# **Beckstone Primary Newsletter**



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Newsletter no. 1 September 2025

The Arabella Adventure Area



Dear Parents,

Welcome back to a new school year and to some of you,

welcome to your first Beckstone Primary School newsletter. If it is your first newsletter then 'Thank You' for entrusting your child's education to us. We will do our utmost to ensure they have a highly valuable, enjoyable, enriching and successful time with us over their Primary career.

I hope you all had a wonderful summer and your children are well rested and keen and enthusiastic to return to school.

Please take the time to read this newsletter carefully. It is full of useful information to keep you up to speed on school activities and to help you support your children. It is a proven research fact that when schools and homes work closely together the positive impact on the future of the child is enhanced. Understanding and reading all in the newsletter is part and parcel of this.

Please can all packed lunch families please note the section on packed lunches as the school has a very clear policy that needs to be followed — a policy applied across the vast majority of schools across the country. Thank you in advance for your co-operation in this matter.

I hope you find the information in this newsletter useful and informative. Please do let me know if there is ever anything you would like explained or detailed further in any newsletter and I will endeavour to ensure there are articles that help in future editions.

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!!



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COURTING	
CONTENTS	9
A STATE OF THE PARTY OF THE PAR	
manife and the filters	

M' 'D   D	
Mini Duck Race	
Fund Raising	
Elliot's Fund Raising	
Blain Rooney's Cycle Ride	
Summer Camp	
2025-26 Procedures & Organisation	
Start of the Day	
End of the DaySchool Uniform	
PE Kits	
Free school meals and clothing grant	
School Meals	
Peanut Free School	
Packed Lunches	
School Organisation	
KS2 Outcomes	
Y1 –Y6 Meet the Teacher –	
Wellbeing & Progress Update	
Governors' Page	
Sporting Success	
New Parent Governor Needed	
Gurning	
Coffee Morning	
FAB/PTA	
Attendance	
Attendance and the Law	
Term Time Holidays & Tests	
Nasal Flu Vaccination	
WhatsApp & Mobile Phones Generally	
Safeguarding/Child Protection	
Nursery Intakes	
Food & Drink	
Beckstone's Extended Services	
Health Advice	
Measles, Mumps & Rubella Vaccine (MMR)	
Health Advice for Children Generally	
Asthma	
Plasters	
Medicines	
Eye Advice	
Coats	
Give Blood – Help Save a Life!	
Advertisements	
Auvertisements	17
Messy Mary's at St Mary's Harrington	17
Messy Mary's at St Mary's Harrington	17 17
Messy Mary's at St Mary's Harrington	17 17 18
Messy Mary's at St Mary's Harrington	17 17 18
Messy Mary's at St Mary's Harrington  Herbs  Facebook & Instagram  Foodbank Donations	17 18 18
Messy Mary's at St Mary's Harrington  Herbs  Facebook & Instagram  Foodbank Donations  School Funds	17 18 18 18
Messy Mary's at St Mary's Harrington Herbs Facebook & Instagram Foodbank Donations School Funds Revisewise Non-Uniform Day Class Assemblies	17 18 18 18 18
Messy Mary's at St Mary's Harrington  Herbs  Facebook & Instagram  Foodbank Donations  School Funds  Revisewise  Non-Uniform Day	17 18 18 18 18
Messy Mary's at St Mary's Harrington Herbs Facebook & Instagram Foodbank Donations School Funds Revisewise Non-Uniform Day Class Assemblies Tapestry/Seesaw Curriculum 25/26	17 18 18 18 18 18
Messy Mary's at St Mary's Harrington Herbs Facebook & Instagram Foodbank Donations School Funds Revisewise Non-Uniform Day Class Assemblies Tapestry/Seesaw Curriculum 25/26 Donations Needed	17 18 18 18 18 18
Messy Mary's at St Mary's Harrington Herbs Facebook & Instagram Foodbank Donations School Funds Revisewise Non-Uniform Day Class Assemblies Tapestry/Seesaw Curriculum 25/26	17 18 18 18 18 19 19

## **Harrington Pharmacy**



25 Church Road Tel 01946 833565

- Free prescription collection service from Workington and Distington surgeries, for all ages
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#### The Arabella Adventure Area

The land in front of the Ket Stage 1 playground which was kindly gifted to the school by Mrs Linda Carter was finally transferred in ownership to the school after an 18 month legal process in the week we broke up. The school is going to use the land to create an Adventure Area that will be filled with fun and laughs as a tribute to Arabella, one of our pupils, who sadly died last April, as it was these attributes we all fondly remember her having.

There have been many pledges of support and fund raising is ongoing to create a truly memorable area in her honour that will be used by pupils for many years to come.

The process of development started in the last week of term with the first cut of the area being taken by Arabella's parents and Mrs Musgrave (Arabella's support worker) with an engraved golden spade made by our Chair of Governors, Mr Turk. The event was witnessed by Mr Turk, Mrs Carter and Arabella's class amongst many others.

There are some photos alongside marking the event. The aim is to have all work done and to have completed the area by her anniversary in April. Help and donations are still very welcome, please contact Mrs Vaughan at school. Donations can be made via Parent Pay and we will list all donors on a board in the new area.



### Mini Duck Race



The school annual mini duck race was a huge success. A big thank you to our Chair of Governors, Mr Turk, for again his excellent

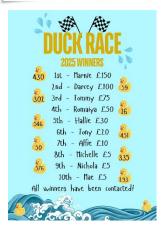


organisational skills. The ducks raced

down the beck at the bottom of the hill at 2.30pm on Friday 11th July watched by the whole school and many from the local community. The prize winners are listed below. There is also a photo at the top of the next page with many more and videos in the film and photo gallery of the web site:

https://www.beckstone.cumbria.sch.uk/pupil\_zone/fil m\_photo\_gallery/2024-2025/duck-race-2025/index.html All money raised is going towards the towards the development of the play area dedicated to the memory of Arabella as described on the previous page.







#### **Elliot's Fund Raising**



Elliot from the Office raised £635 towards the playground over the holidays. He was sponsored completing a half marathon, coming first in the youth category a 10k race in which he came 3rd he then ran a 5k and finished off with a 1K race with his sisters...all on the same day! Well done Elliot and thank you.

#### Blain Rooney's Cycle Ride



Blain, a parent and Governor, completed a cycle ride on Saturday

RVI from the Newcastle to school

on what would have been Arabella's 10<sup>th</sup> birthday. He raised an astonishing £2,617 towards the playground - an amazing feat! Well done Blain,



the school community is proud of you and your stamina to complete over 100 miles in one go!

#### **Fund Raising**

Again, in support playground group of Year 5 girls who started school with Arabella made bracelets to help fund developing the area. They



sold them around where they live and then set up a stall on the Thursday of the last week. Violet, Marnie, Willow, Remi & Ophelia raised an amazing £155!

#### **Summer Camp**

This ran in the first full 2 weeks of the



summer holiday and the last 2 full weeks (minus the Bank Holiday) and was very competitively priced. The camp ran from 8am until 4pm and was very much enjoyed by all the children and indeed the staff. They had activity bases in the Dining Hall and made great use of the outdoor facilities when the weather allowed. There are many photos of the camp on our Facebook page.







#### **Y6 Graduation**

The Graduation ceremony for our Year 6 pupils went very well on the penultimate day of 24/25 and they were a credit the school. We wish them well, particularly this week as they begin their Secondary school journey at their new schools.







#### 2025-26 Procedures & Organisation

Please can all parents note the following:

#### Start of the Day

• The school gates open to all year groups from 8.45am daily and close promptly at 8.55am. Please can all parents ensure the **punctuality** of their child(ren). The start of the day procedures will be the same as the end of last term for the near future until the containers have been removed from the car park, apologies for any inconvenience this has caused.

We will let you know when normal arrangements return. These are: Early Years and KS1 to go through either pedestrian gate at the front of the school and go through the yard, Reception and Nursery parents to escort to classes (Nursery) to the Reception entrance. KS1 children to come through the yard having said goodbye in front of the Office and make their way to class. KS2 to come in via the rear gate or the pedestrian gate on the left as you look up the hill and make their own way into class. Staff will be outside to help children new to KS2.

- Nursery Drop Off Parents to deliver their child to their key worker group in Nursery at the start of the day.
- School must be notified before the start of the day of any absence. Registers are checked first thing and families are contacted if there is an unexplained absence. If no response from families is forthcoming then the Police will be contacted.

#### **End of the Day**

The school day finishes at 3.15pm. Again, access will be from the rear until the yards return to normal. When they do: Nursery to be collected from their group as per morning unless leaving at 11.45am when collection is from the Office. Reception and Key Stage 1 children need to be collected by an adult from the front yard. KS2 children have the option of leaving by the front or through the gate at the back and along the path. Please ensure KS2 children know their collection arrangements. Please also can you instil in your children that

if the usual collection arrangements are not in place that they come back to school as a place of safety and we will sort from here. In addition, if there is human error or a child forgets a club the same applies. Beckstone Xtra is available from 3.15 to 5.15pm for anyone who books in advance via bookings@beckstone.cumbria.sch.uk or simply use the QR code.



#### **School Uniform**

All children MUST be in school uniform. Full details about our uniform are on our web site but in a nutshell

The uniform consists of:

- School or dark blue sweatshirt, school or dark blue fleece, school or light blue polo shirt. Please ensure these are the right colours either through Border embroideries or without logos from Asda, Matalan etc. The uniform from Haig Embroideries is the wrong colour and they have assured us and the Legal department of the County they will stop selling it until they can source the correct colour.
- Grey or black tailored trousers or knee length skirts (not sports trousers/tracksuit trousers UNLESS it is a PE day)
- Dark deck shorts or blue gingham or pinafore dresses



• Low heeled footwear, shoes or trainers. These need to be black with no promotional logos.

Uniform items can be purchased through supermarkets or branded items can be ordered via 'Border Embroideries' by following this link or QR code:

https://www.borderembroideries.co.uk/schools/beckstone-primaryschool.html

The school now has a well-stocked set of good quality used uniforms that are available FREE to any family that would like to use this service. Please see the details on the poster below if you would like to use this service. Uniforms can be



collected from the School Office.

Please also note that:

- Only natural hair colours are allowed
- the only jewellery allowed are stud earrings (which have to be covered for PE) and watches

- (NOT Smart watches). No bracelets, necklaces etc are allowed for health and safety reasons
- Nail varnish or any make-up should not be worn

**PE Kits** - Your child can come in PE Kit on 2 days a week from KS1 up...school or light blue T shirt (**NOT football tops or branded sportswear**), leggings or tracksuit trousers. They MUST wear a school uniform sweatshirt or cardigan on top unless it is a non-uniform day and **black trainers**. PE Kits will be monitored and RAG ratings for appropriate kit included in the end of year report.

EY children will need to have their PE Kit in school as they will need to learn to change their clothes as well (a life skill). Their PE Kit is a light blue T shirt and black shorts.

Please make a note of your child's PE days:

Nursery	N/A
Reception	PE Kit to be left in school & will be
	sent home every half term to be
	washed
1/2AF	Monday & Tuesday
1/2TM	Monday & Tuesday
1/2DT	Tuesday & Wednesday
1/2LJ	Tuesday & Wednesday
3/4LS	Monday & Wednesday
3/4SF	Wednesday only
3/4LB	Wednesday only
5RM	Monday & Wednesday
5/6CC	Monday & Thursday
6JM	Tuesday & Thursday

Please also note that pupils get a RAG rating on their reports (which are forwarded on to their next school) on their uniform compliance. Non-compliance e.g. not dark footwear will result in a rating that is not green and if it is regular, it will be red!

#### Free school meals and clothing grant

Eligible parents will now receive a clothing grant worth £50 for each primary school child and £100 for each secondary school child.



Your child may be able to get free school meals if your household income is no higher than £22,700 if you have one child or £26,300 with two or more children or you get any of the following:

- Income Support
- income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- the guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)

 Working Tax Credit run-on paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit



household income is less than
£7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get)

We ask that ALL ELIGIBLE PARENTS OF PUPILS FROM NEXT YEAR'S RECEPTION UP TO YEAR 6 fill in the school meals registration form that is available online through the Cumberland County Council 'Citizen Portal'. This can be found by searching for it on the internet, using the link below. If you need help completing this then the Office would be happy to help, please ask the School Office.

https://www.cumberland.gov.uk/schools-and-education/free-school-meals-clothing-vouchers-and-activities/free-school-meals-and-clothing-voucherS

It is hoped 'auto enrolment' will start soon so if your claim is benefits related your child should hopefully be picked up automatically. You should have received a letter about this.

#### **School Meals**



The school kitchen will be back in action very soon which will be a welcome return. Details of costs etc are later in the newsletter. In the meantime,

we want to dispel some myths regarding school meal standards and the packed lunch policy. These are totally unrelated and are not fit for comparison. School meals (where kitchen are fully operational) have to abide the nationally agreed food standards and part of the contract the school holds is for these to be adhered to. These standards include:



# Department for Education

### **Checklist for school lunches**

## Starchy food

- One or more portions of food from this group every day
- Three or more different starchy foods each week
- One or more wholegrain varieties of starchy food each week
- Starchy food cooked in fat or oil no more than 2 days each week

 Bread - with no added fat or oil - must be available every day

#### Fruit and vegetables

- One or more portions of vegetables or salad as an accompaniment every day
- One or more portions of fruit every day
- A dessert containing at least 50% fruit 2 or more times each week
- At least 3 different fruits, and 3 different vegetables each week

# Meat, fish, eggs, beans and other non-dairy sources of protein

- A portion of food from this group every day
- A portion of meat or poultry on 3 or more days each week
- Oily fish once or more every 3 weeks
- For vegetarians, a portion of non-dairy protein 3 or more days a week
- A meat or poultry product no more than once a week in primary schools

#### Milk and dairy

A portion of food from this group every day

#### \*Foods high in fat, sugar and salt

- No more than 2 portions a week of food that has been deep-fried, batter-coated or breadcrumbcoated
- No more than 2 portions of food which include pastry each week
- No snacks, except seeds, vegetables and fruit with no added salt, sugar or fat
- Savoury crackers or breadsticks can be served at lunch with fruit or vegetables or dairy food
- No confectionery, chocolate and chocolate- coated products day)
- Desserts, cakes and biscuits are allowed at lunchtime according to low fat/sugar recipes
- Salt must not be available to add to food after it has been cooked

#### **Healthy drinks**

Free, fresh drinking water at all times

#### Of note:

- Across the week meal provision is monitored so for example if chips are served it is in line with the first bullet point of the red sub heading category marked with an asterix above i.e. very limited and not daily unlike high fat foods in packed lunches
- Cakes & biscuits are made using strict healthy recipes and ingredients that are checked
- Governors have agreed cordial is available at lunchtimes

### **Peanut Free School**

We have a child with a severe nut allergy and as a consequence ask families to ensure children do not bring peanuts or peanut butter to school in any form, products that 'may contain nuts' are ok.

#### **Packed Lunches**

There appeared to be some confusion over this policy following the kitchen fire which has caused some confusion. In short, the packed lunch policy has never changed since the school opened and indeed is identical to the vast majority of schools nationally and in line with the Food Standards agency.

With concerns nationally over childhood obesity and long term health damage from a poor diet there are clear rules on what schools can allow in packed lunches and they cannot be monitored over the course of a week like school dinners so are quite strict to ensure health is paramount.

In simple terms the following are not allowed:

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

This is a simple list and we are requesting all support this policy. If these items are in packed lunches you will receive a warning and your child will not have been allowed to eat them. If this results in them not having enough food to eat we will provide them with a school lunch and you will be charged.

If there is a repeat incident you will be invited in for a meeting and the solution may be having to collect your child and take them home for their lunch.



It is important to note that packed lunches are allowed at the discretion of the Governors and are not

a 'right' and all that is asked is that you follow the simple policy as outlined above.

Finally, the following hopefully is of use if you are short of ideas for healthy packed lunches:



Please do not include -

https://www.safefood.net/Healthy-Eating/foodenvironment/understanding-foodenvironment

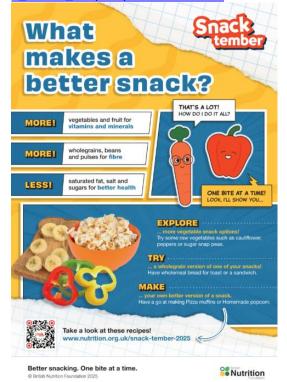


https://www.safefood.net/Healthy-Eating/Children/School-lunchboxes

This next one has lots of recipe ideas to create healthy choices – please note however that soup or any other 'hot' foodstuffs are not allowed in school for Health & Safety reasons.



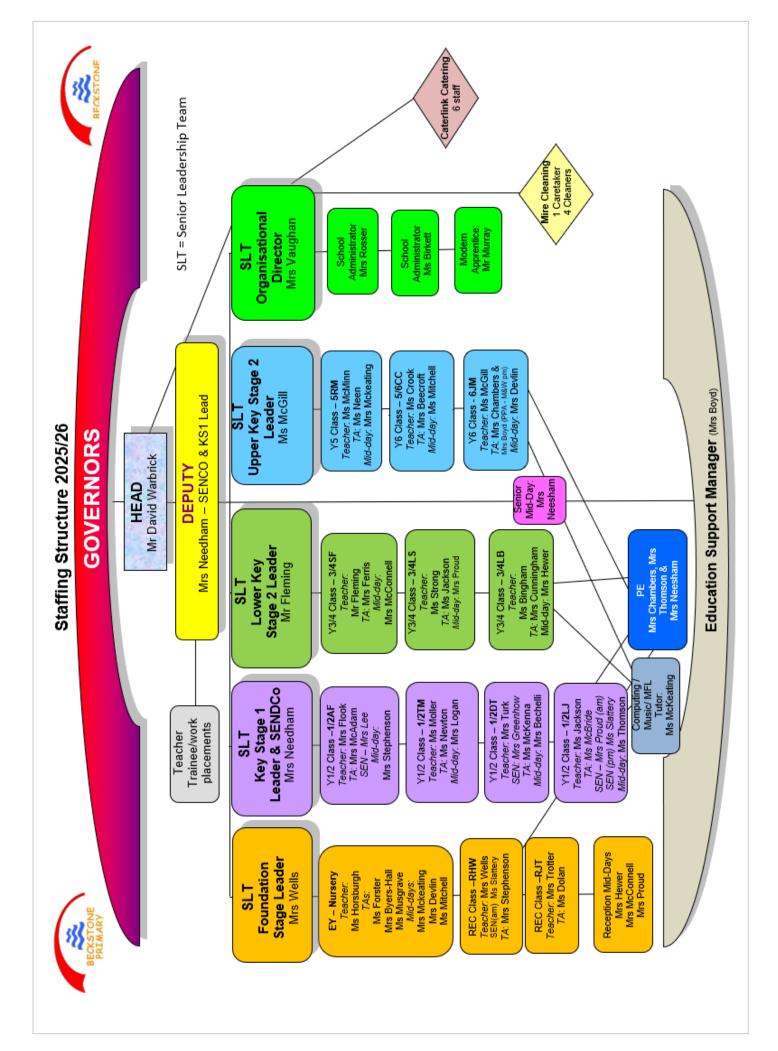
https://www.phunkyfoods.co.uk/recipes/?fwp\_keyword search\_recipes=packed%20lunch



#### **School Organisation**

The staffing structure for the school for this year is on the following page for your information.







Unit KB1, Reedlands Road, Workington CA14 3YF

Tel: 01900 62727 Email: admin@premierblindsoffice.co.uk

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#### **KS2 Outcomes**

We reported the outcomes at all the key points in school in the July newsletter however we didn't have the KS2 outcomes when the newsletter was released. We have since received the results and last year's Year 6 did very well when you look at comparisons and it reflects the hard work of the great teachers we have at this school. This is a result of high-quality teaching across the school from Early Years up to Year 6.

The results with the comparators are shown below.

Subject	Percentage of pupils achieving the expected standard: school 2025	Percentage of pupils achieving the expected standard: school 2024	Percentage achieving standard nationally 2025
English reading	84%	82%	75%
English grammar, punctuation and spelling	70%	86%	73%
Mathematics	73%	84%	74%
English writing (teacher assessment)	5 5 5 5.75		72%
Science 91% (teacher assessment)		82%	82%

#### Y1 -Y6 Meet the Teacher -Wellbeing & Progress Update

## Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> & Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> October 2025



Please make a note of the dates for the 'Meet the Teacher Wellbeing & Progress' update meetings at school.

These appoinments will allow you to discuss how your child is settling into their new class and how they are progressing towards their projected end of year outcomes at this stage of the year.

Also within this time there will hopefully be an opportunity to try some small tasters of the new school meals and discuss them with canteen staff. Our aim is to get as many children back on to school meals as possibly as they fully comply with Government nutritional advice as discussed previously.

Please Note: There is one time slot per child so where there is split parenting there needs to be agreement on attending together.

Details on how to book appointments will be sent home towards the end of this month.



Educational Research shows that where schools and families work closely together the child's perfortmance at school is invariably improved. As a result we would very strongly urge all families to make an appointment as soon as possible.

There will be a crèche on these days as we would like your child to accompany you to the appointment so they are part of the discussions and siblings are out of earshot. The crèche will be in Nursery.

Please let us know if you have any difficulties booking your appoinment and we will be happy to help once details have been sent out.

# Reception - Phonics & Early Language Workshop



This will take place on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> September from 3.30pm.

#### **UKS2 Residential**



The UKS2 Residential to Langdale took place the last week of term. All involved had a wonderful time and enjoyed a wide range of outdoor activities. Photographs of all 3 days are on our web site and can be found here or follow the QR Code.

https://www.beckstone.cumbria.sch.uk/pupil\_zone/fil m\_photo\_gallery/2024-2025/uks2residential/index.html





# Covernors' Board

As the new school year begins, I'd like to extend a very warm welcome to all our pupils, families, and staff on behalf of the governing body. September always feels like a fresh start—full of energy, excitement, and opportunity. Whether you are returning after the summer break or joining our school community for the very first time, we are delighted to have you with us.

The first few days of term can bring a mixture of emotions. Some children (and parents!) will feel full of excitement, while others might have a few butterflies. That's completely normal. What's important is that our fantastic staff are here to welcome every child, helping them to settle quickly and feel safe and supported.

We know that education works best when families and schools work in partnership. I encourage you to get involved wherever you can—whether it's supporting reading at home, joining in school events, or simply sharing your thoughts with us. Your feedback and engagement are invaluable in helping the school grow and improve.

So, as we start this new chapter, I want to say thank you—to our staff for their incredible hard work, to families for your support, and most importantly, to the children who bring the school to life every single day.

Here's to a successful, happy, and inspiring year ahead!

#### **New Parent Governor Needed**



The Governing Body of the school still has a vacancy for one more parent. The Governors are looking for someone who will be committed to the role and are prepared to give time to make such a worthwhile community role an effective and rewarding one.

Applications are welcomed from anyone who has strengths to offer the Body. If you would like to be involved in shaping the policy and procedures of the school into the future, then please email <a href="mailto:bookings@beckstone.cumbria.sch.uk">bookings@beckstone.cumbria.sch.uk</a> to express your interest with the subject: Parent Governor and we will send an online form link and a role description.

The Chair of Governors is available to meet with any potential candidates if they would like more information, simply book an appointment through the School Office. The form needs to be completed by Monday 29<sup>th</sup>September 2025. In the event of more than two applications there will be a ballot later in that week for the new Governor to attend the next Governors' meeting on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> October.

Please note details in the 'pen profile' on the application form will be published on the ballot paper if there is an election.





## **BEGINNERS CLASSES ENROLLING NOW** www.cumbriacoastkarate.co.uk







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LAMPLUGH VILLAGE HALL MONDAYS 6pm-8pm

THE GATHER ENNERDALE

ARATE IN A FAMILY FRIENDLY CLUB FOR MORE INFO OR TO ENROL CALL

07543 876490

ALL INSTRUCTORS ARE FIRST AID TRAINED AND DBS CHECKED



## **Sporting Success**

#### Intra School Football



The PE Team organised intra school tournament for KS1, LKS2 & UKS2 towards the end of last term. The KS1 one was scaled down into classes due to inclement weather. The winning teams of LKS2 and UKS2 are pictured below.





#### **UKS2 Girls Football**



Our UKS2 girls came third in the Workington tournament in July. They played very well and were a credit to the school.

#### Year 5 Girls' Cricket

Our girls' cricket team took part in a Girls' Cricket festival in July. They played very well and the team is pictured below.



#### Lower Key Stage 2 County Football

Following on from the success of the UKS2 team winning the County tournament in late June and featured in the June newsletter our LKS2 team took part in the County tournament in July. Our team also won this event making us the LKS2 champions as well!





#### **Crazy Sand**

FAB have organised sand sculpture sessions after school for interested pupils and parents. The cost of the sand creation including after school costs, sand and plastic mould is £5. The dates are: Monday 29<sup>th</sup> September – 3.15 to 4pm for Early Years & KS1. A family member must accompany the child.

Wednesday 1st October for KS2 from 3.15 to 4pm.



#### Gurning

Classes will be taking part in a 'Gurning' (face pulling) contest in the week



#### **Coffee Morning**

This will take place on 26th September. Please make a date in your diary. Further details will go out nearer the time.

#### FAB/PTA

The first meeting of 2025/26

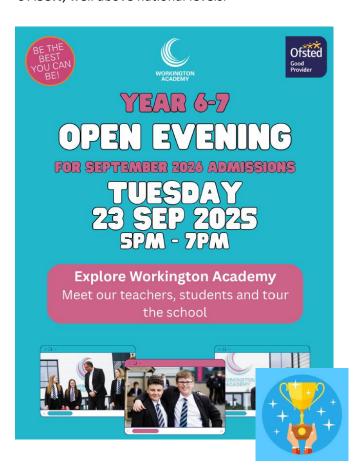
will take place on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> September at 3.30pm in the staff room. New members are more than welcome and FREE Beckstone Xtra is available - just book via bookings@beckstone.cumbria.sch.uk

#### **Attendance**

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

Again, sadly a number of our parents are receiving fixed penalty notices for holidays in term time. Please note repeat offences can lead to a criminal prosecution.

The class with the best attendance for the second half of the summer term was 5LJ with attendance of over 97.58%, well above national levels.



It is of the utmost importance to your child's education that they attend school consistently as learning is planned in a progressive way and one day



follows on from the next in each subject. Of course, there will be times when a child is too poorly to come to school and this can't be helped but this should be a rarity.

#### Attendance and the Law

The Government's policy on attendance is much stricter now. Action against families who have



children with poor attendance will be taken by the County not the school and they now have access to school data. Action is particularly harsh against term time holidays – please be aware of this.

The Headteacher is not allowed to authorise absence and indeed any holiday absences in term time will be counted as 'unauthorised' (which equates to a truancy mark) and may be subject to a fixed penalty notice/fine.

Parents need to fill in a leave of absence form if their child is going to be missing from school (this is of vital importance as the school immediately chases up any unknown absences on the day itself and if the child's whereabouts is not known then the Police are notified – this is school policy). Parents can apply for 'exceptional circumstances' on this form if they so wish. It is imperative that school knows where your child is for safeguarding reasons.



#### **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.

If you are planning trips next year, please avoid the following dates in 2025:

KS1 Optional SATs – The month of May 2026 KS2 SATs - Week beg. 11<sup>th</sup> May 2026 Y1 & Y2 Phonics Screening Check Week – Week beg. 8<sup>th</sup> June 2026

Y4 Times Table Check – 2 weeks from Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June

#### **Nasal Flu Vaccination**

Flu vaccinations will take place early in the school year on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> September for all years from Reception upwards. It is again important all children get



vaccinated this year so they have protection and their attendance and consequently their learning is not impaired. It also helps to protect family members from the spread of flu. In addition, it provides additional protection with winter viruses as scientific research has shown that the body finds it hard to cope if trying to fight more than one viral infection at any one time.

As flu viruses change each year last year's immunisation for those that had it will not be effective.

The vaccination is a nasal spray and is not painful. The school pupils have been brilliant at receiving it in recent years.

You will have received a letter about this via text, Seesaw and Tapestry. It is important parent consent is given. The link on the letter to do this is also below and there is also a QR code. The school code is **CM134739** 

## Flu Vaccination Consent Form

We have already had over 70% take up. Flu vaccinations will help your child's attendance!

Parents of younger children may like to know that children aged 2 upwards and also in Nursery can receive their free vaccination through their GP or Pharmacies. Harrington Pharmacy offers this service and is very handy for school.



Flu vaccinations for adults are also available on



request at Pharmacies or large supermarkets for an average £10 fee.

#### WhatsApp & Mobile Phones Generally



We continue to have pupils upset at what has been happening on WhatsApp after school or at weekends. In addition, we are finding pupils are spending a lot of time on

these devices out of school and are accessing many sites/social media applications that are not appropriate and in some cases, becoming addicted to them.

It is extremely concerning that despite monthly items on this and many national news stories detailing the harm it is causing we still have families that are allowing their children to use social media sites <u>underage</u> and allow them unfettered access to the internet. Social media apps and inappropriate sites are having a detrimental effect on children, particularly their mental health and <u>are spoiling their childhood</u>. Quite simply young minds are not mature enough to deal with the issues this access raises.

# Please wait until your child attends Secondary School before giving them a Smartphone.

The concerns over phone use by underage children is now in the mainstream news and an ongoing concern for all under 16 year olds. With the wealth of evidence about the harm they can cause as parents please think long and hard about what you are allowing them to do.

# If nothing else STOP them from using social media apps and protect their childhood!

#### **Safeguarding/Child Protection**

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

<u>www.cumbrialscb.com</u> 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:



#### **Nursery Intakes**



Children born between 1 September 2022 and 31 December 2022 can receive their free 15 or 30 hours a week from January 2026.

Children born between 1 January 2023 and 31 March 2023 can receive their free 15 or 30 hours a week Nursery education from April 2026.

Children born between **1 April 2023** and **31 August 2023** can receive their free 15 or 30 hours a week from **September 2026.** 

If you know of any children with birth dates between these times and would like their child to come to this school, then please ask them to contact the School Office as soon as possible.

Forms for applying for any of these intakes can be downloaded from the Cumbria County Council website <a href="https://www.cumberland.gov.uk/schools-and-education/apply-school-place-or-change-schools">https://www.cumberland.gov.uk/schools-and-education/apply-school-place-or-change-schools</a>

(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 so can settle in prior to starting properly in the term after their 3<sup>rd</sup> birthday. Further



information is available from Nursery or the School Office.

#### Food & Drink

◆ School Meals currently cost £15.50 per week payable on ParentPay. This is great value when you look at prices of goods in supermarkets for packed lunches and the

hassle of putting them together. We would recommend a hot meal for all the children, particulally as we return to school in the Autumn and would encourage those on packed lunches to make a change.

Menus are always on our school web site.

• *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 is £15 and needs to be paid by Friday 5<sup>th</sup> September 2025 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 5th September 2025**.



 Fruit is £15.00 for next half term, again payable on ParentPay by Friday 5th September 2025. This is for playtime snacks.

#### **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.

Our popular afternoon childcare provision is afternoon Nursery – see table in next column – please

note these places (MUST BE BOOKED IN ADVANCE) with pick up times at 2.15pm and 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

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

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 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 \*\*\*\*



#### **Health Advice**

Schools have been asked to share a number of items with their parental communities before the holidays and these went out on Tapestry/Seesaw. Please also note the following:

# Measles, Mumps & Rubella Vaccine (MMR)

There are grave concerns as cases of these diseases are rising in England and this is solely due to many



children not having had their MMR vaccine when they were young. Public Health are asking all families to ensure their child has had this protection as catching these diseases can impact on future health.

#### Health Advice for Children Generally



If you are a parent or carer and would like health advice or support regarding a child or young person aged 5-19 years old, you can contact the Public Health 5-19 Team to book an appointment in the E-School Nurse clinic on 01228 603973 Mon-Fri 9-5pm, or for further support with healthy lifestyles contact us about our Healthy Habits 4 Life programme.

#### **Asthma**

If your child needs an inhaler at school please ensure you have completed an 'Asthma Card' at the School Office, these will be sent out this week and please return



immediately. If your child has a new diagnosis please see the office. It is a parents' responsibility to check the pumps are in date and not empty. It is also advisable to write your child's name on using a permanent pen.

#### **Plasters**

If your child is allergic to plasters then please do let the School Office know. Plasters are effective in controlling bleeding and securing wounds from infection and they will be used for minor cuts and grazes unless you have let us know otherwise. We use non-allergenic ones.

#### **Medicines**

The school will administer medicine <u>only</u> when it is **4** times a day and has an appropriate prescription sticker with the



child's name on. We will disinfectant wipe the bottles.

Please note that cough medicines/lozenges etc., <u>are not</u> <u>allowed unless they have been prescribed</u>. If you wish the school to administer medicine then please complete a form available from the School Office.

#### **Eye Advice**

Good vision is essential for learning, development, and confidence. However, many young children may not realise they are struggling with their sight – and some common conditions, like long-sightedness (hyperopia) or lazy eye (amblyopia), often go unnoticed without a professional eye exam. Early detection of these issues is vital. Left uncorrected, they can lead to:

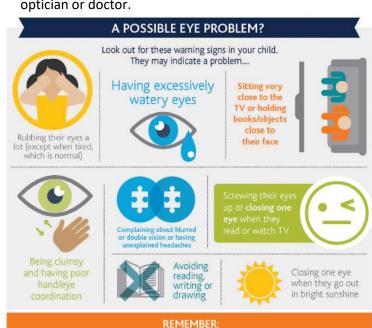
- Difficulty reading, writing, or concentrating in class
- Eyestrain, headaches, or tiredness
- Delayed development of visual skills
- Long-term problems with depth perception or coordination.

#### How much do eye examinations cost?

In England, Wales, and Northern Ireland the NHS pays for sight tests for children aged under 16 and those aged 16 to 18 who are in full-time education

If your child needs glasses, the NHS will give you a voucher to help pay for them. This may cover the full cost of the glasses, or you can put it towards the cost of more expensive ones. You can take the voucher

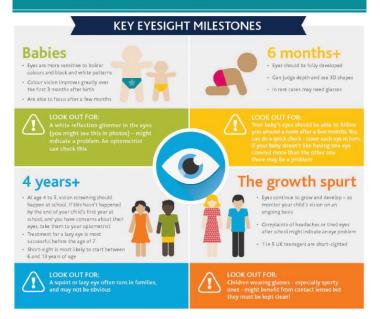
to any optometrist or dispensing optician (a person who sells prescription glasses). Children aged under 16 can only have their glasses dispensed by, or under the supervision of, a registered optometrist, dispensing optician or doctor.



you're worried, check it out. The earlier any problems are picked up, the better they can be tre

# A SHORT GUIDE TO YOUR CHILD'S EYES





Free eye tests for children are available from many opticians. Heals Opticians in Workington provide friendly, comprehensive children's eye examinations designed to detect and manage a wide range of vision conditions – even before symptoms become obvious.



As an incentive they have the displayed offer for parents when you take your child in.

## <u>Coats</u> We will

soon be asking all children to wear their coats at lunchtimes and playtimes. We have an external thermometer and when the outside



temperature drops below 13°C then coats are mandatory. Please ensure they come to school with a coat and one that has their name in – thanks!

School coats which are fully waterproof and have a hood and reflective strips are available online from Border

Embroideries....<u>https://www.border-embroideries.co.uk/schools/beckstone-primary-school.html</u>

There are also some coats available for free via our uniform exchange. To enquire simply email <a href="mailto:uniform@beckstone.cumbria.sch.uk">uniform@beckstone.cumbria.sch.uk</a> or use the QR code

#### Give Blood - Help Save a Life!

Giving blood to support others is a wonderful selfless act that helps fellow citizens. Who knows, a member of your family may rely on someone else's blood donations to save their life at some point.

The next donor sessions at Energus are on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> September from 11am to 2pm, Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> September from 3pm to 7pm or Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> October from 3 to 7pm.

Further details and booking details can be found at www.blood.co.uk



# Do something worthwhile and save someone's life.

#### **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.

#### 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. The next one is on the 20<sup>th</sup> of September.

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.

For more information on Messy Church, please have a look on their Facebook page.

#### Herbs

There are herb pots at the front of the school. Don't forget you are welcome to



help yourself to a pinch of herbs to brighten up your home cooking. The sign above the herbs (in front of Ms McGill's class) to the left of the front door as you leave the building, gives tips on which herbs to use for what meals etc. Please make good use of them before they go on their winter holidays and do help yourself.

#### Facebook & Instagram

The school is on Facebook and Instagram.



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



Facebool



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

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

#### **Foodbank Donations**





In the midst of this cost-of-living crisis donations would be more than welcomed to help support the vulnerable families in

the locality.

The school can be a focal point for supporting some

of our more vulnerable school families. Donations continue to be very much welcome and there is a collection bin in the green shelter at the top of the school hill.



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!



<u>School</u> Funds

We

need donations to this fund as funds are really REALLY tight. The school fund is purely



donation based and is used to buy many consumable items and

all the children.

\* 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** 

Finned Fruit

Tinned Vegetables

\* Soup (Tinned no Cuppa Soup)

Rice Pudding (Tinned)

Instant Mash Potato

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

fun activities outside the remit of the school budget for the pupils as well as many other things for school that enable us to provide services free of charge. Please have a ratch down the sofa or anywhere to find some spare money to donate to the school to support

#### Please help if you can by donating to this fund.

With the ParentPay system we can offer the facility for families to make an automatic School Fund donation on a monthly basis, from their bank account even £2 per month would accumulate into a great fund to support activities in school. If you would like to support the school in this way, please contact the School Office for further details on how to set this up or, if you would rather, for direct debit details.

#### **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 now for

Year 5 children who can attend one or both.

The sessions will continue from September right up to SATs in Year 6.



#### **Non-Uniform Day**

Our first non-uniform day of the year will take place next month on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> October. It is aimed as a fund raiser for the Arabella Adventure Area as described in an earlier article.

#### **Cinema Nights**

These take place each term. The ones planned for this

half term take place next month (see dates on the back page). Further information will be in next month's newsletter.

The cost for each night is £6, which is payable on ParentPay. The cost includes care and copious refreshments.



#### **Class Assemblies**



The dates for these are on the back page of the newsletter. Please note that class assemblies are for classes from Y1 to Y5. EY and Y6 have other performances

for parents over the year. Class assemblies start at 9.05am on a Friday in the Sports Hall.

#### Tapestry/Seesaw

The importance of all families having access to Seesaw and Tapestry cannot be understated. The platforms are used



or homework, to track your child's learning journey. Share photos and it is also a conduit for sending



messages to parents. If you do not have access, please make sure your child's teacher knows immediately. Details of parents' evenings and indeed reports are posted to these sites so access is essential!

Curriculum 25/26



The subjects taught at the school and how they are taught are described in great detail on our

web site detailing the 3 'l's', intent, implementation and impact. They are well worth a read.

https://www.beckstone.cumbria.sch.uk/curricul um/yearly\_overviews.html

Many of the subjects are discrete and taught as such e.g. English, Maths, Computing, PE, Music etc but many are incorporated into topics. These are shown at the bottom of this page. You can use them as a guide for



planning family trips or book purchases etc to enrich your child's studies

#### **Donations Needed**

The school would very much welcome

- Barbie & Ken dolls/clothes
- Clothes for doll babies
- Hot wheels type cars
- Paw Patrol toys
- Wet playtime games









Mrs Nichola Rosser has a new job at Westfield Housing Association which she will start at the end of this month. Our loss is certainly their gain.

Nichola has been an asset to this school since she started in 2012 and we wish her well but will also truly miss her.

We will be looking to get the Office back up to full strength over the next few weeks.



## Learning Projects Year A

	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
			Poetry By Heart	Fairtrade Fortnight		Health Week
Early Years	Stories and Rhymes	Exploring Seasons	Dangerous Dinosaurs	Sunshine and Sunflowers	Me and My Commuity	Animal Safari
Year 1 & 2	The Great Fire of London	Marvellous Materials	Animals	Habitats	Our Locality	Make Your Mark
Year 3 & 4	Through the Ages		Emperors and Empires		Interconnected World	Predator
Year 5 & 6	How Mining Changed Harrington	Stargazers	Alchemy Island	Rocks, Ravines and Rumbles	Hola Mexico	

# **Term Dates until Summer 2027**

	Autumn 2025	Spring 2026	Summer 2026	Autumn 2026	Spring 2027	Summer 2027
Start of Term	Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> September	Wednesday 7 <sup>th</sup> January	Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> April May Day – Mon 4 <sup>th t</sup>	Wednesday 2nd September	Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> January	Monday 12th April May Day – Mon 3 <sup>rd</sup>
Half Term	Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> October - Friday 31 <sup>st</sup> October	Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> February – Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> February	Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> May - Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> May	Monday 26 <sup>th</sup> October - Friday 30 <sup>th</sup> October	Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> February – Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> February	Monday 31 <sup>st</sup> May - Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> June
End of Term	Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> December	Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> March	Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> July	Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> December	Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup> March	Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> July





## September

Wed 3<sup>rd</sup> – Children start back

Fri 5th – New Nursery Starters taster session

Mon 8<sup>th</sup> – New Nursery Starters start

Wed 10th – Careers Fair for Y6 at Workington Academy – 9.30am to 12pm

Tue 16th – Nasal Flu Vaccination

Wed 17th – Phonics workshop for Reception parents at 3.30pm

Thu 18<sup>th</sup> – Gurning Final

Fri 19th – Individual & family photos

Mon 22<sup>nd</sup> – FAB AGM

Wed 24th – Y6 visiting the Beacon in Whitehaven via train.

Thu 25th – Y5 visiting the Beacon in Whitehaven via train.

Fri 26th – Macmillan Coffee Morning

Mon 29th – Deadline day for Parent Governor nominations

Sand Creation Workshop 3.15-4pm for EY & KS1

#### October

Wed 1st – React Science Show 1.30pm for UKS2 at Lakes College

Sand Creation Workshop for KS2 3.15 - 4pm

Fri 3<sup>rd</sup> - 20 Years of Beckstone Celebration Day

Week beg. 13th – Nursery Come & Play week

Fri 10<sup>th</sup> - Non-Uniform Day in aid of the Arabella Playground

Staff

Mon 13th – Harvest Festival for KS1 families at 2pm at Church.

Tue 14th - Governors AGM 4pm

Wed 15<sup>th</sup> & Thu 16<sup>th</sup> – Parents' Evenings

Mon 20<sup>th</sup> – 'Open the Book' assembly performance

R & KS1 Cinema Night

Tues 21<sup>st</sup> – KS2 Cinema Night

Wed 22<sup>nd</sup> – United Utilities workshops for Nursery & Reception

Fri 24th – Halloween Themed Day

Week beg. 28th - Half term

# November

Mon 3<sup>rd</sup> – Poppies on sale

Sun 9th - Remembrance Parade

Tue 11th – Remembrance Silence 11am

LKS2 Benchball competition @ St Joseph's

Fri 14th - 3/4LB Class Assembly

Fri 21<sup>st</sup> – Y6 Takeover Morning

Week beg. Mon 24th – Parliament Week

Tues 25th – Governor Challenge Day, Finance & Main Meeting

Fri 28th – Josh McAllister MP visiting school

#### December

Tue 2<sup>nd</sup> – Nursery Nativity for parents 9.30am

Thu 4<sup>th</sup> – NISCU Puppets Visiting

Tue 9th – Reception Nativity for Parents 9.15am

Wed 10<sup>th</sup> — Reception Nativity for Parents 2.15pm

A class singing Carols at 'the Galloping Horse'

Thu 11<sup>th</sup> – Christmas Dinner day

Week beg, 15<sup>th</sup> – Christmas Party Nights – Mon Y1 Wed LKS2 & Thu UKS2

Tue 16th – LKS2 Carol Service at Church 2pm

Wed 17th - UKS2 Carol Service at Church 2pm

Thu 18th - Christmas Party Day

Fri 19th – Carols in the Square 10.30am

No Beck Xtra or Afternoon Nursery, Break up for Christmas





























Tue 24th Feb - KS2 Table tennis 9.30-12

Thu 12th Feb - KS1 & R Cinema Night

Dates for next year already!

Wed 7<sup>th</sup> Jan – Children start back

Fri 30th Jan - 3/4SF Class Assembly Fri 6th Feb – 1/2DT Class Assembly Wed 11th Feb -KS2 Cinema Night Fri 13th Feb - 3/4LS Class Assembly

Thu 5th March - World Book Day Fri 6th March - 1/2AF Class Assembly

Fri 13th March - Poetry by Heart Showcase

Sun 15th March - Mother's Day

Week beg. 16th Feb - Half term

Week beg. 16th March – Nursery Come & paly week Tues 17th & Wed 18th March – Parents' Evenings

Thu 19th March - UKS2 Party night

Fri 20th March - Year 5 Assembly

Week beg. 23rd March – Easter Party Nights YR- Mon; Y1 – Tue; Y2; Wed; LKS2 - Thu.

Week beg.23rd March – Egg & Bonnet Design Week Tue 24th March - LKS2 Football Competition 9.30-12

Governors' Meeting & Challenge Day

Fri 27<sup>th</sup> March – Egg Dumping Final

-School breaks up for Easter, no Beck Xtra or Educare

Mon 13th April - Children start back

Wed 22<sup>nd</sup> April – 5/6CC cooking experience @Pizza Express

Tue 28th April – KS1 Kicky Rounders 9.30-12

Thu 30th April - Class Photo Day

May - KS1 Optional SATs Month Week beg. 11th May - KS2 SATs

Mon 4th May – Bank Holiday

Tue 5<sup>th</sup> May – LKS2 Rounders competition 9.30-12

Fri 1st May - 1/2TM Class Assembly

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

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 3<sup>rd</sup> June – Sports Day

Tue 9th June – Governor Challenge Day

Reception Multi Skills 9.30-12

Tue 16th June - UKS2 Football 9.30-12

Tue 23<sup>rd</sup> – Thu 25<sup>th</sup> June -UKS2 Newcastle residential trip

Sun 21st Jun – Father's Day

Week beg. 29<sup>th</sup> Jun – Summer Trips week

Week beg. 6<sup>th</sup> 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 18th Jul - Beckstone's Got Talent

School Year Ends, no Beck Xtra or Educare



