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Early Summer Newsletter

Welcome back! We hope everyone had a good break. As the Summer term begins it is a good time to reflect on the busy Spring term we had. The flood at the beginning of the year meant a lot of extra work. Thank you to all the staff for all the extra time and work they put in and a huge thank you to our brilliant children for being flexible and adaptable during this time. We are proud that we didn't have to close school at any point. Thank you again to all the wonderful volunteers who helped us with the painting in the big classroom and maths zone.

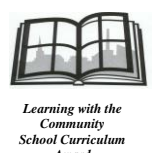
The new jungle and chin up bars are a big hit! One of the children told me that they are the best thing we've ever done! They are in full use every playtime and, as well as being fun and challenging, they are helping our children to develop core and upper body strength whilst encouraging them to be active and healthy.

We also had a bike track installed during the February half term break. This will now be put into use and we have are in the process of acquiring some new bikes to use with it.

These outdoor resources were decided upon by the all the children during student voice assemblies and have been some time in the planning. We have used our PE and School Sport premium to fund these new resources.

Staying on the theme of PE, our Year 3, 4, 5 and 6 worked all last term to compose, practise, improve and perform their own dance called 'Respect, Protect, Enjoy, Care, Share'. We enjoyed an amazing workshop with professional dancers from Emergence Dance, Manchester and then travelled to The Brewery Arts Centre, Kendal to see the dance company perform. It was so inspiring for us all. We then worked really hard over the last two weeks to design and make costumes for the dance. Performing at the Sand Centre was so exciting and exhilarating (and a little bit scary). What a great experience for everyone involved!

Year 5 and 6 have been busy composing poems and making stop motion animations to accompany this. They are very powerful and we hope to share them with you soon.



Years 2, 3 and 4 have been busy computing, with Year 3 and 4 programming Lego models. Year Reception and 1 have been learning simple programming too.

Year Reception and 1 are busy creating stunning portraits in Art. Look out for them in the long corridor, just through the double doors.

They have also really enjoyed Super Movers. Every day they ask to do it! We had a visit from Active Cumbria to film us when we were doing parachute activities. We will continue with this programme next term ~ the children will make sure of this!

Year 1 have now finished their toys in Design and Technology. They look fantastic and have been a labour of love, with every child generating their own design idea, carrying out research and then working hard to make them. Year 1 children are now writing stories and creating poems about their toys.

After School Clubs

Please find attached details and prices of after school clubs next term. I am currently busy organising a cycling club for May. More information to follow.

Just a reminder that to keep prices very low, sessions need to be booked for the whole half term. This needs to be paid in whole in advance please. If you need a one off or irregular attendance the price will be £2.50.

This is to cover running costs. If your child would like to access a club but finance is restricting this please get in touch with me. After school clubs are for everyone who would like to come along.

Spare Clothes

We have run out of spare underwear socks and tights for our younger children. Please would you check to see if you have any of our clothing and return it to school as soon as possible.

PE Kit

All children need full PE kit in school (including trainers for outdoor PE) all the time.

School Meals

The new dinner menus are now in place. Please book your child's meal online, even if they are eligible for free school meals. This includes all children in Year Reception, 1 and 2 who are eligible for the government universal free school meals for infants policy.

Holiday Reading

My holiday reading has been about language and vocabulary and how important it is for progress in learning. All the research that has been carried out shows how important conversations are and the value of reading to and talking with your child. It really does make a difference.

Reading and re-reading with your child is essential to develop fluency which is crucial for reading comprehension. Reading to your child is invaluable and impacts so much on progress and performance in assessments\tests. It also encourages and fosters a love of reading. If you would like to talk about this further\find out more or need any support please let me know.

Easter Journey Visit

On Wednesday afternoon children in Year 5 will travel to Langwathby to take part in the Easter Journey experience with children from other schools. They will travel by car with Mrs Wylie and Mrs Doves after



lunch, returning for the end of the school day. Please make sure your child comes to school ready for this visit.

Skelton 7s

The postponed netball and football tournament has been rescheduled for the afternoon of Friday April 26th. Our teams will compete at Plumpton School. More information to follow.

Dates for your diary

Please find below some dates for your diary.

Friday April 19th to Monday April 22nd Easter weekend ~ no school on Friday and Monday.

Friday April 26th ~ Skelton 7s netball and football competition
~ PTFA Easter Bingo 6pm for a 6.30pm prompt start

Monday May 6th ~ May Bank Holiday

Tuesday May 7th ~ lacrosse championships

Through the month of May ~ Year 2 Key Stage 1 SATs

Monday May 13th ~ SATs week for Year 6 ~Key Stage 2 tests

Monday May 20th ~ Scholastic Book Fair in school all week

Tuesday May 21st ~ Bags 2 School pick up

Friday May 24th ~ PTFA tea and cake

Monday May 27th ~ half term break

Monday June 3rd ~ back to school

Thursday June 13th ~ Life Education bus visit

Friday June 14th ~ Rights Respecting School Gold visit
~ UNICEF playground challenge

Wednesday June 19th to Friday June 21st ~ residential ~ Year 4, 5 and 6

Monday June 24th ~ Year 1 phonic screen this week

Year 5 Ullswater Community College science and art day

Tuesday June 25th ~ Lazonby swimming gala



Thursday June 27th ~ Year 6 transition camp at Lazonby

Monday July 1st ~ Swimming lessons at Lazonby Pool start (for 10 days) School & PTFA will pay for the lessons, the hire of the pool and the services of the lifeguard. As is the case every year we will be asking parents for a contribution towards the cost of the train travel

~ Year 6 transition day William Howard School and Caldew School

Thursday July 4th ~ transition day for UCC and QEGS

Friday July 12th ~ provisional school play date

Wednesday July 17th ~ Liverpool visit ~Years 4, 5 and 6 Netball world championships in the morning followed by a visit to the Slavery Museum and the Tate Gallery. This will be an early start and late return. (There will be a voluntary contribution towards transport costs of £15.)

Thursday July 18th ~ Leavers assembly in the morning
~ school disco after school

Friday July 19th ~ wheelchair basketball for everyone in school and the last day of the school year.

This half term we will be interviewing children in Year 1 and 3 for their reports with parent meetings offered alongside this. More information to follow.

Reports for children in Years Reception, 4 and 5 will go home in the second half term and results of all statutory assessments will go home for children in Year Reception, 1, 2 and 6.

We will also be organising a Year 6 evening of fun and there will of course be lots of other things going on but that will do for now!!!

