



JANUARY 2025 MARYPORT CHURCH OF
ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

Welcome to 2025!!!

I hope that all of our families have had a lovely Christmas and a peaceful New Year. The children have started back into school full of excitement and energy to be reunited with their friends and looking forward to the term ahead.

We are very aware that there are currently lots of bugs and viruses going around so we are prompting the children regularly about the importance of covering mouths and noses when coughing and sneezing and the importance of hand washing.

The weather has certainly turned much colder over the last week and we would urge all parents to ensure that their child is appropriately dressed to be outside in the lower temperatures. Coats are essential as are covered legs. I understand from talking to some of the older boys that they do not like wearing long trousers but have explained to them - as girls wear tights - they too can wear 'football skins' to keep their legs covered from the cold.

As a school, we have a duty of care to all the children and if we feel they are not appropriately dressed for the cold weather, we may decide that they cannot go out in very low temperatures.

Everyone in school would like to send their best wishes to Mr Stockdale on the birth of his daughter just before Christmas. Mr Stockdale is on paternity leave this week and will be back in school on Tuesday 14th.

On 20th January, Mrs Holliday will be returning to school on a part time basis following her maternity leave. She will be resuming her role as SENCo (Special Educational Needs Coordinator) as well as working in classes across the school on her 3 working days.

Our Focus Christian Value this term is PERSEVERANCE

Over the next half term we will be focusing on the value of perseverance and not giving up. We will be sharing with the children stories from the Bible which demonstrate perseverance as well as learning about the lives of people who did not give up in their fights for freedom, equality and justice.

Activities to share at home on our values can be found on our website by clicking [here](#).



An Amazing Art Project

For 6 weeks in the Autumn term, some children in our Key Stage 2 classes were given the opportunity to work alongside artists from the Shipping Brow Gallery to produce an animation based on old tales from Maryport.

It was a fantastic experience for them and we are very grateful to the Gallery and the Maryport Education Group for organising the project which all the schools in Maryport took part in.

To watch the animations which were created, click [here](#).

Attendance

During the Spring term we will continue to be focusing on ensuring attendance for all pupils is as high as it can be. Under the Government and Local Authority updated attendance strategy a number of families from our school have already received fixed penalty notices for taking their children out of school for holidays in term time. Any unauthorised absences totaling 10 sessions (5 days), may be subject to a penalty notice.

The first penalty notice issued to a parent in respect of a particular pupil will be charged at £160 if paid within 28 days. This will be reduced to £80 if paid within 21 days.

A second penalty notice issued to the same parent in respect of the same pupil is charged at a flat rate of £160 if paid within 28 days.

Please note that these fines are not issued by school but by the Local Authority.

Our Attendance Policy is available to read on our website - [here](#).

All term dates can be found on the Cumberland website - [click here](#).

Punctuality is also a key part of the new attendance strategy and as such we will be closely monitoring those children who are regularly late for school. REMEMBER - our doors open at 8.35am and all children should be in class for registration at 8.45am.

As many of our children are brought to school by parents, please be mindful of road works and weather conditions and plan your journey times in accordance with these. Thank you for your cooperation.

Unfortunately, we did not achieve a week in the Autumn term where any class had 100% attendance. Let's try and achieve this aim in 2025!



Uniform Expectations

Whilst the need for appropriate cold weather clothing has already been mentioned, please also make sure that your child is meeting all of our uniform expectations. Children should come to school with a navy blue jumper or cardigan (this does not have to be with the school

badge on) and dark grey trousers, skirts or pinafores. The optional checked pinafores and kilts which are available from the office can also be worn. Shoes should be black.

On PE days, children may come in with their PE kit on which consists of black shorts or joggers/leggings and a white t-shirt. A blue hoody may also be worn,

At no time should any child be coming into school wearing any jewellery other than a watch and stud earrings. Earrings must be removed for PE lessons.

Acrylic nails and any form of makeup are strictly forbidden.

NHS Pharmacy First Service

Did you know that the NHS Pharmacy First Service enables children and adults to get convenient access to healthcare advice and treatment where appropriate, for seven common conditions without the potential delay of having to wait for a GP appointment? Accessing the service may mean that we can help children feel better and get back to school as quickly as possible, as well as supporting parents/carers to also get better if they are unwell with one of the conditions covered under the service.

There is no need to make an appointment; parents or carers can pop into their local Boots pharmacy with their child and ask for help under the service.

Support for the following conditions can be accessed under the service, free of charge (unless NHS prescription charges apply):

Common condition

Patient eligibility

Earache 1 to 17 years

Impetigo 1 year and over

Infected insect bites and stings 1 year and over

Sore throats 5 years and over

Sinusitis 12 years and over

Uncomplicated urinary tract Women 16 to 64 years

Shingles 18 years and over

A summary of the service is available as an [animation](#) and more information can also be found at [nhs.uk/thinkpharmacyfirst](https://www.nhs.uk/thinkpharmacyfirst) as well as at <https://www.boots.com/healthhub/a-z-services/pharmacy-first>.

Forest School Dates for Spring Term

Forest School Spring Term 1 Timetable 2025		
Week	Date	Class
1	Inset	
2	Monday 13th January	Y3/4- RB
3	Monday 20th January	Y5/6- DS
4	Monday 27th January	Y5/6- SK
5	Monday 3rd February	Y5/6- CH/JL
6	Monday 10th February	Y2- AK

Forest School Spring Term 2 Timetable 2025		
Week	Date	Class
1	Monday 24th February	Y1- RM
2	Monday 3rd March	Foundation Stage
3	Monday 10th March	Y3/4- RRJ
4	Monday 17th March	Y3/4- EH
5	Monday 24th March	Y3/4- RB
6	Monday 31st March	Y5/6- DS

DIARY DATES

7th January - School reopens for children

22nd January - Y2/3 multi-skills competition

31st January - Y5 day at Netherhall

5th February - Y5/6 Careers workshop

7th February - book bus visit

11th February - Y5/6 workshop around vaping

12th February - Y3/4 dodgeball competition

14th February - break up for half term

24th February - School reopens

- Y5/6 young Voices event in Manchester

26th February - Y5/6 football competition

27th February - meeting for Y1 parents about the Phonics check

3rd March - Y3/4 water workshop

17-21st March - Book Fair in school

19th March - Primary Puppets Easter assembly

- Y5/6 football competition

31st March -1st April - parent meetings

2nd April - Easter service in St Mary's

4th April - close for Easter holidays

School reopens for the summer term on Tuesday 22nd April.

More events will be added as the term progresses.

