



NEWSLETTER

27/1/23

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NEU INDUSTRIAL ACTION

As no doubt you will know, the National Education Union have proposed a series of strikes following a ballot of its members. The continual erosion of pay in relation to inflation has resulted in this action. It is an issue that all teachers, including those members in the NEU at our school feel strongly about and it has been a difficult decision for many in the profession to make. However, it has been decided that the school will open as normal on Wednesday 1st February with all classes as well as before and after school care running as usual.

There is further industrial action planned for the following dates: Tuesday 28th February, Wednesday 15th March, Thursday 16th March. I will confirm the school's arrangements for opening nearer the time.

CLASSLISTS AND COMMUNICATING WITH SCHOOL

The fortnightly newsletter contains all the main pieces of information about school. Any other important information is e-mailed or sent by text using the school's MIS system. This unfortunately sends it to the first contact only. For some parents it may go to junk mail, but this can be changed by you. The newsletter is always available on the school website www.cummersdale.cumbria.sch.uk and it has been decided that we will put the newsletter on Classlists from this week onwards. Classlists is a way of teachers communicating with parents and vice versa. Teachers may put on information like a request for cereal boxes for an art project and parents could query homework either direct with the teacher or publicly if it is felt others will benefit. Several teachers get all the alerts from all classes so to save continual bombardment of messages, please don't use Classlists to arrange parties or social events. Many year groups have separate WhatsApp groups for this sort of thing. Also please don't expect an immediate answer to something on Classlists if a message is sent late at night or on a weekend.

GOVERNORS

The school have appointed two new parent governors who are Mr Danny Barber (Isabella/Evelyn; Rec/Y1) and Mrs Maria Tolley (Elliott; Y3). The school has also co-opted Mrs Sally Thompson onto the governing body. Sally, who is a teacher at Bishop Harvey Goodwin School, brings with her a wealth of experience in Education. We are looking forward to working with all three new governors. There is still a vacancy for a new governor if anyone would be interested as now would be a good time to start with a new team being established. Contact Mrs Makepeace or one of our existing governors for further details.

STREET TAG

Many families (and staff) continue to do well with Street Tag. It seems that the power hour is the most effective way to collect points with each tag and polytag being worth triple points in the hour. This can be set for a different hour each day in the playground section of the app. Families have found productive routes along the cycle path, around Morton and Denton Holme or around Bitts Park where there are two polytags.

CHESS

The annual chess competition is taking place in school. Four rounds out of seven have been played with the Story sisters, Abigail and Phoebe leading the way with four wins each. They are closely followed by Ayser Maxwell, Blake Ulyart, Kayla Reilly and Isabella Hamilton.

RECEPTION VISITORS

Following on from a successful trip to Paragon Vets and the Fire Service coming into school, Reception will be visited next week by Paul Simpson (ex Manchester City player, ex Stockport County Manager and current Carlisle United Manager) on Tuesday next week. They will also be visited by PCSO Kirkpatrick on Thursday.

Y3/4 SWIMMING

Y3/4 children will be swimming later this term. Starting on Monday 6th February 10.15 – 11.00, they will swim each morning at The Sands Centre for two weeks. This intensive approach is considered to be more effective than weekly swimming. The children will just need a swimming costume and towel but goggles may also be useful.

ART WEEK

The next theme week will take place the week beginning Monday 6th March. During the week, the children will build up artistic skills over a few days. The children would like to share their work with parents and they will be able to come in to school from 2.30pm on Monday 13th February to see what has been going on.

CARLISLE CATHEDRAL OUTREACH

Y3/4 children will be taking part in this opportunity which culminates with two performances at Carlisle Cathedral. Ed Taylor, Assistant Organist at the Cathedral will be coming into school each week and will rehearse a number of songs and medleys with the children throughout the term. There will be two performances on Monday 20th and Thursday 23rd March. Further information about tickets etc will come nearer the time.

‘U’ DANCE

Y5/6 will be taking part in the ‘U’ Dance festival on Thursday 9th March. At this stage, there is no need to purchase anything specific for the show and it is intended that most costumes are generally available at home. School will provide anything more unusual. Further information about what is needed will come home about what is needed before half term.

TALENT SHOW

The school will hold its annual Talent Show on Thursday 16th February. This is a chance for children to share their talents. Acts in the past have included joke telling, magic tricks, songs, dances, gymnastics as well as Irish Dancing, Karate and Football skills. Children will be able to sign up from 6th February.

WORLD BOOK DAY

This annual event takes place on Thursday 2nd March. For this year, there will be a bedtime story theme, with children rotating around various classrooms for stories (and perhaps hot chocolates!). This means that pyjamas or onesies should be worn rather than specific costumes.

HOUSE CURLING COMPETITION

Thirty-two children took part in the indoor Curling Competition with each House playing three matches. There was a boys' and a girls' team from each House with teams having children from Reception through to Year 6. After all the matches were played the scores were as follows:

1 st	Cat Bells + Skiddaw	19 points
3 rd	Helvellyn	16 points
4 th	Blencathra	12 points

This meant that there was a sudden death play off with Cat Bells coming out victorious. Well done Cat Bells!

HOUSE HANDWRITING COMPETITION

The hotly contested handwriting competition took place this week, with all children in the school involved. Mr Danny Barber, one of our new parent governors, had the unenviable task of judging. He was very impressed with the standard of handwriting throughout the school and could certainly tell that the children do take great pride in their work. The children below received certificates, points for their houses and stationery items for the winners of each class. When all the points were added up (including the staff) the Houses were placed in this order:

1 st	Blencathra (66 points)
2 nd	Cat Bells (47 points)
3 rd	Helvellyn (46 points)
4 th	Skiddaw (39 points)

Year	Position
6	1 Hannah Webster (H) 2 Isabella Hamilton (B) 3 Eliza-Mae Lucock (B)
5	1 Kayla Reilly (S) 2 Katie Park (H) 3 Darcy Clarke (H)
4	1 Zack Rankine (S) 2 Lucan May (S) 3 Teddy Anderson (H)
3	1 Jo-Jo Pearson (B) 2 Aoife Richards (B) 3 India Maxwell (H)
2	1 Thomas Ormerod (C) 2 Delilah Dalton (C) 3 Alfie Wannop (C)
1	1 Matilda Wilson (C) 2 Phoebe Sutherland (H) 3 Jessica Frost (B)
Reception	1 Aurora Gow (B) 2 Rey Whiffin (H) 3 George Anderson (B)
Staff	1 Mrs Barratt (C) 2 Mrs Scott (S) 3 Mr Jones (-) 4 Mr Travers (B) / Mrs Wakefield (B)

ATTENDANCE

Attendance has been generally good this term. Reception had 100% attendance this week with Reception also leading the way since Christmas with 98.70%. Y5 have the best attendance since the start of the year with 96.25%. Spencer Charlton (Rec) is the recipient of this week's spot prize.

HOUSE POINTS

The early front runners in this term's House Points are Blencathra with 192 points. This will almost certainly change next week following the Curling and Handwriting Competitions where bonus points will be added to each House's totals.

PUPIL OF THE WEEK

The **Pupil of the Week** this week is **Riley Kirk (Y5)** for his all his hard work and being recognised by his classmates for his kindness. Last week's winner was **Matilda Wilson (Y1)** for doing extremely well with her handwriting.

The **Kindness Cup** goes to **Mason Boyles (Y3)** for having extremely good manners whilst getting his school dinner. Last week's winner was **Sadie-Ann Lucock (Y2)** for being extremely kind and helpful to Miss Davy and a younger child in Reception.

The **Enjoy-a-Ball** Trophy goes to **Neve Smith (Y5)** for having a very successful final week at Eden Rock. Last week's winner was **Eloise Wakefield (Y5)** for her determination at football.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

31/1/23	Paul Simpson (CUFC) to visit Reception
2/2/23	PCSO Kirkpatrick to visit Reception
6/2/23	Y3/4 Swimming Block begins (2 weeks daily)
8/2/23	Y3/4 Multi Skills <i>tbc</i>
14/2/23	Reception to be visited by Greg Hall, First Responder
15/2/23	Eden Rock Bouldering Competition (Y5/6)
16/2/23	Talent Show
17/2/23	Reception Class Assembly
17/2/23	Key Steps Gymnastics (beginners)
17/2/23	Finish for half term
27/2/23	New half term begins
1/3/23	Y5/6 Orienteering <i>tbc</i>
2/3/23	World Book Day
3/3/23	House Reading Competition
6/3/23	Y3/4 Girls' Football Competition
7/3/23	Y3/4 Carlisle Cathedral Rehearsal
9/3/23	'U' Dance Rehearsal (pm)
9/3/23	'U' Dance Performance, The Sands (7pm)
15/3/23	Y3/4 Boys' Football Competition
20/3/23	Y3/4 Concert: Carlisle Cathedral (6.15pm)
21/3/23	Governors' meeting (7pm)
22/3/23	Y5/6 Residential to Liverpool departs 8.30am
23/3/23	Y3/4 Concert: Carlisle Cathedral (6.45pm)
24/3/23	Y5/6 Residential to Liverpool returns 4.30pm
28/3/23	Y3/4 Football Competition: Harraby
31/3/23	Y1/2 Class Assembly
31/3/23	Finish for Easter

More dates will be added throughout the term