration, Improves Muscles and Motor Skills, Calmer, Less Stressed & Greater Mental Health	Sport, Swim, PE, Playground

Data source: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/physical-activity-guidelines-uk-chief-medical-officers-report>

Parking & Breakfast Club Etiquette

Please can all entering the site by car be very wary of the safety of people and parked cars particularly if 3 point turning to get out. The site is not designed for cars and as a result the gates are now closed for an hour in the morning from 8.30 to 9.30am



Workington Rugby

All children in school were very kindly offered a season ticket for Workington Town allowing them free entry to games if accompanied by an adult. The eligible fixtures are described below.



Cumberland SEND & AP Partnership

Our new SEND Local Offer!

The SEND Local Offer is your central hub for information, resources and news on SEND provision and services in Cumberland.

This includes information on:

- Education settings
- Health services
- EHCPs (Education, Health and Care Plans)
- Preparing for adulthood
- Travel and Transport
- Short Breaks
- Accessing support and advice
- The latest news and events from the Cumberland SEND & AP Partnership!

We have moved the website and given it a new look, so it is easier to navigate for children and young people and their families. You can visit the new Local Offer by scanning the QR code above or visiting:

cumberlandsend.co.uk

WORKINGTON TOWN 2026 FIXTURES

18 Jan	CHAMP RD 1	BARROW	A	3PM
24/5 Jan	CH CUP RD 2	BLACKBROOK	A	2PM
1 Feb	CHAMP RD 2	ROCHDALE HORNETS	A	3PM
6/7/8 Feb	CH CUP RD 3 - ST HELENS			
15 Feb	CHAMP RD 3	WIDNES VIKINGS	H	3PM
1 Mar	CHAMP RD 5	KEIGHLEY COUGARS	A	3PM
8 Mar	CHAMP RD 6	SALFORD RLFC	H	3PM
15 Mar	CH CUP RD 4 / PRELIMINARY 1895 ROUND			
22 Mar	CHAMP RD 7	DEWSBURY RAMS	H	3PM
29 Mar	CHAMP RD 8	NEWCASTLE THUNDER	A	3PM
3 Apr	CHAMP RD 9	WHITEHAVEN RLFC	A	1PM
12 Apr	CHAMP RD 10	MIDLANDS HURRICANES	H	3PM
19 Apr	1895 RD 2			
26 Apr	CHAMP RD 11	OLDHAM RLFC	A	3PM
3 May	CHAMP RD 12	HUNSLET RLFC	A	3PM
10 May	CHAMP RD 13	SHEFFIELD EAGLES	H	3PM
17 May	1895 Q-FINAL			
24 May	CHAMP RD 14	DEWSBURY RAMS	A	3PM
31 May	CH CUP FINAL			
7 Jun	CHAMP RD 15	BARROW RAIDERS	H	3PM
14 Jun	CHAMP RD 16	OLDHAM RLFC	H	3PM
14 Jun	1895 S-FINAL			
21 Jun	CHAMP RD 17	SALFORD RLFC	A	3PM
28 Jun	CHAMP RD 18	HUNSLET RLFC	H	3PM
5 Jul	1895 FINAL			
19 Jul	CHAMP RD 20	SHEFFIELD EAGLES	A	3PM
26 Jul	CHAMP RD 21	KEIGHLEY COUGARS	H	3PM
2 Aug	CHAMP RD 22	NEWCASTLE THUNDER	H	3PM
9 Aug	CHAMP RD 23	MIDLANDS HURRICANES	A	2PM
16 Aug	CHAMP RD 24	ROCHDALE HORNETS	H	3PM
23 Aug	CHAMP RD 25	WIDNES VIKINGS	A	3PM
30 Aug	CHAMP RD 26	WHITEHAVEN RLFC	H	3PM

PLAY OFFS COMMENCE 5th SEPTEMBER

Cumberland SEND Partnership Newsletter



Scan me!

Each month the Cumberland SEND Partnership release a newsletter to keep parents, carers, young people and professionals informed about what is happening across the local Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) system in

Cumberland. To subscribe to this newsletter, please scan the QR code.

WORKINGTON TOWN LADIES 2026 FIXTURES

19 Apr	LEIGH MINERS RANGERS	A	2PM
26 Apr	ROCHDALE HORNETS	H	2PM
10 May	STANNINGLEY	A	2PM
17 May	FRYSTON WARRIORS	H	2PM
7 Jun	THATTO HEATH CRUSADERS	A	2PM
14 Jun	WAKEFIELD TRINITY	A	2PM
28 JUN	ILLINGWORTH	A	2PM
12 Jul	LEIGH MINERS RANGERS	H	2PM
2 Aug	FRYSTON WARRIORS	A	2PM
9 Aug	STANNINGLEY	H	2PM
16 Aug	ROCHDALE HORNETS	A	2PM
23 Aug	ILLINGWORTH	H	2PM
6 Sept	WAKEFIELD TRINITY	H	2PM
13 Sept	THATTO HEATH CRUSADERS	H	2PM

Hub2U

If you would like advice or support for any family related matter then please make good use of the mobile 'Family Hub'. It is available in our locality every Tuesday from 3 to 6pm until Easter. You will be welcomed with a warm smile and a hot chocolate!!



Hub 2U

Hub2U is a mobile Family Hub offering support and advice. Come and chat to the team at:

Every Tuesday up to the 24th March from 3pm to 6pm at Moorclose Green

Scan to help us to know more about your area.



Reception Dances

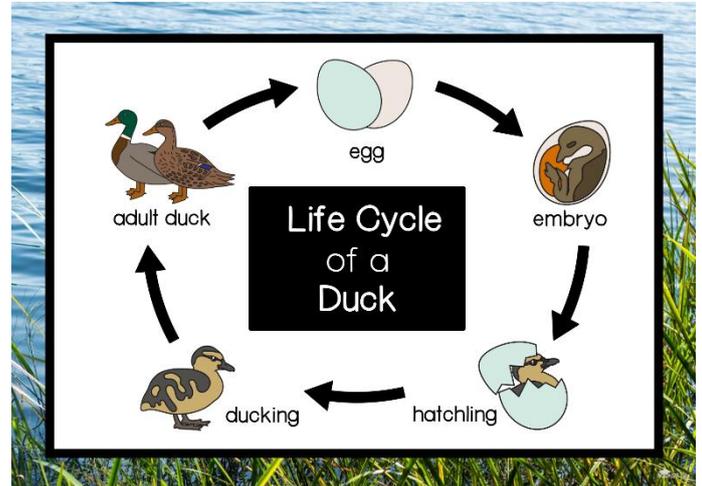
The 2 reception classes will be performing a dance they have been practising to show their parents on the last day of term. RJT will perform theirs at 2.15pm and RHW at 2.45pm in the Sports Hall. Parents can take their children after the performance as long as they have let the teacher know. Siblings in other classes cannot be collected at these times though and need to stay until the end of the day so their learning and the learning of the rest of their classes is not disturbed.



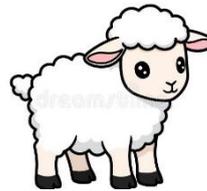
Duck Eggs



Mrs Forsythe, a parent of children at the school, is very kindly supporting the school this year in assisting us with incubating and hopefully hatching some ducklings. The eggs arrived in school last week and hopefully they will hatch just before the Easter holidays.



The ducklings will return to the farm for the holidays and will then return to tour all the classes. This will give the opportunity to the pupils to handle the ducklings.

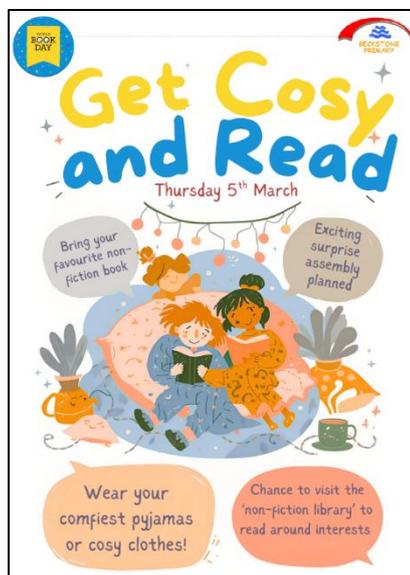


We are also hoping the lambs will also pay the children a visit again this year, this is an annual treat again very kindly facilitated by the Forsythe family and we are very grateful of their support.



All at school would like to wish you all a fabulous Easter Holiday when it comes.





Term Dates until Summer 2027

	Spring 2026	Summer 2026	Autumn 2026	Spring 2027	Summer 2027
Start of Term	Wednesday 7 th January	Monday 13 th April May Day – Mon 4 th 1	Thursday 3 rd September	Tuesday 5 th January	Monday 12 th April May Day – Mon 3 rd
Half Term	Monday 16 th February – Friday 20 th February	Monday 25 th May – Friday 29 th May	Monday 26 th October – Friday 30 th October	Monday 15 th February – Friday 19 th February	Monday 31 st May – Friday 4 th June
End of Term	Friday 27 th March	Friday 17 th July	Friday 18 th December	Thursday 25 th March	Friday 16 th July

March



Wed 4th – Duck eggs arrive in school

Thu 5th – World Book Day

- Loom Band Sale Day

Fri 6th – AK Day – wear pink & purple

Mon 9th – ‘Open the Book’ Story of Esther

Tue 10th & Wed 11th – Nursery Afternoon Teas

Fri 13th – Chocolate Non Uniform Day

- Poetry by Heart Showcase

Mon 16th – NISCU Puppets Easter show

Sun 15th – Mother’s Day

Week beg. 16th – Cyclewise Week Mon- Thu – Y5; Friday – Y4

- Nursery Come & Play week

Mon 16th – Musical Monday

- 1 of the 2 Parents Evenings for 1/2LJ

Tues 17th (inc. 1/2LJ) & Wed 18th – Parents’ Evenings

Thu 19th – UKS2 Party night

Fri 20th – Year 5 Assembly

Week beg. 23rd – Easter Party Nights

YR- Mon; KS1 – Tue; LKS2 – Thu.

Week beg. 23rd – Egg & Bonnet Design Week

- Duck eggs hopefully hatching

Mon 23rd – Key Steps County Gymnastics Final

Tue 24th March – LKS2 Football Competition 9.30-12

- Governors’ Meeting & Challenge Day

Wed 25th – BINGO Night

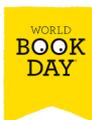
Thu 26th - UKS2 Snappy Opera Performance at Carnegie Theatre

- Nursery New Starters Meeting

Fri 27th March – Egg Dumping Final

- Reception Dances...2.15pm for RJT and 2.45pm for RHW

School breaks up for Easter, no Beck Xtra or Afternoon Nursery



Diary Dates



Dates for Summer Term



Mon 13th April – Children start back

Fri 17th – Arabella Playground Opening

- New Nursery taster Session 1.30pm

Mon 20th – April Nursery starters start

Thu 23rd - Cricket Festival at Netherhall

Fri 24th April – 1/2AF Class Assembly

- Barnados visiting Y6

Tue 28th April – KS1 Kicky Rounders 9.30-12

Thu 30th April – Class Photo Day

Fri 1st May – 1/2TM Class Assembly

May – KS1 Optional SATs Month

Week beg. 11th May – KS2 SATs

Mon 4th May – Bank Holiday

Tue 5th May – LKS2 Rounders competition 9.30-12

Fri 15th May – Y6 children can wear their Leavers’ Hoodies

- School Swimming Gala

Mon 18th May – KS1 & R Cinema Night

Tue 19th May – KS1 Football 9.30-12

- Staffing & Finance Committee & Main Governors

- Wed 20th – Takeover Morning

Thu 21st May – KS2 Cinema Night

Week beg. 25th May – Half term

2 weeks from week beg. 1st June – Y4 Times Table Check

Week beg. 8th June – Y1 Phonics Screening Check Week

Weeks beg. 1st & 8th June - UKS2 Intensive Swims

Wed 3rd June – Sports Day

Tue 9th June – Governor Challenge Day

- Reception Multi Skills 9.30-12

- 20 years celebration

Tue 16th June – UKS2 Football 9.30-12

Sun 21st Jun – Father’s Day

Mon 22nd – Y6 Transition with Barnados -Parents invited 2.25pm

Tue 23rd – Thu 25th June -UKS2 Newcastle residential trip

Tue 30th June – Nursery trip/Fun Day

Wed 1st July – UKS2 trip to Beamish

Thu 2nd July – Y6 Leavers’ Photos

Fri 3rd July - Year R Trotters Trip

- LKS2 trip to Mabie Farm Park

- KS1 trip to Walby Farm Park

Week beg. 6th July – Summer Party nights; Mon: YR; Tue: Y1; Wed: Y2; Thu: LKS2; Fri; UKS2.

Tue 7th July – Governor Main Meeting

Thu 9th & Fri 10th July – Meet new classes mornings

Mon 13th Jul - Reports Out & Curriculum Evening

Tue 14th July – Y6 Graduation

Thu 16th – FUN day

Fri 17th Jul – Beckstone’s Got Talent

- School Year Ends, no Beck Xtra or Educare

