

BECKSTONE PRIMARY SCHOOL



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Newsletter no. 3
November 2026



Dear Parents,

I hope and trust you all had a fabulous half term and you enjoyed family Halloween festivities. With Bonfire Night coming up on the Thursday after half term please follow the advice in this newsletter to keep your children and pets safe.

It was heartening to have 97.5% attendance at Parents' Evenings, we are chasing up non attendees as it is so important home and school work together. I hope you found them useful and the new booking system was easy to use.

For me this is the most magical term of the school year. As Christmas begins to appear on the horizon the excitement in the children and in the staff grows. Before the month is out the school will begin to sparkle and glow with Christmas decorations.

November is a very busy month and there are lots of things happening so please read the newsletter carefully. Indeed, this half term is jam packed with many enriching and exciting activities. Please check the dates on the back of the newsletter so you don't miss out on anything.

If you have any concerns or queries please don't hesitate to contact school as we will do our utmost to help.

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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➤ **Harrington Pharmacy**
➤ **Premier Blinds & Curtains**
➤ **Robinsons & Co**
➤ **The Home BOSS**



Remembrance	2
Remembrance Parade	2
Y1 –Y6 Meet the Teacher	2
Wellbeing & Progress Update.....	2
Early Years Come & Play Sessions.....	3
Early Years Open Morning	3
Harvest.....	3
Halloween	3
Sporting Success.....	4
Bonfire Safety	4
Facebook & Instagram.....	5
Extreme Weather/Heating Emergencies.....	5
Coats	5
Governors Page	6
Community Champions Cup	6
The Marie Wright Kindness Cup	7
Creativity Cup.....	7
Blain Rooney Sporting Trophy	8
Heart of School Award Winner	8
Beckstone Babies Club.....	9
Christmas 2026.....	9
Christmas Party Nights	10
Christmas Bingo	17
Bright Stars Club & Christmas	10
What's on in Autumn and Winter in Workington	10
📅 Remembrance Parades	10
🎃 Workington Christmas Festival 2026	11
🍂 Autumn & Winter Walks Around Workington	11
Religious Education	11
The Gingerbread House Festival	11
Workington Under 10s Zebras	17
Attendance	17
Term Time Holidays & Tests	13
Give Blood – Help Save a Life!	13
Non-Uniform Days.....	13
School Council	14
Safeguarding/Child Protection	14
Food & Drink	14
School Meal menu.....	14
Peanut Free School.....	16
Nursery Intakes	16
Beckstone's Extended Services	16
Revisewise	17
Strive for Five	17
Reading With Your Child.....	17
Reader Teacher	18
Advertisements	18
Nursery Halloween Dance	18
Staff Changes	18
School fund	18
NSPCC	18
And Finally	18
NSPCC Resources for Parents	19
Diary Dates	20

Harrington Pharmacy



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❖ Regular promotions throughout the shop

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❖ Free repeat medication check- up service

Opening hours

Mon-Fri 9am-5.30pm

Sat 9am-12.30pm



Remembrance

Poppies go on sale from Monday 2nd November for the week. Poppies require a minimum donation of 50p.

Other items such as pencil sharpeners, zip tags, bracelets and slap wrist rulers are all £2. Year 6 children will go round with them each day this week.



Remembrance Parade



The school will also be joining in the Harrington Remembrance Parade in the morning of Sunday 8th November. The Parade will leave the British Legion at 9.15am and arrive at Church at 10am for a service and then a commemoration at the Cenotaph afterwards. We are looking for pupil volunteers to represent the school on this historic occasion. Mrs Beecroft, Ms McKeating and Mrs McAdam have all kindly volunteered to lead the Parade.

Remembrance Day

Like last year we are hoping to decorate the school hill with poppies and weather permitting have the whole school out on the hill for the silence at 11am on Tuesday 11th November. Parents are welcome to join with us on the steps of the road hill or at the bottom of Eadie Street. Alongside are images from last year:



Y1 –Y6 Meet the Teacher – Wellbeing & Progress Update

We had 97.5% attendance at the Parents' evenings last month, the highest ever!! Our

aim is always 100% as educational research shows that when school and home work closely together the child gets the best from school.

If you missed your appointment or didn't book (it is essential you have the parent log in to Seesaw not the child one) then your child's class teacher should have contacted you. If not please contact school to talk about your child.

The first parents' evening of the year has a settling in/wellbeing focus. The next parents' evening next term will have focus on progress and attainment with a different format to the report.



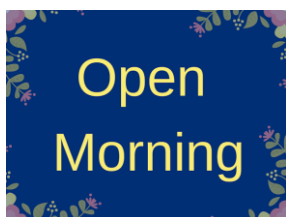


Early Years Come & Play Sessions

We hope all parents enjoyed the Nursery and Reception 'Come & Play' sessions and gave you a good idea of all the many learning opportunities your child receives in our setting.

Attendance across the various sessions was 95% for the week as a whole...amazing! Your children will have really enjoyed you coming.

Early Years Open Morning



We hosted an open morning on Saturday 17th October. There was an amazing turnout with lots of families attending. There were new families who didn't know much about the school and who were blown away with all the facilities and grounds we have. Also of note was how impressed families were at the flexible and cost effective nature of our extended services. If you know of people with children approaching school age and who missed the event please tell them to contact school and we can arrange a tour for them.

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Harvest

Key Stage 1 hosted a Harvest performance for the school in the morning and then parents on Monday 12th October at the Church. It was a lovely service, very much enjoyed by those who took part as well as those that watched and featured class choral poems and a re-telling of the Little Red Hen.



Thank you to all who donated Harvest items on the day or the following day. From a school of nearly 400 children however there was not much donated. Harvest is about sharing and the foodbank is under immense pressure and is running out of food so this was disappointing. We have sent the donations we received to the Foodbank to support local families in need.

Please note we collect for the Foodbank all year round so if you missed the Harvest collection you can still donate. There is a



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
- * 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



collection bin in the green shelter in front of school. Donations are welcome at any time of year not just at Harvest time.

Halloween

The last day of last half term was a Halloween themed day; the costumes on display were fantastic as well as terrifying!! The quality, design and ingenuity that clearly went into the costumes were amazing!

The children were very proud of their outfits and enjoyed spooking each other. Pictures of the children in



costume and in assembly will soon be on our web site in the Halloween zone of our 'Film and Photo Gallery' (or follow the QR code).

https://www.beckstone.cumbria.sch.uk/pupil_zone/film_photo_gallery/index.html



The children had a spooky assembly, Halloween Parties and a Halloween themed lunch to make the day special.

As Halloween approaches, we would like to remind families to help children stay safe while enjoying trick or treating.

👻 Children should always be accompanied by a responsible adult or stay in a group if they are older.

👻 Wear bright or reflective clothing and ensure costumes do not restrict vision or create a trip hazard.

👻 Only visit homes that are clearly welcoming trick-or-treaters and respect households that choose not to take part.

👻 Remind children never to enter a stranger's home and to stay on well-lit routes.

👻 Please check all sweets and treats before they are eaten and dispose of anything that is unwrapped, damaged or of unknown origin.

👻 Be mindful of road safety, especially when crossing roads in the dark.

We hope everyone has a fun, safe and enjoyable Halloween! 🧛 🧛 🧛



Sporting Success

UKS2 Benchball



Our UKS2 Benchball team recently took part in the first inter school competition of the year and were undefeated throughout the tournament and were worthy champions. They are pictured here with their trophy and certificates.

WARNING Misuse of Social Media



If you can't say anything nice about School ... don't say anything at all!

Beckstone Primary and all schools in the Workington Consortium take abusive comments very seriously and if we find that individuals are posting defamatory or derogatory comments about the school, staff or volunteers the following action may be taken;

- Insistence on removal of any such 'posts'
- Sanctions as outlined in School Policy
- Contacting the Police
- The user will be reported to the relevant social media site and the closure of their account requested.
- Legal action



Billy & Belinda Bollards



The new bollards are a bit of a talking point. They were put there by Cumberland Council NOT the school as some appear to believe. They are designed to impact a driver's peripheral vision and make them slow down at all times as they think children are near the road.

Bonfire Safety

The Police and Ambulance Services are hoping for an injury free bonfire night on Thursday(5th) and indeed the weekends after.



The firework code is reproduced at the top of the next page for your information and will be shared with the children this week.

Please do not let your children set off fireworks. For their own safety, they need to be standing well back to enjoy the view and to ensure they return to school after any celebrations unharmed.

Fireworks

Before they explode read the code!

Light sparklers one at a time and wear gloves.
Never give sparklers to a child under five.
Buy fireworks marked BS 7114.
Keep fireworks in a closed box.
Follow the instructions on each firework.
Light them at arm's length using a taper.
Stand well back.
Never go back to a lit firework.
Never put fireworks in your pocket.
Never throw fireworks.
Keep pets indoors.



**Welephant says,
"Read the Firework
Code and use it!"**

**Stay safe this bonfire night by following
Welephant's Firework Code.**

Facebook & Instagram



Instagram

The school is on
Facebook and Instagram.



Facebook

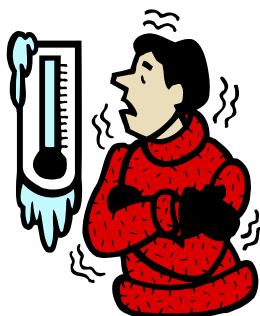
You should be able to
search for the pages or
you can use these
addresses/QR codes.

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



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

Extreme Weather/Heating Emergencies



With winter here, it is to be hoped that inclement weather is not serious, and that the heating system works effectively. If this happens not to be the case and the school is forced to close, then the following will be sources of information.

- ⚠ An Arbor message will be sent to all parents (*it is of vital importance you have this set up and notifications turned on*)

- ⚠ The Cumberland Council web site carries information on schools that are closed
- ⚠ Radio Cumbria will be informed and closure details will be included in their broadcasts

The school web site will be updated underneath the 'Weather Warnings' link

Coats

All children now need to wear their coats at lunchtimes and playtimes. There is no rule on coats with regard to the uniform policy, just something to keep your child warm and dry. 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....



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

There are also some coats available for free via our uniform exchange. To enquire simply email uniform@beckstone.cumbria.sch.uk or use the QR code





Governors' Board

Governors Blog

Hi all,

It's that dreaded time of year when the weather gets cold and the nights are dark. There are lots of different exciting events going on at school but as parents it's hard to keep up with it all which can lead to a lot of parental stress and anxiety. On this note make sure you as parents we need to look after our own mental health, get yourself out in the fresh air and what little sunshine we might have. Even if it's raining or maybe a little cold get yourself out for a walk, you'll never feel worse after a walk than you do before a walk, ten minutes can make that uplift in mood that we all sometimes need.

The Governors have recently been having OFSTED training. Personally, I feel OFSTED is a very unfair way to 'judge' a school. In the 4.5 years I have been a Governor at Beckstone, I've spent time in the school, with staff and with pupils. I've never known such a vibrant, upbeat and positive attitude throughout a school. Seeing all this first hand with a parent's head on makes me extremely glad that we chose Beckstone for our children's education. This is a little bit of an appreciation post towards all the teachers and staff for all the great work they do to enrich the lives of all our children.

Before we know it, Santa will be visiting school, rumour has it he's tried very hard to lose some weight this year so please ask all your children to be very kind to him.

Thanks for reading,

Blain



Governor				Gallery		
						
 From: 15.03.22 To: 15.03.24 Simon Turk Chair & Co-opted	 From: 07.12.25 To: 07.12.28 Kate Mahone Vice Chair & LA	 From: 28.05.25 To: 28.05.29 Laurie Black Co-opted	 From: 14.10.25 To: 14.10.29 Ryan Close Parent	 From: 28.05.25 To: 28.05.29 Dannielle Millar Parent	 From: 28.05.25 To: 28.05.29 Sridhar Maturi Parent	 From: 26.11.24 To: 26.11.28 Blain Rooney Co-opted
 From: N/A To: N/A David Warbrick Headteacher	 From: 12.07.25 To: 12.07.29 Hayley Wells Staff	 From: 10.06.25 To: 10.06.29 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: N/A To: N/A Vacancy Co-opted	 From: 26.11.24 To: 26.11.28 Fiona Grierson Parent

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Community Champions Cup



June goes out of her way to support the school community. She is a reading volunteer and gives up hours of her own time to support reading in Upper Key Stage 2. We decided to award the trophy to June to mark her selflessness, generosity of time and dedication to improving the life chances of pupils by extending their reading practice. A well deserved award.

The Marie Wright Kindness Cup



This was a very easy decision for all of us in KS1. Since the first day of the new school year, Harlow has been noticed for her kind heart towards her fellow friends. Without a second thought, she always ensures they are supported and she encourages those that need a helping hand. Whether this is in the classroom, playground or coming into school in the morning. She always has the most wonderful smile on her face, chatting away causing smiles and laughter wherever she goes!

Creativity Cup



Aranya from Nursery was awarded the trophy. She has shown Nursery what a wonderful artist she is. She has an amazing ability to control her pencil demonstrating

skills well beyond what we would typically expect for her age.

Aranya concentrates hard on developing her imaginative creations and takes pride in her work approaching all creative tasks with enthusiasm and patience. A worthy winner!

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Blain Rooney Sporting Trophy

Zac possesses all of our sporting values and has represented Beckstone using his sporting many skills and talents both in Key Stage 1 and 2 on many occasions. Zac is an integral member of our winning teams and we are sure he will gain a few more winning certificates for us before he leaves in July. He recently beat his rivals for the second year in a row in the Allerdale Cross Country Competition where he led the field from start to finish

Zac has an amazing positive attitude, always puts in maximum effort and strives to improve his performance over a range of sports (he is also a member of Carlisle United 's Youth Academy.

We are sure Zac will go on to achieve many more sporting successes in the future.



Heart of School Award Winner



Marnie is a special girl who truly has a heart of gold. She is always thinking of others and goes out of her way to help her friends whenever she can. Her kindness, caring nature, and big smile brighten everyone's day. She is a wonderful member of our school community, always polite, helpful, and ready to lend a hand. Whether she is supporting her friends, helping staff, or simply making others feel included, she shows us what it means to be a true friend. Recently Marnie raised some money selling lemonade to raise money for the school, this is a true act of kindness and shows Marnie the beautiful little girl she is.

We are so proud of Marnie and we all thank her for being such a kind, thoughtful, and caring young lady. Keep smiling and shining brightly, because you make our school a better place every day. Well done!"



Beckstone Babies Club

The 'Beckstone Babies' has had a great start with many attending. The club is a new parent/carer toddler group for families with children from birth to three years old. The group aims to provide a welcoming space for families to connect, play and learn together while supporting children's early



development and familiarising them with the school environment.

Beckstone Babies will continue for next term and planned for using development matters birth to three guidance and will include a range of age-appropriate activities, including sensory play, tuff trays, stories, songs, messy play and opportunities for social interaction.

The club runs from **1.45 to 2.45 every Monday** in the School Hall. There is a cost of £3.50 per family to cover overheads.

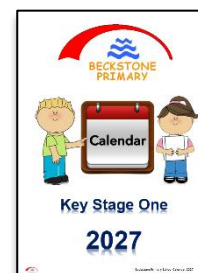


Christmas 2026

Christmas time is a key fund-raising time for the 'Friends at Beckstone'. The group however is aware of the financial pressures on families in the lead up to Christmas so the fund-raising activities will be mainly online allowing families to spend as little or as much as they like outside of public view. Each Stage will be putting a large hamper packed full of goodies together so there will be 4 hampers altogether. As a result, we would very much welcome a donation to these hampers e.g. chocolate, a bottle of something, toys etc. There will be a non-uniform day on Friday 4th December to support this however donations are welcome any time.

Nearer the time we will also be selling reindeer dust and hot chocolate stocking fillers amongst other things.

Finally, every Stage is producing a 2027 Calendar which will include your child in their birthday month. They are great fun and would make lovely Christmas presents for friends/relatives etc. They will be available to order on ParentPay soon and cost £4 per calendar



including a hanging clip. The choices are Early Years, KS1, LKS2, UKS2 or a whole school one. All items will be available through ParentPay and any profits go to school so please purchase them if you can.... they will make good present too.



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Christmas Party Nights



These take place on Friday 11th December for Reception and then the rest are in the week beginning Monday 14th December, Y1 on Monday; Y2 on Tuesday; LKS2 on Wednesday and UKS2 on Thursday. The cost is £6 covering all refreshments and child care. More information will go out nearer the time, please do take note of the deadline for booking to avoid disappointment.

Christmas Bingo

There is a Christmas Bingo Night planned for Thursday 3rd December. Bingo events are very popular and due to size constraints, we are limited to 100 tickets for the night. Details will go out soon and tickets will be on a first come first served basis so to avoid disappointment please book early.



Bright Stars Club

Bright Stars Club & Christmas

The Bright Stars Club is a school fund raising enterprise run by the children. They have organised the following events for this term, they can all be booked via ParentPay...you will be sent a message when the bookings become available.



Festive bag decorating

workshop - Wednesday

25th November. There are fabric bags and fabric pens for bag decorating where children can design and create their own fabric bags - this is for KS2 children, as it will require a bit of patience and persevering! (£5 per child, will include a drink and a biscuit) - limited to 20 spaces.



Cracker workshop - Wednesday

2nd December 3:15-4:00pm (£4 per child) again this includes a drink and a biscuit.



What's on in Autumn and Winter in Workington

As the nights draw in and the leaves start to turn, Workington truly comes into its own. From heartfelt community moments to festive celebrations, there's plenty to look forward to across our town this autumn and winter. Whether you're a long-time local or new to the area, here's your guide to making the most of the season.

Remembrance Parades

Sunday 8th November 2026 | Harrington & Workington | Morning & Afternoon

Each year, our community comes together to honour and remember those who gave so much. This November, Remembrance Parades will take place in both Harrington and Workington on Sunday 8th November, with events held across the morning and afternoon.

It's a profoundly important occasion, and an important chance for residents of all ages to pay their respects, reflect, and stand shoulder to shoulder as a community.

We encourage everyone to come out, show your support, and be part of this moving annual tribute.

The Harrington Parade will leave the Harrington Royal British Legion at 9.40am, and the Workington Parade will leave Pow Street at 2pm.

Workington Christmas Festival 2026

Saturday 28th & Sunday 29th November 2026 |
Workington Town Centre | 11am - 5pm

The most wonderful time of the year is nearly here, and Workington's Christmas Festival is back for another brilliant weekend in the heart of the town centre!

Join us on Saturday 28th and Sunday 29th November, from 11am to 5pm, for two days of festive fun the whole family can enjoy. Expect a wonderful atmosphere, fantastic local traders, great food and drink, and all the magic that makes Workington's Christmas celebrations so special.

Whether you're kicking off your Christmas shopping, treating yourself to something festive, or simply soaking up the seasonal spirit with loved ones, this is the event to have in your diary. Mark the dates, wrap up warm, and come and celebrate the start of the Christmas season with us right here in Workington.

Autumn & Winter Walks Around Workington

There's something genuinely special about wrapping up warm and heading out for a crisp autumn or winter walk. Workington and its surrounding area has some lovely routes to explore - here are a few to get you started.

Workington Coastal Walk

Head down to the coast and enjoy a bracing walk along the Solway shoreline. The sea air is refreshing year-round, and on a clear winter's day the views across the Firth towards Scotland are absolutely stunning. A perfect way to blow off the seasonal cobwebs and enjoy the beauty right on our doorstep.

Workington Hall & Grounds

A walk around the historic grounds of Workington Hall is a lovely way to spend an autumn afternoon. The grounds have a peaceful, timeless quality - particularly beautiful as the leaves change colour. A great option for families and history lovers alike.

River Derwent Walk

Follow the River Derwent through the town and enjoy the sights and sounds of the river as it winds its way through the landscape. A gentle, accessible walk that's ideal for all ages and fitness levels.

Have a favourite local walk you'd like to share? Let Workington Town Council know on their community Facebook group - we'd love to hear your recommendations!

Stay Connected:

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 office@workingtoncouncil.gov.uk |  01900 702986

Workington Town Council Town Hall, Oxford St,
Workington CA14 2RS
01900 702986

Religious Education



The school will be focusing a lot on Christianity and the birth of Jesus over the next few weeks. The County SACRE Policy for Religious Education states schools must also teach and help the children learn about other religions.

We recently had a visit from 2 RE Advisors who watched lessons, looked at books and spoke to staff. They were very impressed at all we cover. Their only recommendation to enhance this subject area was to have more visitors from other faiths visiting schools and to visit other religious buildings not just the local Church.

One action we have taken already is to invite some speakers in. Just before half term we had a Judaism leader come and talk to the children about aspects of their religion and their beliefs and we have a Muslim Cleric visiting us in January.

We actually teach 4 world views, Christianity; Judaism; Islam and Hinduism.

Full details of our curriculum can be found here:

<https://www.beckstone.cumbria.sch.uk/curriculum/re.html> It is well worth reading the attached documents so you get a full understanding of what will be taught when.



The Gingerbread House Festival



The first ever Gingerbread House Festival is taking part in our area later this month. There will be displays of many houses and famous landmarks all made out of



Gingerbread to celebrate the Cumbrian tradition of Gingerbread making. Details of the event are on the next page.

Our older children had lessons last month on how to make gingerbread and we now have an entry in this exhibition of our school which the children all helped to make. It is pictured below



Workington Under 10s Zebras



**WORKINGTON
R.F.C.**

Workington Zebra's Under 10s (Rugby Union) are looking to recruit! 🦓

Open to all abilities and genders in year 5, whether you've played before or are looking to try a new sport. 🍌

Training times are subject to review although if you're interested, please feel free to pop along to the Zebra's training ground (Ellis Sports Ground, Mossbay Rd, Workington, CA14 3XZ) from 6-7pm on Fridays.

For any other age group enquiries please contact one of our Coaches/Committee on

<https://www.workingtonrfc.co.uk/contact>



Sessions start 6pm on Monday 5th October at Workington Academy sports hall with 'Cricket Chris'.

Attendance

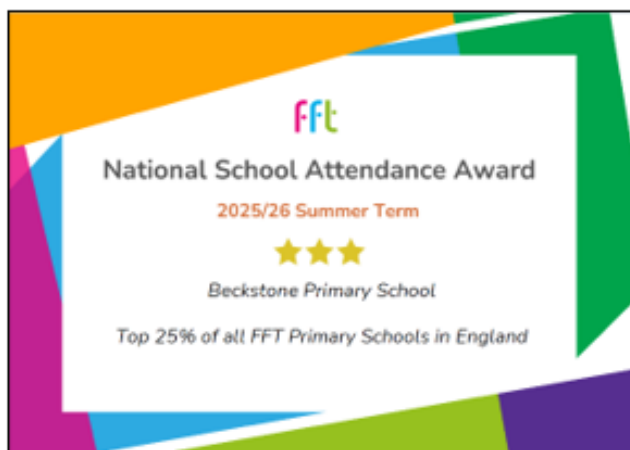
Please can all families ensure their child attends school as regularly as possible and on time – indeed this is a statutory duty on parents.



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.

Mrs Boyd is our school based attendance officer as well as being our designated safeguarding lead. Since she took on this role she has had a very positive demonstrable impact on our attendance. This has been recognised nationally and we received 3 certificates towards the end of last month...for being in the top 25% of schools for attendance national, for being in the top 10% for attendance improvement in schools and finally for being in the top 25% of all schools nationally for the school's attendance.

The certificates are displayed below:



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!

May 2027 – KS1 Optional SATs Month

Week beg. 10th May 2027 – KS2 SATs

2 weeks from week beg. 7th June 2027 – Y4 Times Table Check

Week beg. 14th June 2027 – Y1 Phonics Screening Check Week



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 are at Lakes College on Friday 20th November 3.45 to 4.45pm and 3rd December from 11am to 3pm. There is also a sessions at Energus on 22nd December from 3 to 7pm.

Do something worthwhile and save someone's life.

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



Non-Uniform Days

There are a few non-uniform days



coming up. Friday 13th is a free one for Children in Need, the school is not collecting for this cause however please donate if you wish to the many outlets that do collect in recognition of this day. The second one this month is on Friday 20th November when donations of chocolate towards the Bingo Night and Christmas goodies would be most welcome.

The next day after that is Friday 4th December where donation to Stage hampers for the Christmas Raffle would be appreciated, sweets, chocolate, bath goods, stocking fillers etc would be most welcome.



The final non uniform day of 2026 will be a free one for the Christmas Party Day on Thursday 17th December.



School Council

The first meeting of this year's School Council took place just before half term. The School Council is made up of an elected boy and girl from each class who represent the views of their classmates. It is a great introduction to democracy as well as the format of formal meetings with Chairs, Secretaries and Treasurers as well as agendas and minutes, The Council discuss ways to improve the school for the pupils, are consulted on changes and are great eyes and ears for any H&S risks that may occur. This year's Councillors are pictured below.

School Council 2026 - 2027



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 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 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:



Food & Drink

- School Meals** currently cost £16.00 per week (only £3.20 a day) payable on ParentPay. Menus are always on our school web site and the one for Autumn/Winter is on the next page.



- Packed Lunches** a reminder of the following:
In simple terms **the following are not allowed:**
Crisps ; Peauts or products containing peanuts including Nutella; Chocolate (in any form); Sweets; Cake & Fizzy drinks

In addition hot food cannot be sent in as there are risks associated with burning, scolding and the potential of food poisoning plus the practical issues of leaking, spillages etc



Autumn Winter Menu



Week 1		Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
	Main Meal	All Day Breakfast	Chicken Curry & Rice	Mince, Mashed Potato & Yorkshire Pudding	Chicken & Sweetcorn Meatballs in Gravy & Pasta	Fish Fingers & Chips
	Vegetarian Option	Vegan Breakfast	Vegetable Curry & Rice	Quorn Mince & Mashed Potato	Vegetarian Meatballs in Tomato Sauce & Pasta	Fish Cake & Chips
	Sides	Veg of the Day	Veg of the Day	Veg of the Day	Veg of the Day	Veg of the Day
	Dessert	Cheese & Crackers	Flapjack & Custard	Fruit Platter	Jamaican Ginger Cake & Custard	Jelly & Mandarins

Week 2		Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
	Main Meal	Sausage Roll & Wedges	Spaghetti Bolognese	Roast Chicken, Stuffing, Mashed Potatoes & Gravy	Beef Burger in a Bun & Herby diced Potatoes	Fish Fingers & Chips
	Vegetarian Option	Vegan Pastry & Wedges	Macaroni Cheese	Roast Quorn, Mashed Potatoes & Gravy	Vegan Burger in a Bun & Herby diced Potatoes	Cheese & Bean Pastry with Chips
	Sides	Veg of the Day	Veg of the Day	Veg of the Day	Veg of the Day	Veg of the Day
	Dessert	Chocolate & Orange Cookie	iced Sponge	Fruit Platter	Sticky Toffee Apple Crumble & Custard	Vanilla Shortbread

Week 3		Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
	Main Meal	Cheese & Tomato Pizza & Pasta	Beef Lasagne & Garlic Bread	Roast Gammon, Stuffing, Mashed Potatoes & Gravy	Sausage & Wedges	Fish Fingers & Chips
	Vegetarian Option	BBQ Chicken Pizza & Pasta	Vegetable Lasagne	Quorn Fillet, Mashed Potatoes & Gravy	Vegan Sausage & Wedges	Cheese Whirl & Chips
	Sides	Veg of the Day	Veg of the Day	Veg of the Day	Veg of the Day	Veg of the Day
	Dessert	Chocolate Brownie	Ice Cream & Peaches	Fruit Melody	Syrup Sponge & Custard	Oaty Biscuits



Available Daily: Jacket Potatoes, Salad Bar, Fresh Bread, Fresh Fruit & Yoghurt





- **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 this half term (Autumn 2) for those that want it is **£15** and needs to be paid by **Friday 6th November 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 **£20** for this half term. This is paid on ParentPay and please pay by **Friday 6th November 2026**



- Fruit is **£15.00** for this half term, again payable on ParentPay by **Friday 6th November 2026** This is for playtime snacks.

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.

Nursery Intakes



If you know of any children with birth dates between the times shown on the flyer at the top of 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.



BECKSTONE NURSERY PLACES 2026/2027

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

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

SEPTEMBER 2027
Children born between
1st April - 31st Aug 2024

JANUARY 2028
Children born between
1st Sept - 31st Dec 2024

Children can attend 'Afternoon Nursery' as soon as they turn 3 (They must be toilet trained)
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. **Parents MUST sign their child in.**



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

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 **£2.60** 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:

£2.60 per day for a school dinner

£11.50 (plus £2.60 for dinner) until 2:15pm

£15.50 (plus £2.60 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.

****** 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 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 for this half term.

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 **ALL UKS2 Pupils**. Children who can attend one or both.

Strive for Five



Finally, as a reward for those reading at least 5 times a week at home they become eligible to be part of the fortnightly 'Strive for Five' draw. Each year group winner will receive a book and chocolate for the parent(s) who have supported at home. Please use this as an incentive to read regularly with your child



Reading With Your Child



We want to promote 'Share a book every day' with children at home with their family and friends.

Sharing books with children is fun, it can be a time for closeness, laughing and talking together and it can also help your child to become a lifelong reader and have a love of books.

There is no right or wrong way of doing it and it is never too early to start reading to your child

Tips for sharing a book

- Try and find somewhere away from noise and television and make sure you are not using your mobile phone
- Make sure you take time to look and talk about the pictures on the pages
- If your baby chews books to start with, it doesn't matter. They will soon enjoy helping you to turn the pages
- The use of sound effects for example animal noises will help to bring the story to life and make you both laugh
- Encourage family members such as siblings to join in and share a book with your child
- For older children, ask some questions when reading together, for example, what can you see on this page? How do you think Goldilocks felt when she saw the bears? What do you think is going to happen next?
- As your child's language develops encourage your child to tell the story. They can read the pictures to you and talk about what's happening on the page
- If you think you are not a brilliant reader it doesn't matter because just hearing and listening to your voice is comforting for your child.

How to read aloud to older children

1. **Keep it fun**
Reading shouldn't be a chore! When children's experiences are pleasant, they are more likely to develop a life-long love of reading
2. **Read with energy**
Use lots of energy! Using facial expressions and emotion: different voices for different characters; and varying the tempo and volume that you read with will help to create an immersive storytelling experience your children will love.
3. **Ask questions**
Asking questions as you read can improve understanding and get the child to be an active participant in the reading experience
4. **Explain as you go**
Explaining what is happening on the pages and allowing time to talk about it as you go through the book can deepen your child's understanding and expand their vocabulary
5. **Point out words**
Pointing out words can really help younger children



when it comes to learning to read. Scanning from left to right, as well as showing what a letter and a word is, has been shown to help develop advanced reading skills.

6. **Look at the pictures/illustrations in the book**
Talking about the pictures in the book is just as important as reading the words
7. **Get them to read along with you**
This would work especially well with your favourite rhyming books that you have read so many times with them that they can remember parts
8. **Reread the same book**
This is linked to the above point as it will give them the confidence to join in and helps build fluency and a better understanding of rhythm and language
9. **Encourage the child to retell the story to you**
When they are confident with the story see if they can recite parts of it to you or someone else on their own. This will improve their confidence and help develop their memory and speaking skills.



Reader Teacher

A really great web site is 'The Reader Teacher'. This can be a valuable resource in the lead up to Christmas as it suggests what it thinks are the best high quality reads for children at age-appropriate levels.

Simply click on the Year Group and browse all the

titles. Clicking on the book cover takes you to Amazon to read more about the book and to order it if you wish.

The site also has reviews, book listings by author, genre and details of new releases.

The site is well worth a look and can be found at <https://www.thereaderteacher.com> or by following the QR code..



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.

Nursery Halloween Dance

The postponed Nursery Halloween Dance will take place THIS Friday (6th November). They will perform for the school in the morning and then for parents at

2.45pm. Please do come along and watch if you have the time.

School 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 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 all the children.

Staff Changes

We said goodbye to Ms Dolan at half term as she got a new job outside schools. We are sorry to see her go and wish her all the very best .



We also said goodbye to Mrs O'Donnell who was covering Ms Strong's long-term absence, she did a wonderful job and we hope she will return on supply regularly.

3/4LS now will have a new teacher, Ms Gorley until Ms Strong's return.



NSPCC

Many of the children received safeguarding lessons from the NSPCC recently. They have sent a sheet with resources to help parents safeguard their children and to support opening up conversations about safeguarding with them. This is reproduced on the next page.



We have had a large number of visitors to the school recently (County Advisors, the NSPCC, Cumberland Building Society, Sports coaches to name but a few) who, to a person, have commented on the lovely atmosphere in school, the exemplary behaviour of the children and how hard they work. The school is a very special place and is recognised as such. It heart warming and rewarding to staff and pupils alike to be regularly told how well behaved and enjoyable school life is here and how it is so different to many other places. Thanks to all who make this possible, staff, pupils and our wonderful supportive parental community

Parent/carer resources	NSPCC website link	QR Code
Support for parents/carers Parenting can be rewarding, but it can also be challenging. We've got parenting tips for all stages of your child's life, as well as advice on how to deal with difficult situations.	https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/support-for-parents/	
Activities for kids at home Keep busy while learning about staying safe and speak out with out at-home activities for primary school children. New books/fun crafts available from the NSPCC shop.	https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/support-for-parents/safety/activities-safety-kids/ https://shop.nspcc.org.uk/collections/books	
Keeping Children Safe online Visit our online safety webpage for advice and information on a range of different online safety topics including gaming, social media, sharing nudes, parental controls and more. You will also find online safety information for families of children who have additional needs and disabilities. We have worked with Ambitious about Autism and parents and carers who have children who have additional needs and disabilities to create activities to help talk about online safety.	https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/ Online safety for children with SEND NSPCC Support children with SEND talking to people online NSPCC Online wellbeing for children with SEND NSPCC	
Keeping Children Safe online blog Parents, carers and professionals can keep up to date with the latest child safety online news on our Keeping Children Safe Online blog.	http://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/online-safety-blog	
Keeping Children Safe Online workshop A virtual workshop providing parents and carers with information about how to support their child in their online world. The 40-minute pre-recorded presentation covers topics such as online bullying, mental health, and social media, as well as signposting to resources and organisations for help and support.	https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/free-online-safety-group-workshops/	
Talking PANTS with your children Talk PANTS is a simple conversation to help keep children safe from sexual abuse. You can find out more and download the free resources on our website. Penguin and Ladybird have partnered with the NSPCC to create a Pantosaurus book aimed at children aged 3-11. The NSPCC has also partnered with a range of charities to help you talk to your child about the PANTS rules. There are a range of PANTS guides available from our website including guides for children with learning disabilities or autism and a BSL video for deaf children. You can download videos from our website, watch our Makaton or BSL Talk PANTS films and download free prompt cards to help you talk PANTS with Makaton.	http://www.nspcc.org.uk/pants You can find copies of the book on sale at https://shop.nspcc.org.uk/ http://www.nspcc.org.uk/pantsguides	
Techosaurus Techosaurus is designed to help parents have those first conversations about online safety with their child. It supports the development of healthy digital habits and routines in a fun, approachable way, making online safety simple and positive from the start.	https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/support-for-parents/techosaurus/	
Childline Childline has a website with age-appropriate advice for primary school children on topics such as bullying. It also has games and other interactive tools. The Childline website has an accessibility tool too, you can find out about it by clicking on the accessibility link in the Get Support menu. Children can use it to: • Read the website out to them • Change the text size and font • Change webpages to just text only • Add a mask or ruler to help them focus on just part of the page • Magnify parts of the webpage Translate the website in to over 120 languages	http://www.childline.org.uk/kids	

Term Dates until Summer 2029

	Autumn 2026	Spring 2027	Summer 2027	Autumn 2027	Spring 2028	Summer 2028	Autumn 2028	Spring 2029	Summer 2029
									
Start of Term	Thursday 3 rd September	Monday 4 th January	Monday 12 th April May Day – Mon 3 rd	Monday 6 th September	Wednesday 5 th January	Tuesday 18 th April May Day – Mon 1 st	Wednesday 6 th September	Thursday 4 th January	Tuesday 17 th April May Day – Mon 7 th
Half Term	Monday 26 th October - Friday 30 th October	Monday 15 th February – Friday 19 th February	Monday 31 st May - Friday 4 th June	Monday 25 th October - Friday 29 th October	Monday 14 th February – Friday 18 th February	Monday 29 th May – Friday 2 nd June	Monday 30 th October - Friday 3 rd November	Monday 19 th February – Friday 23 rd February	Monday 28 th May – Friday 1 st June
End of Term	Friday 18 th December	Thursday 25 th March	Friday 16 th July	Friday 17 th December	Friday 31 st March	Thursday 20 th July	Wednesday 20 th December	Thursday 29 th March	Friday 20 th July

November

Mon 2nd – Poppies on sale
 Fri 6th - Nursery Halloween Dance 2.45pm
 Sun 8th - Remembrance Parade
 Mon 9th - Y5 attending a STEM event at Lakes College
 Tue 10th LKS2 Benchball 9.30-12 at St Joseph's
 Wed 11th – Remembrance Silence 11am
 Fri 13th – Poetry by Heart Showcase
 - Children in Need FREE non uniform day
 Mon 16th – Football tournament at Harrayby
 Wed 18th – FAB Meeting
 Thu 19th – New Nursery Starters Information meeting 3.45pm
 Fri 20th - Chocolate Non Uniform Day
 Mon 23rd – 5/6CC visiting the 'Levels' in Whitehaven
 Tues 24th– Governor Challenge Day, Finance & Main Meeting
 Wed 25th – KS2 Festive bag Decorating Event
 Fri 27th – Y6 attending a 'Victorian Christmas' at the Helena Thompson Museum
 Mon 30th – 6JM v visiting the 'Levels' in Whitehaven

December

Tue 1st – KS2 Boccia Tournament 9.30am – 12pm
 Wed 2nd – Nursery Nativity for Parents 9.30am
 - Cracker workshop
 Thu 3rd – 5RM visiting the 'Levels' in Whitehaven
 - Christmas Bingo Night
 Fri 4th – Christmas Hamper Donation Non Uniform Day
 Mon 7th – Christmas post boxes go out
 - NISCU Puppets visiting – 'A Very Merry YouTube'
 Tue 8th – Reception Nativity for Parents 9.30am
 Wed 9th – Reception Nativity for Parents 2.15am
 - KS1 singing at The Galloping Horse
 Thu 10th – Christmas Dinner Day
 - EY trip to Rosehill
 Fri 11th – YR Christmas Party Night
 Week beg. 14th Dec – Party Nights; Y1- Mon; Y2 – Tue; LKS2 - Wed
 - UKS2 - Thu
 Tue 15th – LKS2 Carol Service 2pm
 Wed 16th – UKS2 Carol Service 2pm
 Thu 17th - Christmas Party Day
 Fri 18th – Carols in the Square 10.30am
 - No Beck Xtra or Afternoon Nursery, Break up for Christmas

Diary Dates



POETRY BY
HEART



Dates for 2027

Mon 4th Jan – Children start back
 Fri 8th Jan – Nursery new starter taster session 1.30pm
 Tue 12th Jan – KS1 Dodgeball Competition
 Mon 18th – Imam visiting
 Fri 22nd Jan – 3/4LB Class Assembly
 Tue 27th Jan – Young Voices Trip (Y4+)
 Fri 29th Jan – 5RM Class Assembly
 Tue 2nd Feb – Governors' meeting 4.30pm
 Fri 5th Feb – 1/2LJ Class Assembly
 Wed 10th Feb – KS1 & R Cinema Night
 Thu 11th Feb – Allerdale Gymnastics Competition
 - KS2 Cinema Night
 Fri 12th Feb – 1/2AF Class Assembly
 Week beg. 15th Feb – Half term
 Tue 23rd Feb – Table Tennis Tournament
 Thu 4th Mar – World Book Day
 Fri 5th Mar 3/4LS Class Assembly
 Sun 7th Mar – Mother's Day
 Fri 12th Mar – 5CC Class Assembly
 Week beg. 15th Mar – Nursery 'Come & play' week
 Tues 16th & Wed 17th March – Parents' Evenings
 Thu 18th YR Party Night & Fri 19th Mar Y1 Party night
 Fri 19th Mar 3/4SF Class Assembly
 Week beg. 22nd Mar – Egg & Bonnet Design Week
 - Easter Party Nights Y2- Mon; LKS2 – Tue; UKS2 - Wed
 Tue 23rd Mar – LKS2 Football Tournament
 - Governors' Meeting & Challenge Day
 Thu 25th Mar – Egg Dumping Final
 - No Beck Xtra or Afternoon Nursery,
 - Break Up for Easter
 26th Mar – 9th Apr – Easter Holidays
 Mon 12th April – Children start back
 Fri 16th April – New Nursery Starters taster session.
 Wed 21st Apr – Class Photo Day
 Fri 23rd Apr – 1/2DT Class Assembly
 Mon 26th Apr – Hatching chick eggs arrive
 Tue 27th Apr – KS1 'Rainbow' Kicky Rounders
 Fri 30th Apr – 1/2TM Class Assembly
 May – KS1 Optional SATs Month
 Tues 4th May – LKS2 Rounders Competition
 Week beg. 10th May – KS2 SATs
 Fri 14th May – Y6 children can wear their Leavers' Hoodies
 Tue 18th May – KS1 Football Competition
 - Staffing & Finance Committee & Main Governors
 Wed 19th May – School Sports Day
 Fri 21st May – Takeover Morning
 Tue 25th May – LKS2 Tag Rugby Competition
 Wed 26th May – KS1 & R Cinema Night
 Thu 27th May – KS2 Cinema Night
 Week beg. 31st May – Half term
 2 weeks from week beg. 7th June – Y4 Times Table Check
 Tue 8th Jun – Reception Multi Skills Tournament
 Wed 9th June – Individual & group Y6 graduation photos
 Week beg. 14th Jun – Y1 Phonics Screening Check Week
 Mon 14th Jun – Nursery Meerkats 'Come & Play'
 Tue 15th Jun – UKS2 Football Competition
 Weeks beg. 7th, 21st & 28th June – UKS2 Intensive Swims 9.30-10.30am
 Sun 20th Jun – Father's Day
 Tue 22nd Jun – UKS2 Tag Rugby
 Wed 23rd – Fri 25th June -UKS2 Manchester Residential
 Wed 23rd Jun – Workington Football Tournament
 Tue 29th Jun – UKS2 Tennis Tournament
 Thu 1st July – Reception Summer trip to Lake District Wildlife Park
 Week beg. 5th July – Party nights; YR Mon; Y1 Tue; Y2 Wed; LKS2 Thu & UKS2 Fri
 Thu 8th & Fri 9th July – Meet new classes mornings
 Thu 8th – Curriculum Evening – KS1 & UKS2
 Mon 12th Jul – Reports Out & Curriculum Evening for YR & LKS2
 Tue 13th July – Governor Challenge Afternoon & Main Meeting
 Wed 14th July - Graduation
 Thu 15th – FUN day
 Fri 16th Jul – Beckstone's Got Talent
 - School Year Ends, no Beck Xtra or afternoon Nursery

