

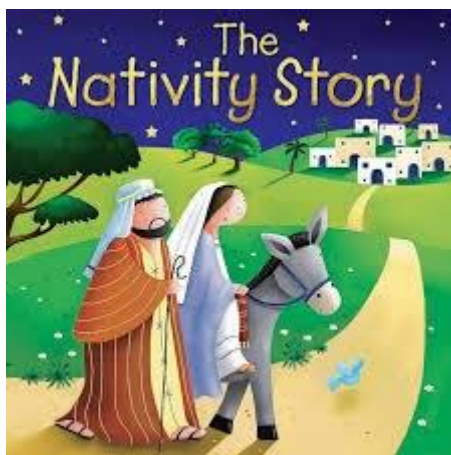


DECEMBER 2023 MARYPORT CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

The Autumn term has really flown by and I cannot believe that it is December already!

In school, the children are busy preparing to share the Christmas story with family at the events taking place in the coming few weeks. On 6th December, our Early Years children will be doing a performance of the Nativity and Christmas songs. Our Year 1 and 2 children will then be performing 'Boogie Woogie Christmas' on 14th December followed by the junior children attending church on 18th December for our annual carol service. All parents and family members are very

welcome to attend. Tickets are on sale via schoolmoney on teachers2parents for the Early Years and Y1/2 shows.



Over the Christmas break, our lovely Miss Dover is getting married and will return in January as Mrs Armstrong. Everyone wishes her and Carl all the best for their wedding day.



*Once again, can I politely remind all parents and carers **NOT TO BRING CARS UP THE SCHOOL DRIVE** between 7.45 -9am and 3-3.30pm. During these times we have children and parents arriving/leaving school.*

Even if you are dropping your child off for breakfast club, please park at the bottom of the driveway and walk up.

Little Acorns 2 year olds

Please note that the last session of the year for Little Acorns will be on Friday 15th December. Little Acorns will return in the new year in the new time slot of 8.45am - 11.45am on Wednesday 3rd January 2024. We still have a few places remaining each day so please share with anyone who has a child approaching 2. Thank you.

Our baby and toddler group will also have a new time slot after Christmas - 1.30pm-3pm each Wednesday of term time.

Can you help?

Our Early Years team are running low on spare underwear, socks and trousers that they keep in case of accidents. If you have any of these items which are still in good condition but your child has outgrown, we would be very grateful if you could donate them. We especially need ages 3, 4 and 5. Thank you.



Nursery and Reception Open Sessions

If you have a child who is either turning 3 soon and ready to start Nursery or your child is currently at another setting and will be starting Reception in September, then come along on Thursday 7th December when we will be opening up our Early Years provision from 3.30-4.30 for parents and their children to see what we have to offer. Staff will be available to talk through any queries you may have and your child can explore all of the areas.

Please pass these details onto any family or friends who may be interested.

Recently Announced Changes to Early Years Fully Funded Provision

Starting from April 2024, existing childcare support will be expanded in phases. By September 2025, most working families with children under the age of 5 will be entitled to 30 hours of free childcare support.

The changes are being introduced gradually to make sure that providers can meet the needs of more families. This means that:

From April 2024, eligible working parents of 2-year-olds will be able to access 15 free hours childcare support.

From September 2024, 15 free hours childcare support will be extended to eligible working parents of children up to 3-year-olds.

From September 2025, eligible working parents of children under the age of 5 will be entitled to 30 free hours of childcare a week.

Please contact Mrs Penn, our Business Manager, for more information and details of how to apply.



Pupil Premium Funding

A reminder to all families to check if you are eligible for your child to access pupil premium funding at -<https://www.cumberland.gov.uk/schools-and-education/free-school-meals-and-clothing-vouchers>

If you qualify for this, not only will your child receive free school meals and clothing voucher for uniform, school also get additional designated funding which we use in the following ways -

- *free breakfast club*
 - *free trips and visits during school time*
 - *50% reduction in the cost of residential visits*
-

Even if you are not sure if you will qualify, it is worth filling in the form you never know!

Cumberland Council Survey around food insecurity

Help Cumberland Council understand the extent of food insecurity and related issues in the area, by completing their survey.

The council has been working with the University of Liverpool to develop the Food Insecurity at Local Level (FILL) survey to measure the extent to which people in Cumberland are struggling to access food - whether for financial or other reasons – and what kinds of support services (if any) they use.

Until now, local authorities have had to rely solely on data from food banks and community groups in the local area to measure food insecurity. This can mask the true scale of the situation as not everyone who might otherwise benefit accesses these services.

The survey is available to everyone living in Cumberland over the age of 18 and the team encourages one adult per household to take part, regardless of whether they have experienced food insecurity or not.


Participants have the chance to enter into a free prize draw to win gift vouchers of up to £100.

To complete the survey go to:

https://melresearch.co.uk/cumberlandfoodsurvey_o , or ring 0800 073 0348 where it can be completed over the phone.

The results will help better understand the situation in the Cumberland area and identify what can be done to ensure every household gets the support they need.

The survey is being led by Dr Rachel Loopstra at the University of Liverpool in partnership with the Council and researchers from the universities of Sheffield, Lincoln, Northumbria and the Independent Food Aid Network. This project has been funded by the University of Liverpool's Partnership and Innovation Fund.



Help Cumberland Council understand the impact of rising food bills and whether you can access the food you want, by completing their survey.



Communication with school

May I politely remind parents that school staff should not be contacted via social media platforms. Any communication to staff needs to be done via phone call, email or Seesaw/Tapestry. To inform us of an absence, please call the office before 9am, there is an answerphone option to leave a message.

Please be reminded that there is no expectation for staff to respond to messages on Tapestry or Seesaw after 5pm or at weekends. Thank you for your understanding.

Christmas Dinner

Christmas dinner will be served on Wednesday 13th December. To ensure our kitchen team are well prepared, we ask that all dinner orders for that day are made by 6th December - we don't want to run out of turkey!!!!

This is also the day we invite everyone to wear their Christmas jumpers, dresses, t.shirts and festive accessories.



Cinema visits

As I informed you in the last newsletter, the annual theatre visits have been unable to take place this year. Instead, we have booked trips to the cinema in Dunmail Park for all the children from Reception through to Y6 as an alternative. Letters have been sent out about this so please check your emails. The infant children will be going on 4th December and the juniors on the 7th December. Children need to be in full uniform and may bring their own snacks and sweets along too.



Christmas craft open afternoon

Last year this was very popular with family members so we are doing it again! Come along on Friday 8th December from 1.4pm to join your children doing lots of Christmas crafts and activities. Look out for further details on Tapestry or Seesaw.



Making changes for a healthier family lifestyle

Healthy Habits 4 Life is a FREE programme run by the Public Health 5-19 team for families in Cumbria with children in Reception to Year 7 who want to make the change to a healthier lifestyle.

Families will be offered 1:1 support and advice on a range of areas. A Public Health Practitioner will arrange to meet with you at a time and place to suit you and your family, this could be in your own home, at school or via video and will work with you over a number of weeks. If you would like to know more or want your child to be included please contact us via the E-School Nurse clinic E-SchoolNurse@ncic.nhs.uk



The graphic features the 'Public Health 5-19' logo in the top left and the 'NHS North Cumbria Integrated Care' logo in the top right. The main title 'Healthy Habits 4 Life' is prominently displayed. Below it, text describes the programme as a free initiative for families with children in Reception to Year 7, offering 1:1 support. To the right is a circular logo with a heart and the text 'Healthy Habits 4 Life' and 'Healthy Children Learn Better'. Below the text are three overlapping booklets: 'Family Resource Book', 'Healthy Lifestyles: Hydration', and 'Parent & Carer Activity Book'. At the bottom, it states that a Public Health Practitioner will arrange meetings and provides the contact email E-SchoolNurse@ncic.nhs.uk and the website happierhealthiercommunities.

Public Health 5-19

NHS
North Cumbria
Integrated Care
1000 Henderson Street

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Healthy Habits 4 Life
Healthy Children Learn Better

Family Resource Book

Healthy Lifestyles: Hydration

Mix and Match Meal Plan for a Family of 4, For Under £40!

Parent & Carer Activity Book

A Public Health Practitioner will arrange to meet with you at a time and place to suit you and your family, this could be in your own home, at school or via video and will work with you over a number of weeks.

If you would like to know more or want your child to be included please contact us via the E-School Nurse clinic
E-SchoolNurse@ncic.nhs.uk
happierhealthiercommunities.

Useful websites – child health and development

The Health Visiting Service across Cumbria has lots of information and advice under the different age bands, as well as contacts for the Health Visitor Team in your area here:

[Health Visiting :: North Cumbria Integrated Care \(ncic.nhs.uk\)](https://ncic.nhs.uk/health-visiting)

The North Cumbria Healthier Together website is for all families across Cumberland. Families and practitioners can access the website - [Home :: North East and North Cumbria Healthier Together \(nenc-healthiertogether.nhs.uk\)](http://Home::NorthEastandNorthCumbriaHealthierTogether(nenc-healthiertogether.nhs.uk)) and/or download the app - [Healthier Together | Mobile app \(nenc-healthiertogether.nhs.uk\)](http://HealthierTogether|Mobileapp(nenc-healthiertogether.nhs.uk))

Healthier Together say 'Healthier Together is the go-to resource for accessing trusted NHS advice when their baby or child is unwell over the winter'

Plenty of health and development advice is also available on the new Family Hubs website which is in development - [Homepage | Cumbria Family Hubs](http://Homepage|CumbriaFamilyHubs) and for babies on the NHS website - [Start for Life home - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](http://StartforLifehome-NHS(www.nhs.uk))

DIARY DATES

1 Dec - Lime class visit to Stockwood

2 Dec - Friends of Maryport Primary Christmas Fair in the school hall 10am-2pm

4 Dec - Infant children cinema trip

6 Dec - Pine class visit to Stockwood

6 Dec - Nursery and Reception Nativity performance

7 Dec - Junior children cinema visit

7 Dec - 3.30-4.30 Nursery and Reception open afternoon

8 Dec - Rowan class visit to Stockwood

8 Dec - Xmas craft open afternoon from 1.45pm (Rowan class will be back for this)

12 Dec - Choir at Riverside Residential Home

13 Dec - Xmas dinner and Xmas jumper day

14 Dec - Infant Nativity performance afternoon and evening

15 Dec - Xmas party day

18 Dec - Christmas service in St Mary's Church at 10am

19 Dec - School finishes for the Christmas break at 1.30pm

School re-opens for the new term on Wednesday 3rd January 2024

