



## NEWSLETTER

19/9/25

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### STAFF NEWS

There are one or two changes to inform you about. Mrs Fay Scott who has taught at the school for many years has now left the school. Fay has been connected to Cummersdale for over 17 years originally starting as a supply teacher, before carrying out SEN Interventions and then becoming a class teacher. She carried out many roles in the school including that of Y5/6 teacher, Reception Teacher, Deputy Safeguarding Lead and Staff Governor. She was also the school SENCo, an area which she had a passion for. Her contribution to the school was considerable always giving her time to organise events and activities like gymnastics and was instrumental in designing and implementing the outdoor areas at the back of school. I am sure that you will join with me in wishing Fay well with her future endeavours.

We will also be saying farewell to Karen Rooney, our midday supervisor who following a house move has decided to leave her position in October. We would all like to thank her for her five years at the school where she has patiently supervised and organised the lunchtime routine. A midday supervisor position will be advertised shortly and if anyone requires any further details, let me know.

### PTA

Over the years, the school have had a successful Parent Teacher Association (PTA) which has had various names and committees. Its purpose has been not only to raise funds for the school, but also to enable the school community to come together at social events. Successful events have included Halloween Discos, Summer Barbecues, Quiz Nights and Easter Bingo. Unfortunately, Covid restricted opportunities and a decision was made around this time for it to cease. However, the staff and I are interested in the prospect of this starting again.

If any parents are interested or just want to find out a bit more, we will hold a meeting to see whether starting some sort of PTA is a possibility or not. This meeting will take place on **Monday 29<sup>th</sup> September** in the Y3/4 classroom at **3.20pm**. Any children of parents attending will be able to go into after school care.

### SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHS – Tuesday 30th September

School Photos will be taken by photographer Heidi Bea on Tuesday 30th September. All children will have an individual photo taken and there will be photos of sibling groups too. If any families would like group photos done, perhaps with younger family members this is possible too. For this, families should arrive at school anytime between 8.30am and 9.00am. Children will come home with information about how to order at the end of the day.

### HOUSE CROSS COUNTRY

The school will hold its annual House Cross Country Event on Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> October. All children (including Reception) are involved with the Infants running around a course within the school grounds (2pm) and the Juniors running down at Cummersdale Holmes (2.30pm). Children should

come to school in PE kits that day but should have something with them with a good grip to run in - wellies and pumps aren't suitable. The field will no doubt be muddy, so old trainers are probably best. A bag to put muddy footwear in afterwards would be useful.

Parents may come and watch with Reception, Y1 and Y2 races taking place at 2pm around the school grounds, Following the races, the children will go back into school but can be collected a few minutes later from the usual place if it makes things easier.

The races for Y3,4,5 and 6 will take place down the footpath by the river at Cummersdale Holmes. Again parents can come and watch. Following the races, we will walk back up the hill but children won't really be ready to leave until normal school hometime.

## **FOOTBALL**

With 99 children in the school, we are classified as a 'Small School' so will be taking part in the Carlisle Small Schools' Tournament on Tuesday. As we have a number of keen footballers, we have entered two 5-a-side teams into this event. An opportunity has also arisen to take part in the 'Medium Schools Tournament (for schools with 100 – 200 pupils) on Thursday next week which we have taken advantage of. Mr Travers will organise the teams and communicate information by classlist.

As well as occasional tournaments, we have entered a boys' and a girls' team into the Carlisle Schools' league. This involves us playing against some of the biggest schools in Carlisle, but we have managed to hold our own in the last two years. The boys are in a slightly smaller league this year with Belle Vue, Robert Ferguson, Yewdale, Caldew Lea and St Michael's; the girls will face Stanwix, Belle Vue, Robert Ferguson, Upperby, Yewdale and Norman St. Fixtures generally take place after school.

## **HARVEST**

The school are in negotiations with The Saving Grace Church in Cummersdale about holding our Harvest Service there. It was always an annual event for the school to hold a service at the former St James' Church for its Harvest and it will be good to return there. Further details will follow, but it is likely that it will involve Reception, Y1 and Y2 children and will start at 2.15pm. Parents, families and friends will be welcome.

## **ATTENDANCE**

Attendance has been good again this week with Y3 and Y1 both achieving 100%. Y5 remain the best attenders this year with 99.5%. I found out recently that our 97.3% attendance last year was the 6<sup>th</sup> best out of 144 schools in Cumberland. Our children must really like coming to school!

Whilst this is all good news for our school, I have attached a letter from the Access and Inclusion team regarding attendance and the Local Authority guidelines for requesting leave of absence which we follow.

## **Y5/6 RESIDENTIAL**

Just to inform parents of Y5/6 children that the school will be returning to Robin Wood at Alston in 2026 for their residential. The children will take part in a variety of adventurous activities and the dates are from 15<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup> April. Further information will come out in the next week or so.

## **RAG BAG**

The Rag Bag clothing bank in the car park was recently emptied for which the school will receive £56. It is emptied several times a year and provides some useful income for the school for very little effort. Please consider using it for any clothes/shoes etc which may be surplus to requirements.

## FANTASY FOOTBALL

The Cummersdale School Fantasy Football League is underway. Ryan Roberts 'Magicians' are the early leaders with last year's winner Craig Whyte's 'Half the World (a)' and Simon Mounsey's 'Your Wirtz Nightmare' in hot pursuit. Mrs Sharp is the best placed staff member with her 'Pink Flamingos' in 6<sup>th</sup> just ahead of the best placed pupil, Theo Allison in 7<sup>th</sup> with 'the boys'. Good luck for this week. If anyone has a Fantasy Premier League team already and wants to join the league, you can use the code **jihnbv**

## PUPIL OF THE WEEK

**Pupil of the Week:** Well done to **Callum Whittle (Y6)** who has made a really good start to the year and seems to be thriving being one of the older children in the school. **Hallie Kirk (Y1)** was last week's winner for impressing Mrs Barratt and Mrs Haughan with her start to the year.

**Kindness Cup:** This week this is awarded to **Kuba Kolaczynski (Y1)** for always being kind, friendly and very well behaved. **Wills Evans (Y6)** received the award last week for helping Reception children with their coats on a rainy day.

**Enjoy-a-Ball Trophy:** This is awarded to Gracie **Whyte (Y1)** for trying really hard in PE. Last week's winner was **Alice Dickinson (Y6)** for efforts during hockey.

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

23/9/25	Small Schools Football Competition, Harraby 9.30am (Y5/6)
25/9/25	Medium Schools Football Competition
29/9/25	PTA Meeting (3.20pm)
30/9/25	Governors' meeting (7pm)
30/9/24	Individual School Photos
1/10/25	House Cross Country (2pm and 2.30pm)
8/10/25	Young Leader Training, Rosley (Y5)
9/10/25	Y6 Visit to The Life Centre and Hindu Temple, Newcastle
10/10/25	Carlisle Schools Cross-Country, Sheepmount (Y3 – 6)
14/10/25	Girls' Football: 7-a-side (Y5/6), Harraby. 9.30am
16/10/25	Aim High Writing Day: Y5/6
16/10/25	Nasal Flu Vaccine (all)
17/10/25	Harvest Festival (Rec, Y1, Y2), Saving Grace Church, 2.15pm.
20/10/25	Hockey Tournament at Austin Friars
24/10/25	Finish for Half Term
3/11/25	New Half Term begins
6/11/25	Y5/6 Sports Hall Athletics, Harraby
10/11/25	Y5/6 Swimming (1 week daily)
27/11/25	Y3/4 Sports Hall Athletics, Harraby
4/12/25	Pantomime Visit, Aladdin – Newcastle Theatre Royal (Infants)
11/12/25	Pantomime Visit, Aladdin – Newcastle Theatre Royal (Juniors)
19/12/25	End of Term (1.15pm)

*More dates will be added throughout the term*