



**Jericho Primary School**  
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7 March 2025

Sample Parent

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## News Update 7th March 2025

Dear parents and carers,

Our first week back at home! What a relief to be back to normal(ish). The Portakabin installation is taking shape and you will now see the whole of the ground floor has been completed. By Sunday, the upper floor and two stairwell's will be delivered and erected. From next week, work will begin to seal the units and fit out the internal fittings. We have yet to confirm final arrangements for moving in however we hope that Year 2,3,4,5 and 6 will be move into the building for the start of the Summer Term. I am sure you will agree that is has been a speedy process.

**Storytelling week:** The school has been crammed full this week with creativity. Our children have been busy creating some superb stories based on imaginary worlds. Key Stage 1 have been reading work by former Children's Laureate Joseph Coelho whilst Key Stage 2 have been studying the work of award-winning children's author Tólá Okogwu. We have had a great day today celebrating by dressing as our favourite imaginary characters. Thank you for all your support with dressing up! It's been lovely to see so many creative minds!

**Homework and Reading:** For the remainder of this term we would like to trial a change to our homework routines. Following our parent's survey last summer, a large percentage of our families reported that there was too much homework and at times, activities were not purposeful. Our Senior Team have been considering research around homework. At primary, evidence suggests that the impact of homework is unclear. Evidence suggests that homework that has a clear purpose is most beneficial. With this in mind, for the remainder of the term we will be changing our homework policy. We would like children in these year groups to read each evening, learn their weekly spellings and term their timetables/numberfacts. Please can I ask you all to encourage your child to read a little each night and record this in their reading diaries. Please also ensure that your child brings their reading book and diary into school. Teachers will be checking diaries daily. We have just invested £3000 into new books into our book bands for Years 2-6 so watch out for some exciting new titles.

**Adventure Weeks and Fitness Challenge:** On Monday 17th March I will be launching a fitness and adventure challenge across the school. The adventures will start on 17th March and close on Friday 25th April. Just over a month of encouraging our children to fit, active and adventurous. We are challenging the children to get active for 20-30 mins a day. It could be helping in the garden, attending swimming lessons or walking to school. Each child will receive a record card to record their activities and we will be asking that these are sent to school each Monday so that each class can have a sharing time around their fitness adventures each week. To accompany this, we hope to take each year group on an adventure over the month and encouraging them to try something new. (Please note the word - encouraging). For example, our Year 6's are off to the ski slopes (in Manchester) and our Year 3's will challenging themselves with Clip and Climb. Please watch your detail on parentmail.

**Contacting school staff:** A gentle reminder - If you have a **query** or need to **speak** to a member of staff please do either ring on **01945 514545** or attend the school office. You can also email in to

[admin@jericho.cumbria.sch.uk](mailto:admin@jericho.cumbria.sch.uk) and your email will be forwarded to the relevant member of staff. Staff will respond as soon as they are able outside of teaching commitments.

**Comic Relief:** This Red Nose Day, on 21 March 2025, we will join the nation celebrating 40 years of going big, giving big, and feeling good together. In school, the mask singer competition will return. Staff are busy brushing off the dust from their masks and tuning up their vocal chords. We will have a selection of Red Noses to sell. These will arrive in school shortly. On Friday 21st March itself, we will be asking children to 'feel good together' and dress to express. Children can come to school in non-uniform and dress to express themselves. All we ask is a cheeky donation of £1 or more to help celebrate a good cause.

**IEP Meetings:** Please remember to book a slot for IEP meetings if your child has an individual education plan. The meetings will take place wc 24<sup>th</sup> March.

**NEW! IMPORTANT! Please read carefully: Arbor - School Management Information System - Parent Portal:** Before Christmas we let you know that we had moved to a new Management Information System (MIS) called **Arbor**. We use this to securely store all student details, including parent contact information, consents, attendance, and more.

Next week, we will be launching the **Arbor Parent Portal**. You will receive details of how to log in for the first time. This platform will allow primary parents and guardians to:

- View and update your contact information.
- Check your child's attendance data.
- Manage consents and other key details.

In the near future we will also be moving our Breakfast & Afterschool Club bookings, school dinner payments and trip payments onto Arbor so it is really important that all primary parents and guardians connect to the new Arbor Parent Portal – please keep an eye out for your email on how to log in!

### **Celebrations:**

A big shout out to Max in Year 6 for winning the Whitehaven and Workington Darts League. A great achievement Max!

### **Golden work**

Finley in the nursery for his superb map for the 3 little pigs

Corban and Oliver in Year 5 for superb independent multiplication

Nate in Year 6 for amazing progress in his arithmetic

Scarlett and Stefan in Reception for fabulous Supertato sentences

Carrie, Rebe, Pearl and Zach in Year 4 have produced some brilliant coding in computing

Zach in Year 4 wrote a fantastic introductory paragraph for his digestive system explanation

Nate in Year 6 for amazing hard work and determination in his maths work.

Georgie in Year 2 for superb creative writing.

Scarlett in Year 6 for using ICT at home to enhance her school projects.

### **Dates for Spring Term 2**

3rd March - 14th March - Year 6 Swimming every afternoon

7th March - Dress up day in school - Imaginary Characters Theme

17th March - The Masked Singers are unleashed!

17th March - Adventure Challenge begins.

17th - 19th March - Year 4 Adventure - Archery with the Harbour Project

21st March - Red Nose Day - Non-Uniform - Dress to express and feel good.

WC 24<sup>th</sup> March- Rescheduled IEP parents' meetings

27th March - Year 2 Adventure Visit - Orienteering at Longlands Lake

28th March - Class Photos in school

1st and 2nd April - Year 1 Adventure Visit - Clip and Climb

2nd and 3rd April - Year 1 Adventure Visits - Adventures in the Forest.

4th April - School Closes for the Easter Break at 3:30 p.m. After School Club as normal.

22nd April - School Opens for Summer Term 1

28th April - Year 6 Adventure Visit to Chill Factor

**Looking ahead:**

12-14th May - Year 5 Residential to York

22nd-23rd May - Year 3 Residential to Blencathra

2nd-4th June - Year 4 Residential to Hawse End

30th June - 3rd July - Year 6 Residential to London