



NEWSLETTER

9/1/26

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Welcome back and a Happy New Year to all. The new term has started well and I would like to welcome Tierni Clarke who has joined us as a midday supervisor. After school clubs do not begin again until 19th January and I have listed at the bottom of the newsletter the confirmed dates of events which are taking place in school this term.

BAD WEATHER DAYS

The school will do its best to remain open throughout the winter. However, in the event of extreme weather, school may be forced to close and we will notify parents as soon as possible by text message. What is more likely is that school is open for those who can get here safely with perhaps a reduced staff and an alternative curriculum. On these occasions do take care getting here avoiding any risks, with children bringing suitable outdoor clothing.

May I also remind parents that the children do go outside each day throughout the winter months even in drizzle and windy conditions. Please ensure they have a coat with them and gloves and a hat are advisable on certain days too.

NEW BOOKING AND PAYMENT SYSTEM

The school have changed its MIS (Management Information System) from Scholarpack to Compass. With Compass providing many options, we have been able use the new system for booking dinners and after school care instead of SchoolMoney. Having one system which deals with everything should be much more efficient. The system will be launched to parents on Monday 12th January along with a parent user guide. There may be some teething problems but Mrs Makepeace will be available for support.

The new after school activities which start on Monday January 19th will be available to book from Monday. These will be Junior Gymnastics with Miss Fleming and Miss Maclagan (Monday), Board Game Club with Mr Travers (Tuesday), Film Club (Wednesday), Infant Gymnastics with Miss Fleming and Miss Maclagan (Thurs) and Indoor Curling with Mr Jones (Friday).

Dinners along with Before School Care and After School Care will also be able to be booked. Look out for further information arriving on Monday.

PE – LITTLE HEROES (Reception)

Following Little Heroes running successful PE sessions for Y1/2 children last term, Reception will now benefit. Sessions will take place on Wednesday afternoons this half term and children will learn a variety of new skills having great fun doing so. This is in addition to the normal PE day so children should come to school in their PE Kit. These sessions will continue until Wednesday 11th February.

CHESS

We are taking part in the Delancey Chess Competition in school this half term. It will involve each player who enters playing 7 matches (roughly 1 per week). The one who scores the most points will be school champion. An assortment of prizes are available for players who win their games. Matches can be played any playtime/lunchtime in the Y3/4 classroom. Anyone can enter, but children who enter the competition should know how to play chess. Any disputes will be settled by Mr Travers/Mr Jones. Children can sign up in the corridor by the end of Tuesday 13th January to enter.

HOUSE HANDWRITING COMPETITION

During the week beginning 19th January, all children in school will be taking part in a handwriting competition. Children will demonstrate their best handwriting by writing words and sentences (youngest pupils) or poems (older pupils). Even the staff take part with everyone earning points for their House.

JEWELLERY, BODY SPRAY, FOOTWEAR AND UNIFORM

With it being the start of the New Year, may I take this opportunity to remind parents about one or two things which started to creep in at the end of last term.

- Jewellery is not needed in school. We often find it breaks, gets lost or gets caught on things. Please leave rings, bracelets and necklaces at home.
- A number of children are bringing body spray into school (particularly Y5 girls). Whilst school certainly has a nice aroma at times, especially when the children have sneaked in at lunchtime to top up, it is again something that is not needed.
- Our policy for footwear is that it should be black. Trainers are fine but make sure that they are predominantly black
- We no longer sell school hoodies or school fleeces as we wanted to keep our uniform simple. Those with them already can continue to wear them.

PUPIL OF THE WEEK

This week's **Pupil of the Week** is **Bonnie Hall (Y1)** for making a really good start to 2026.

The **Mrs Vickers Kindness Cup** goes to **Kuba Kolazynski (Y1)** for helping Mrs Barratt with her coat and another child with her lace up boots.

The **Enjoy-a-ball Trophies** go to **Simon Chilton (Y2)** and **Spencer Atkinson (Y2)** for trying really hard at dance in PE.

WATERBOTTLES

It seems that waterbottles are getting bigger and bigger! As a school, we have limited space so we would prefer it if the largest Stanley cups and Air Up Bottles are not brought in to school. Any smaller bottles can be refilled if necessary.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

19/1/26	After School Clubs begin
19/1/26	House Handwriting Competition
20/1/26	Indoor Cricket (Y5/6) – Harraby <i>tbc</i>
28/1/26	Dental Visit for 5 year olds
2/2/26	Y5/6 Hockey at Austin Friars
9/2/26	Indoor Cricket (Y5/6) – Harraby <i>tbc</i>
9/2/26	Y5/6 Swimming (daily for 1 week)
11/2/26	House Curling Competition
13/2/26	Talent Show
13/2/26	Finish for Half Term
23/2/26	New Half Term begins
24/2/26	CSSA Swimming Gala - The Sands
26/2/26	Eden Rock Bouldering Competition (Y5/6)
27/2/26	Key Step Gymnastics Competition
3/2/26	Small Schools 5-a-side (Y3/4) - Harraby
6/3/26	House Reading Competition and World Book Day
12/3/26	Netball Tournament (Y5/6) - Central
17/3/26	Football: Y3/4 Girls 7-a-side (Harraby)
17/3/26	A I M High Writing Day – Y3/4
21/3/26	School Visit to Carlisle United v Boston United
23/3/26	Feet First Challenge
23/3/26	Austin Friars Hockey <i>tbc</i>
27/3/26	End of Term

More dates will be added as the term goes on and once confirmed