



Broughton Primary School: 06.05.2025

Wk 28/04/2025		
	Attendance	Unauthorised
Catbells	81.25%	6.25%
Haystacks	95.0%	3.85%
Barrow	100.0%	0.0%
Dodd	94.78%	0.0%
Blencathra	97.5%	2.5%
Skiddaw	95.0%	0.0%
Whole School	95.09%	1.73%

Friday 02/05/2025	
	Golden Sweatshirt
Reception	Saffron Skillen
Year 1	Esme Cuthbertson
Year 2	Jack Leadbitter
Year 3	Octavia Jackson
Year 4	Max Dawson
Year 5	Tyler Howard
Year 6	Robbie Irving

Dear Parents/Carers

Strive for Five & Attendance Champions:

Well done to last week's Strive for Five reading challenge winners (Year 2 with 100%) and to our Year 3 Attendance Champions with 100% attendance last week. Great work everyone!

Important attendance update:

I recently met with Linzi Bennett, who is the Attendance Officer for schools in the Cumberland district. As the Cumberland Attendance Handbook for schools was only recently issued in October 2024, there were a number of attendance issues which I needed to clarify and she provided guidance on the following areas:

Threshold for Fixed-Penalty Notices for absence:

The threshold is set **at 10 sessions (5 days) of unauthorised absence and anything which exceeds this**. If your child is absent from school for 5 days due to a term-time holiday, a Fixed Penalty Notice will be issued.

Repeated unauthorised absence:

Once a Fixed-Penalty Notice has been issued, **any further cases of unauthorised absence within a three-year period can result in another Fixed-Penalty Notice as a minimum, but can actually result in a prosecution and lead to a criminal record.** If a previous penalty has been issued, the Local Authority may decide to proceed directly to prosecution.

Reasons for absence:

If you inform school that your child is ill, but your child informs staff that they have been on holiday, this absence is classed as unauthorised. If this then leads to a Fixed-Penalty Notice being issued, the Attendance Officer will carry out an investigation into the absence in the case of an appeal.

Statutory school-age and term-time holidays:

Linzi has advised that if you choose to send your child to a school Nursery/Early Years unit, you must follow the school Attendance Policy and so term-time holidays cannot be authorised, even if your child is not at statutory school-age. Moving forwards, I am therefore unable to authorise any term-time holidays, even if your child is not yet at the statutory school age.

Sporting events and absence:

Absence for approved sporting events can only be authorised if a letter is provided from your child's sports club confirming your child's attendance at the event and stating the dates the sporting event is taking place. Travelling time (in the majority of cases) to get to and from the events cannot be authorised and should be arranged for outside of school hours wherever possible.

I fully understand that the issues around school attendance and term-time holidays may cause some hostility towards school, however as school attendance is now monitored and managed by the Local Authority, Headteachers do not have the authority to make the decisions around Fixed-Penalty Notices or prosecutions. However, it is the statutory duty of all schools in Cumberland to share our attendance data on Studybugs with the Local Authority, who continuously monitor and audit the information in a virtual manner.

For information regarding when absence can be authorised, please see the attached document.

V.E Day anniversary reminder: ***If children would like to come to school in clothes with a red/white/blue theme for the picnic, they are most welcome to ***

A quick reminder that for lunch this Thursday 8th May, we would like to invite all of our pupils to bring along some food items to contribute to a whole-school picnic:

- Early Years and Key-Stage 1 pupils: sweet items (e.g. cakes, fruit, scones, biscuits etc)
- Key-Stage 2 pupils: Savoury items (crisps, dips, veg sticks, sausage rolls, pizza etc)

School will provide sandwiches with a range of fillings for the picnic.

As we have a number of children who have nut-allergies, please can you ensure that any items sent into school do not contain any traces of nuts. We will of course check all items, as they arrive in school.

May KABS Lottery winners:

Congratulations to our May winners:

- 1st £50 Norman Marshall
- 2nd £30 R Holcroft
- 3rd £20 Amy Champion

Dates for your Summer 1:

Please note that dates for various events will be added to this list throughout the term and so please check dates weekly to keep up to date.

Thursday 8th May 12-1pm – VE day whole-school picnic

- Monday 12th – Thursday 15th May – Year 6 SATS tests
- Friday 23rd May 3.20pm – End of half-term
- Monday 9th June 8.45am – Start of summer term 2 (PLEASE NOTE THAT OUR HALF-TERM DATES ARE DIFFERENT TO OTHER LOCAL SCHOOLS)

Kind Regards

A. Bewsher

Mrs A Bewsher – Headteacher