



NEWSLETTER

10/3/26

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COFFEE AFTERNOON – MEET THE STAFF

On Friday 20th March, parents and family members are invited to a coffee afternoon in school. As well as home baking and tea/coffee, there will be the opportunity to meet some of the staff who you are perhaps not as familiar with in an informal way. Mrs Kimberley Simpson, the school's new SENCO, will be in attendance and will be happy to talk to any parents about support for their child; Mrs Claire McChrystal-Plimmer will also be there if anyone would like to discuss dinners. The school's TAs will be there and all the teachers will also be making an appearance. You could also use this opportunity to meet other parents or catch up with each other over a coffee rather than in the playground.

PARENTS EVENING – Wednesday 25th March

The opportunity to formally discuss your child's progress will be available on Wednesday 25th March. A new booking system has been set up on Compass via the app and instructions will have been sent to you earlier today. If you do encounter any difficulties, do contact the school office.

CHESS

The first round of the House Chess Competition has taken place. The standings are as follows:

Skiddaw	4 points
Cat Bells	3 points
Blencathra	2 points
Helvellyn	1 point

Yesterday, the school hosted a chess competition for local schools with St Michael's, Rosley and Fellview all taking part. After three rounds of matches, Cummersdale 1 were victorious, just ahead of Rosley with Cummersdale 2 in 3rd. Well done to Michael Sharp, Blake Ulliyart, Alice Dickinson and Charlie Kerr.

SWIMMING

Thea Clarke, Noah Jesse, Hollie Park and Olivia Whyte represented the school in a recent swimming gala. Taking part in individual races and relays, the swimmers were all well placed in their heats. Well done!

FEET FIRST CHALLENGE

Our school will be taking part in the county wide Feet First 5-day Active Travel Challenge starting on Monday 23rd March and finishing on Friday 27th March 2026. The challenge is for pupils and their families to choose an active way of getting to school as many times as possible over the 5-day period, supporting active journeys on the school run.

There are prizes for everybody who completes the challenge, as well as the chance to win a whole school prize, so we would love everyone to take part. The challenge is also open to school staff, and we will be making every effort to take part too. Walking, cycling, skating, scooting, and park & stride are all active ways of travelling, and we hope by taking part in the challenge it will:

- Improve health and wellbeing of our pupils and families
- Encourage pupils and families to be more active
- Reduce congestion and parking problems around our school
- Reduce our school community's collective carbon footprint
- Promote active travel for the school run and encourage families to continue to do this after the challenge ends
- Be good fun!

Each child will receive their own card to record their active journeys. Those pupils who have recorded at least one active journey on the card at the end of the challenge will be awarded an individual prize.

We understand that it's not always possible for families to walk with their children to school for the entire journey, but if you live a long way from school, you can still take part by parking further away and walking the last part of your journey, (Park & Stride), or by car sharing with another family. Children who use school transport during the active challenge week will be able to collect stickers as this helps to reduce individual car use.

www.travelactively.co.uk/newsevents/2026/step-fett-first-5-day-challenge

CURLING

The opportunity to have a go at real curling on ice presented itself so 13 children who'd attended the after school curling club went to Lockerbie Ice Rink for an introductory session. We all discovered what looks easy on television, is actually very difficult – but great fun nevertheless.

This event followed the House Curling Competition when boys and girls teams competed against each other. After several 'ends' Skiddaw emerged as House Champions.

READING COMPETITION AND WORLD BOOK DAY

Many thanks to all parents who helped their children to come to school in such a variety of costumes last week. There were some very imaginative words and the whole school was very colourful.

The Reading Competition took place in the afternoon where readers, selected by the teachers were able to read in front of the school. Winners were as follows:

Reception	Emily Dalton
Year 1	Evie Dawson
Year 2	Simon Chilton
Year 3	Aurora Gow
Year 4	Bradley Leathers
Year 5	Olivia Whyte
Year 6	Sofia Milburn

When all the points were added for those who read to their teacher, those who reached the final and those who won, Cat Bells were the champions followed, by Skiddaw, Blencathra and Helvellyn.

EDEN ROCK BOULDERING COMPETITION

Two teams entered the Annual Eden Rock Bouldering Competition. This involved each participant attempting 20 different climbs gaining points for a successful climb. Our boys' team managed to qualify for the 'super final' coming 5th out of 13 teams. They go back to Eden Rock on Wednesday 18th March to try again. Good luck to Jake Bell, Noah Jesse, Charlie Kerr, Liam Peacock, Jo Jo Pearson and Blake Ulyart !

FOOTBALL

The Y3/4 footballers were in action last week at Harraby in a small schools' competition. With two teams entered, the goals seemed to be flowing and the two teams came 2nd and 4th overall. Thank you to Greg and Ben and of course Mr Travers for looking after the teams.

The girls from Y3/4 are next in action in a similar competition on Tuesday 17th March.

Unfortunately, the football on 18/3 at Belle Vue and the Dodgeball on 17/3 have now been cancelled.

GYMNASTICS

The school entered three teams into the Key Steps Gymnastics Competition at The Sands. Each child completed a floor routine and a vault with results being totalled to have a winning team. Our Y3/4 team did enough to impress the judges and came 3rd place overall. Well done to the children and thanks to Miss Fleming and Miss Maclagan for preparing them for the event.

CARLISLE UNITED v BOSTON UNITED: Saturday 21st March

We are still expecting to attend this fixture as part of the Community Ticket Scheme. Further details should come via Classlists in the next day or two following liason with the club.

PTA

The next PTA event will take place on Thursday 26th March. It will be Easter Chocolate Bingo. On this day, children should come to school in **non-uniform** but in return for this, they should bring some chocolate or an Easter Egg which lucky children will win later in the day. The bingo will take place in the hall from 4.45pm to 6.00pm. it will be £2 per child and will include a drink and a snack. Please see Miss Maclagan or Mrs Sharp for payment.



ROBIN WOOD

It is just over a month until Y5/6 depart for their residential to Robin Wood at Barhaugh Hall near Alston. There are still a few outstanding payments to be made. Further information will be coming out before Easter which will include details about activities and what to take.

APPOINTMENTS

There seems to be an increasing number of parents making routine appointments during the school day often requiring their children to be picked up just before the end of school. If it is for an appointment after school, we ask that you pick up at playtime 2.00 – 2.10pm. We also ask that any pick ups be done from the front door so that children can be signed out, not the doors at the back of school.

FANTASY FOOTBALL

In the Cummersdale league, Craig Whyte's 'Half a World (a)' have moved into the lead. The leading pupil's team – Bradley Leathers' 'Mo Salads' are in 3rd. The best staff member is Mrs Sharp and her 'Pink Flamingos' although she is just outside the top 10.

HOUSE POINTS

Skiddaw still lead the way with 869 points. They are followed by Cat Bells (803) who benefitted from the Reading Competition, Blencathra (754), and Helvellyn (705).

PUPIL OF THE WEEK

This week's **Pupil of the Week** is **Joshua Menery (Y5)** for his confident delivery of a reading in the competition.

The **Mrs Vickers Kindness Cup** goes to **Joe Scott (Y2)** for being kind and helpful to a younger child who was upset at playtime.

The **Enjoy-a-ball Trophy** goes to **Emily Smith (Y1)** for trying her hardest at gymnastics.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

12/3/26	Netball Tournament (Y5/6) - Central
16/3/26	House Chess: Round 2
17/3/26	Football: Y3/4 Girls 7-a-side (Harraby)
17/3/26	AIM High Writing Day: Y3/4 (selected children)
18/3/26	Eden Rock Superfinal
20/3/26	Y1/2 Class Assembly
20/3/26	Coffee Afternoon: Meet the Staff
21/3/26	School Visit to Carlisle United v Boston United
23/3/26	Feet First Challenge
23/3/26	House Chess: Round 3
23/3/26	<i>Austin Friars Hockey tbc</i>
25/3/26	Reception Trip to Paragon Vets
25/3/26	Parents Evening
26/3/26	Chocolate Bingo – non uniform day
27/3/26	End of Term (3.15pm)
13/4/26	Summer Term begins

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