



# Mayfield School

Newsletter, October 2023

Issue 1

It has been a fantastic half term, they say time flies when you are having fun, and this half term has flown! I want to start by thanking you for your support, I have been made to feel very welcome by our wonderful pupils, by our parents and carers and the staff. It is an absolute pleasure and privilege to be the Headteacher of Mayfield School.

This is the first of our half termly newsletters. Our daily use of Dojo provides a fantastic level of parent/school communication, and we have therefore selected to share a half termly newsletter. I hope you find Dojo a positive form of communication, if you do have any thoughts or questions please do not hesitate to contact your child's class teacher or a member of the Senior Team. As a reminder we have introduced a school wide approach to dojo working hours, these are set for 8am-5pm, as we want to ensure our staff have a positive work/life balance.



This academic year we opened our second site, so much hard work, planning and preparation went in to the opening of our St Joseph's site, this is in Cockermouth, and currently our KS4 and KS5 pupils attend here. As we continue to grow, this will be our Post 16 provision. The site is fantastic, it has been renovated to an incredibly high standard and has a wealth of resources to meet the needs of our children. The lunches in particular are a big hit! Our young people have transitioned successfully, as much as they have a strong pull to our Whitehaven site, they are happier in their new provision. It is in a fantastic location and the pupils are able to further develop their independent skills and can access the local community. We must say that we have been made to feel incredibly welcome, and in return we have welcomed the local Headteachers, representatives from a number of local employers and we have even welcomed the Lady Mayoress, we also welcomed our reception children who came to visit from our Whitehaven site, they were planning ahead about their future provision! Our older children were fantastic with our younger children. We will keep you updated with the continued developments. If you would like to visit do contact Stephen Chambers who will organise this.

The opening of our second site, releases facilities at our Whitehaven site, and our children have been able to utilise our resources in a greater way. Classes are using our food technology room regularly and the smell of baking lingers in the air. Our children are also developing their independent living skills and utilising our flat. It is brilliant to see the children hoovering and making the bed. We are so lucky to have the resources we have, with our soft play, sensory spaces, outside areas, swimming pool and the hall, our children can benefit from these areas weekly, if not daily.



We still have a nurse on site each day, and if you do have any medical concerns, please do not hesitate to make contact. When our new nurse starts permanently she will be keen to get to know as many parents as possible.

We have celebrated and achieved so much this half term, from Roald Dahl Day, to achieving the Gold Arts Mark Award, to puppetry theatre to ten pin bowling, with trips to Muncaster Castle and Whinlatter and Watchtree. Our staff work to provide a wide range of fantastic opportunities beyond the classroom and our children really enjoy the trips and visits, it really is a strength of the school.



## TRAINING

This half term staff have completed a range of training courses, from moving and handling, to safeguarding and first aid, and we have been visited by colleagues from the Local Authority, we always receive compliments about our students and staff. We were also filmed for a national training provider, they asked and we were honoured to be involved.

There has also been a wealth of learning opportunities, my own knowledge of Castles, Kings and Queens and World War II has developed from visiting lessons. It is also a joy to see our children decoding and sounding out words with the excellent delivery of our phonics curriculum. I thoroughly enjoyed participating in a lesson where we critiqued the work of Vincent Van Gogh and I know Carolyn Westnedge was blown away by some of our children's writing and diary extracts. We do love to showcase and celebrate the learning around school.



I am looking forward to next half term, and I can't wait to be involved in the Christmas events.

Thank you for your continued support and I wish you a restful and enjoyable half term.

Sophie McCabe





### Parents Drop in Sessions

- Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> November – Representative from Owl Blue attending to discuss their support offer
- Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> November
- Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> November – Daphne Mark – further details to follow

These sessions are held in school and run by the Learning Disability Team and are open for everyone to come along too.

EVERYONE  
WELCOME!



### FSM Holiday Vouchers

Wonde vouchers for the half term break = £17.25, these should be with FSM parents on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> October.

Important  
Dates

- Halloween Disco – Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> October (Cockermouth)
- Children in Need – Friday 17th November
- Parents Evening - Tuesday 21st November
- Christmas Market – Saturday 2nd December
- Christmas Dinner Day – 7th December at Whitehaven
- Panto – 12<sup>th</sup>/13<sup>th</sup>/14<sup>th</sup> December (Whitehaven)
- Christmas Dinner Day – 14<sup>th</sup> December at St Joseph's
- Christmas Party Day – 12th (Cockermouth) 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> December
- End of Term - Tuesday 19th December, school closes at normal time

**REMINDER: School will be closed on Wednesday 3rd January for Inset Day**

### Reporting Pupil Absence

If your child is ill please contact the school on the first day of absence. We do have a dedicated absence line, if you phone the main school number and press option 1 or you can complete the online absence notification that you can find at the top of the home page on our school website [www.mayfield.cumbria.sch.uk](http://www.mayfield.cumbria.sch.uk)



### Holidays

It is not our policy to authorise holidays in term time.

Leave of absence will only be approved in exceptional circumstances. Family holidays and visiting relatives are not considered to be exceptional circumstances and cannot be authorised.

For any leave of absence to be considered, requests must be made in writing to the Headteacher, with as much advance notice as possible.

Thank you

NUT FREE SCHOOL



THANK YOU

Please remember we are a nut free school, this applies to both Whitehaven and St Josephs

### Half Term Activities

Bee unique have got lots of activities going on over half term, for more info visit their Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/BEEUNIQUECHARITY> or <https://bookwhen.com/BEEUNIQUE> to book a session.

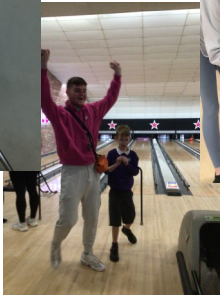


# Lakes Department

Lakes 11 have enjoyed their weekly visits to Longlands Lake for a Forest School session. These sessions are delivered by Mia who works for Rivers Trust. So far, their sessions have included blackberry picking, feeding the ducks, playing games such as Hide and Seek and messy mud play, and developing their skills to use a hammer safely. Everyone is looking forward to returning after half term!



Lakes 5 and 11 took part in a SEN Ten Pin Bowling Panathlon at Hollywood Bowl in Carlisle. The two classes competed against other schools across the county and had a fantastic time. Everyone received a medal and certificate and were so proud of how well they all played! Well done to all of the pupils!



Lakes 11 have been working with Rivers 11 to empty all the recycling bins around school. They all done a fantastic job even tho the bins were nearly as big as some of the pupils!



Lakes 3 enjoyed their trip out to Mayrport Park.





# Rivers Department

## Watchtree

Our pupils always enjoy visiting Watchtree and using the accessible bikes



Rivers 4 have been exploring Muncaster Castle and grounds, everyone had a fab day.



Rivers 2 have been taking part in lots of Forest School activities at Watchtree.



## Taskmaster

Every Friday afternoon Rivers 11 do a Taskmaster Challenge, this is a very popular activities and we do often get pupils from other classes wanting to join in. In of their challenges pupils were given a snowball with their name attached, Neil left the room, pupils and the staff team hid them around the class. Neil then had the job of finding them all and some were in very strange places.



Rivers 7 have been busy practicing daily living skills in our Life Skills Flat.





# Mountains Department

## MacMillan Coffee Morning

A hugely successful Coffee Morning was held at St Josephs Campus, we raised over £250. There was lots of yummy cakes, thank you to everyone who helped make it a success and a massive well done to all the students and staff.



## Next Steps



The students at St Joseph's Campus have been visited by both Beaumont college Carlisle and Lakes college. Both colleges gave a presentation to students about the options that are available when leaving Mayfield. Students listened really well to our visitors and asked a good range of questions about the colleges.

Some of our 6th Form students have attended college as part of Vocational Education where they made cookies. Even the staff helped to wash up!





Join us this half-term  
for our

family  
action

# October Fun Days

0 – 19 Child and Family support services - Copeland

**SOUTH WHITEHAVEN**

**Monday 23rd October**

**11am-12:30am**

**MILLOM**

**Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> October**

**10:30am-12 noon**

**CLEATORMOOR LIBRARY**

**Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> October**

**1pm-2:30pm**

**FRIZINGTON LIBRARY**

**Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> October**

**1:30pm-3pm**



Spooky snacks  
Halloween arts & crafts  
Sensory play  
Messy play  
Fancy dress

FREE & FUN



Find out more at [cumberland.gov.uk](http://cumberland.gov.uk)



**Monday 23rd & Tuesday 24th  
October**

**Free Entry**

# **The Rum Story**

**10am - 4pm**

**Last Admissions 3pm**

**10am -1pm**

**Live Pirates, Free Face Painting  
and Guided Tours**





# CHRISTMAS


## at Longlands Lake

11am – 3pm  
Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> December

*Join us at Longlands Lake for a winter warmer day of fun activities to get us all in the mood for Christmas. Enjoy some mulled wine, creative crafts and celebrate all the wonders Longlands Lake has to offer.*

The event is free with thanks to our funders  
Sellafield Ltd.

If you'd like to find out more email:  
[karin@westcumbriariverstrust.org](mailto:karin@westcumbriariverstrust.org)



We'll have...

- ★ Christmas crafts
  - ★ Forest School taster sessions
  - ★ Fat ball feeders
  - ★ Willow weaving
  - ★ Christmas Trail
- and more!*



Sellafield Ltd



West Cumbria Rivers Trust

Caring for our Lakes and Rivers