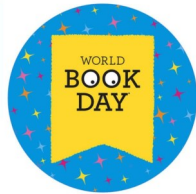


# Orton Church of England Primary School

Orton, Penrith, Cumbria, CA10 3RG  
Email: [head@orton.cumbria.sch.uk](mailto:head@orton.cumbria.sch.uk) or  
[admin@orton.cumbria.sch.uk](mailto:admin@orton.cumbria.sch.uk)  
Tel: (015396) 24268  
Friday 6th March 2026



## World Book Day

Thank you to everyone who made and provided such creative World Book Day costumes for our children. Everyone looked wonderful. We are always blown away by everyone's creativity. Thank you again for helping make it a wonderful day in school.

### Ankoma Assembly

Mrs Woodmass will be leading an assembly / presentation about her Ankoma experience on Monday 9th March at 9.15am. Everyone in our school community especially if you supported Ankoma in any way is welcome to come and hear all about it. It is likely to be longer than our usual assemblies but please come along even if you can't stay for the whole thing. It will be a fascinating and inspiring insight into a part of the World very different from our own.



### Brand New School Website

Over the past few months we have been working on a new school website. It is very exciting that I can now let you know that the new website is now live!! The school website is always a work in progress so we will continue to update it. Please take a look and let us know what you think. It can be found in the same place as it was previously.



<https://www.ortoncofeprimary.co.uk/>

### FOOS Help



Next Saturday is the Spring Farmers Market. As usual FOOS have a stall at this event selling pots of

Spring bulbs that the children have planted, plant donations and cakes. They need your support firstly with manning the stall and secondly with lots of donations of cakes and plants to sell. Please get in touch with Jo Hayward or one of the committee if you can help. Cakes can be dropped off in school on Friday or in All Saint's church on Saturday morning. Thank you in anticipation of your support.

### Cumberland Neurodiversity and Emotional Wellbeing Service

This is a new service provided by Cumberland and local NHS partners that families in Westmorland can access. It is a single point of contact providing advice, support and guidance for families at the earliest opportunity. Families can access support themselves or via referral. If you would like support with a referral for your child please let us know and we'd be happy to help.



<https://cumberlandfamilyhubs.org.uk/neurodiversity-and-emotional-wellbeing>

### Stars

Our next Stars Assembly will be Friday 20th March at 2.50pm. Visitors are very welcome to join us in school for our Stars Celebration! We hope you can join us.

## Parent / Carers Survey

Every two years our governors conduct a parent / carer survey to gather your views of the school. These are then carefully analysed so we can celebrate the things that we are doing well and also look at the areas we need to work on. Therefore your views are really important to us.



Thank you to everyone who completed the survey during Parent Meetings yesterday.

If you missed the opportunity to complete this in school we would really appreciate you taking a few minutes to complete the form.

You can access it by following this link or scanning the QR Code. Please complete by Monday 16th March. As usual, governors will publish the results in the Summer term.

[Orton CofE School parent survey 2026 – Fill in form](#)

### School Transport Consultation

You should have received an email earlier in the week regarding a school transport consultation being carried out by the LA. Please check this carefully and feedback your thoughts and questions to the LA.

## Diary Dates



All diary dates are subject to last minute change. More details will follow near the time.

Blue denotes new date

- 9/3/26 Mrs Woodmass's Ghana Assembly
- 10/3/26 Rowan Class Swimming Enrichment Day
- 12/3/26 Yr 3 & 4 Quicksticks KSGS
- 18/3/26 UDance
- 20/3/26 2.50pm Stars
- 21/22/3/26 Village litter Pick
- 24/3/26 9.30am Easter End of Term Service All Saints
- 25-27/3/26 Yr 3 & 4 Residential to Keppleway
- 27/3/26 End of SpringTerm
- 13/4/26 Start of Summer Term
- 14/4/26 Visit to Chapel Farm for Lambing
- 29/4/26 Yr 4, 5 & 6 STEM day Settlebeck
- 6/5/26 Virtual Author Visit—Iqbal Husain—Yr 5 & 6
- 8/5/26 FOOS Bingo Market Hall
- 11/5/26 NSPCC Speak Out, Stay Safe Assembly
- 12/5/26 NSPCC Speak Out, Stay Safe Workshops
- W/c11/5/26 SATS Wk
- 18/5/26 School Photos
- 22/5/26 Morland Farming Experience
- End of Half Term
- 1/6/26 9am Start of half term
- W/c15/6/26 Swimming Week
- 22-26/6/26 Yr 5 & 6 Residential to Isle of Man
- 8/7/26 Settlebeck Transition Day
- 17/7/26 End of Summer Term

# **ORTON VILLAGE Playground Spring Clean**

Please come & join us to give our lovely playground a bit of a wash & scrub.

Let's get it ready for the Summer!



**10.30am**



## **Sunday 8th March**

meet at the playground

Bring a bucket, brush & washcloths

Contact: Menna or Paula

07534 243664 / 07768 477179

Sat 21<sup>st</sup> March: St James's Church, Tebay  
Sun 22<sup>nd</sup> March: All Saints' Church, Orton

Families Together  
invites you to come and

Experience

Easter

*Come any time between 2 & 4.30 pm  
for your Easter experience!  
(You'll need to allow about 1h 15mins)*



*Refreshments  
provided*

*Explore the  
Easter story  
through  
hands-on  
activities for  
all ages*

*Book your FREE place here:  
<https://cutt.ly/FTTOee2026>*





# Orton

## After School Club

Activity programme for the 23rd Feb 2026 - 25th March 2026

Day	Activity
Monday	Library Club
Tuesday	Spring Crafts
Wednesday	<b>RAZZAMATAZ</b> THEATRE SCHOOLS <b>The Greatest Showman</b> <i>*Free club</i>
Thursday	Games Club (Indoor/Outdoor)
Friday	Free Choice Friday

\* This half term our free After School Club will be Razzamatazz on Wednesday 3.40-4.40pm. Open to Reception to Year 6 children.

To help our After School Club team with planning and ensuring we have enough resources please make sure you book in advance through our email [office@orton.cumbria.sch.uk](mailto:office@orton.cumbria.sch.uk).

3:30—4:30 £3.50 3:30—5:30 £7.00

## **CUMBRIA CHILDREN'S SERVICES DIRECTORATE SCHOOL TERM DATES 2025/2026**

### **AUTUMN TERM 2025**

<b>STARTS</b>	<b>ENDS</b>	<b>HALF – TERM HOLIDAY</b>
Wednesday 3 September	Friday 19 December	Monday 27 October – Friday 31 October

Number of school days in term – 73

### **SPRING TERM 2026**

<b>STARTS</b>	<b>ENDS</b>	<b>HALF – TERM HOLIDAY</b>
Wednesday 7 January	Friday 27 March	Monday 16 February – Friday 20 February

Number of school days in term – 53

### **SUMMER TERM 2026**

<b>STARTS</b>	<b>ENDS</b>	<b>HALF – TERM HOLIDAY</b>
Monday 13 April	Friday 17 July	Monday 25 May – Friday 29 May

Number of schools days in term – 64

Good Friday – 3 April  
Easter Monday – 6 April

Early May Bank Holiday  
Monday 4 May

**Number of days in year – 190**

#### INSET Days/Sessions

The 190 day school year identified above makes no provision for the additional 5 days non-contact time for which full-time teachers are contracted. Therefore, any INSET sessions should be arranged either outside the above school term dates or outside pupil hours.

The following dates are suggested as dates that could be used for INSET: -

Monday, 1 September 2025

Tuesday, 2 September 2025

Tuesday, 6 January 2026

Plus two others, to be locally determined.



## **Cumberland Neurodiversity and Emotional Wellbeing Service**

**Introducing the new Cumberland Neurodiversity and Emotional Wellbeing Service, providing advice, support and guidance for families at the earliest opportunity.**



**[cumberland.gov.uk/NDandEW](https://cumberland.gov.uk/NDandEW)**





### **What is the service?**

The Neurodiversity and Emotional Wellbeing Service provides a Single Point of Contact (SPOC) where children, young people and families can access advice, early support, and signposting for neurodiversity and emotional wellbeing in one place. It will support children, young people, and families to understand and manage different ways of thinking and experiencing the world. This service is delivered through a partnership between Cumberland Council and local NHS organisations.

### **The service has:**

- A Neurodiversity and Emotional Wellbeing section on the Cumberland Family Hubs website which has information, advice, and strategies to support families if they feel they need it.
- A single point of contact for parents, carers, young people, and professionals to contact the service to receive further advice and support.
- A new strength and needs assessment that can be completed with families to understand each child or young person and plan the right support.

The Service Team is made up of 2 Social Prescribers, 5 Support Workers, a Health & Wellbeing Coach, 3 Emotional Resilience Nurses, a Clinical Psychologist, and an Assistant Psychologist who can provide clinical support and guidance when needed.

The Service will run as a 12-month pilot from November 2025. It will focus on early intervention and prevention offering support as soon as needs are noticed.

### **Who is the service for?**

Children and young people aged 0-19 (or 25 if there are known or suspected special education needs and disabilities):

- who live in the Cumberland and Eden\* area,
- where there are concerns about unmet need relating to suspected neurodivergence and/or emotional wellbeing

*\*For children and young people living in the Eden area, signposting to follow-up support in the Westmorland and Furness Area will be provided, to ensure access to most appropriate local services*

We also welcome enquiries for children and young people who are:

- waiting for clinical services (e.g. diagnostic assessment for ADHD or autism)
- already have a neurodiversity related diagnosis, but could benefit from support in managing social and emotional wellbeing



# Skylarks Youth Choir

A BRAND-NEW choir for children aged 8 and above!

All styles of music...Disney songs, songs from films, musicals etc!

Learn to sing in harmony!

Make new friends!

Perform in concerts!



Wednesdays (term time)

4.30pm till 5.30pm

Haydock Community Centre, St. Catherine's RC Church, Drovers Lane,  
CA11 9EN

Please contact Liz for a registration form and more information.

[hello@lakelandlarks.co.uk](mailto:hello@lakelandlarks.co.uk)



Start your brass journey with us

# JOIN MELODY MAKERS CLASS OF '25!

Tuesdays 5:00-5:45 pm  
at Tebay Methodist Church CA10 3XB

We provide instruments, tuition + music  
Friendly, Fun + Fabulous

Musical experience is not necessary for this  
group

Full band membership is £12/month

Visit <https://drumandbrass.co.uk/db-in-cumbria/>  
or click on the QR code

Supported by the Frieda Scott Trust

**DRUM  
+  
BRASS**



**FSCT**  
FRIEDA SCOTT CHARITABLE TRUST

# Help with Childcare Costs in Before and After School Childcare

## Tax Free Childcare

Tax-Free Childcare is a scheme open to working parents of children under 12 (or 17 if disabled) to help with childcare costs. For every £8 paid in, the government will pay in an extra £2, up to £2,000 (£4,000 if the child is disabled) per child per year.

### How to apply?

[www.gov.uk/apply-for-tax-free-childcare](http://www.gov.uk/apply-for-tax-free-childcare)

## Universal Credit for Childcare

Universal Credit is a payment to help with living costs. It is paid monthly. Parents can receive up to 85% of their childcare costs, the maximum amount a month is:

- £951 for one child
- £1630 for two children or more

## Eligibility for Universal Credit childcare costs

Parents can only get Universal Credit childcare costs if:

- Are in paid work, or have accepted an offer of paid work (it does not matter how many hours you or your partner work)
- Pay for childcare for the relevant child or young person.

### How to apply?

Apply at [www.gov.uk/sign-in-universal-credit](http://www.gov.uk/sign-in-universal-credit)



There are lots of online parenting courses that Westmorland and Furness Council provide for free. Please feel free to access them at the link below. You will need the code WORDSWORTH to access some of them.

**SOLIHULL APPROACH ONLINE MODULES.**

[Online Learning \(heiapply.com\)](http://heiapply.com)

**Parents/carers/grandparents/young people etc courses:      CODE: WORDSWORTH**

- Understanding pregnancy, birth and your baby
- Understanding your baby
- Understanding your child
- Understanding your teenager's brain
- Understanding your child's feelings
- Understanding your child's mental wellbeing
- Understanding your child with additional needs
- Understanding your relationships
- Understanding your brain (for teenagers only!)**



**Orton CE Primary School Lockdown Procedure Extract for Parents**

No.	Communication - BETWEEN PARENTS AND THE SCHOOL	Tick / Initial / Time
School lockdown procedures, especially arrangements for communicating with parents, will be routinely shared with parents either by newsletter or via the school website.		
13	In the event of an actual lockdown, any incident or development will be communicated to parents as soon as is practicable using the school website messaging facility. EP & VP have access to website and can do this remotely if not on site. Facebook and email can also be used.	
14	Parents should be given enough information about what will happen so that they: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Are reassured that the school understands their concern for their child's welfare, and that it is doing everything possible to ensure his/her safety;</li> <li>• Do not contact the school. Calling the school could tie up telephone lines that are needed for contacting emergency providers;</li> <li>• Do not come to the school. They could interfere with emergency provider's access to the school and may even put themselves and others in danger;</li> <li>• Wait for the school to contact them about when it is safe for them to collect their children, and where this will be from.</li> </ul>	
15	Movement may be permitted within the building dependent upon circumstances but this must be supervised by a member of staff.	
16	Parents will be told: <i>'..the school is in a full lockdown situation. During this period the telephones and entrances will be un-manned, external doors locked and nobody allowed in or out...'</i>	

# Qualifying for free school meals and school clothing vouchers

<https://www.westmorlandandfurness.gov.uk/schools-and-education/free-school-meals-and-clothing-vouchers#Contact>

If you already get free school meals and clothing grants you do not need to apply for each school year.

Free school meals are available to statutory school aged children attending full time education.

Full time education means full days from 9am to 3pm, private nurseries and further education colleges are not included.

## Qualifying for free school meals and school clothing vouchers

### When you can apply

To be eligible for free school meals, your family's annual household income must be no higher than:

- £22,700 for families outside of London with one child
  - £26,300 for families outside of London with two or more children
- This includes any wider income or support you may be getting and any earnings from employment.

You must also have less than £16,000 in savings, including any shares, investments and bank accounts - but not including your home.

Your child may be able to get free school meals if you receive any of the following:

- Income Support
- income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- the guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit - Provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit Also your annual gross income is no more than £16,190
- Working Tax Credit run-on - paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit - if your household income is less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get)
- children who get these benefits paid to them, instead of through a parent or guardian, can also claim free school meals.

Your child may also claim free school meals if you get any of these benefits and your child is both:

- younger than the compulsory age for starting school
- in full-time education
- free school meals are available to statutory school aged children attending full time education. Full time education is defined as full days from 9am to 3pm, this excludes private nurseries and further education colleges.

### When not to apply

If you receive working tax credits you may not be eligible for free school meals or clothing grants.

To check please contact us. Call us: [0300 373 3300](tel:03003733300) Email: [FSM.ClothingGrants@westmorlandandfurness.gov.uk](mailto:FSM.ClothingGrants@westmorlandandfurness.gov.uk)

## Apply for free school meals and school clothing vouchers

If you already get free school meals and school clothing grants you do not need to reapply for each school year.

[Apply for free school meals and school clothing vouchers](#) [https://ems.westmorlandandfurness.gov.uk/CitizenPortal\\_LIVE/en](https://ems.westmorlandandfurness.gov.uk/CitizenPortal_LIVE/en)

Where possible all parents and guardians should apply online. You will need to register on the Citizen Portal to do this. If you apply online, you will receive an immediate response telling you if you are eligible or not.

If you are unable to apply online, please contact the free school meals team using the contact details below

## When another child starts school

Even if you are receiving free school meals and school clothing vouchers for your other children, you will need to apply for each child starting school for the first time, for example new starters in a reception class.



# support our school join our lottery!

Sign up today at [www.YourSchoolLottery.co.uk/play](http://www.YourSchoolLottery.co.uk/play)

## Lottery News

There are lots of reasons for our families to join the School Lottery:

1. It is easy
2. It is a good way to raise money for our school, with it costing our families from as little as £1 per week
3. One of our supporters wins a cash prize every week, the more supporters we have the more you win
  4. An added bonus of winning one of the national cash or gift prizes, this month, it is £1,000
5. If you refer your friends and family, you are also in with the chance to win an extra £200 Amazon voucher

We haven't heard that anyone has won any of the £25, 000 national prizes in July or August!

Well done to all our winners and thank you to those who have donated their winnings back. Also, a big thank you to our supporters. It is always great to see new people winning and also those who seem to win regularly!

This academic year, we have raised **£434.80**.

Since our launch in October 2014, we have raised an amazing **£9,000** for our 'Friends of Orton School'.

The School Lottery is an excellent fundraiser for our school - raising **just under £1000** per year to supplement the school budget! If you are interested in buying a ticket, and supporting our fundraising, please see the attached poster. If you are already a member please feel free to share with family members that might like to join.

Winners are announced weekly on our FOOS Facebook page.

Many thanks for your continued support.

Friends of Orton School (FOOS)

# E-School Nurse Clinic

(By appointment only)

Twice weekly health support and advice for parents, carers and professionals who are supporting children and young people aged 5-19 years old.



## Tuesday and Thursday

Telephone for an appointment

# 0300 304 9039

You will be able to talk to a school nurse, the contact will be private, secure and confidential. In consultation with you, the nurse will assess the child or young person's health problem and provide you with the support and advice needed.



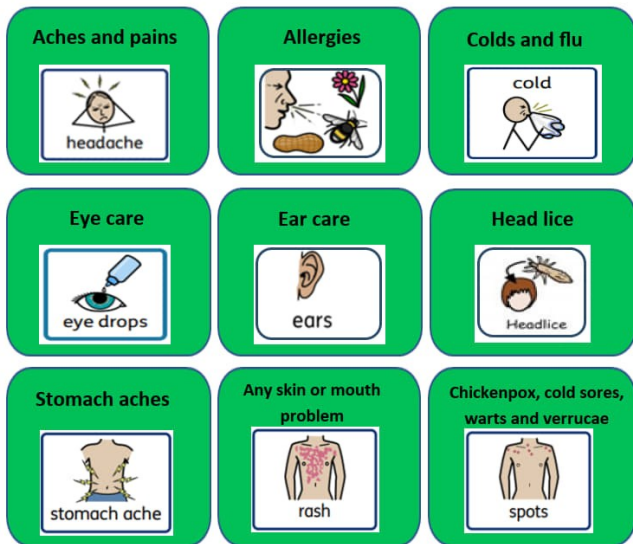
Westmorland  
& Furness  
Council



## Free advice and treatment

Did you know your local pharmacy can help with minor illness? Just walk in and ask for advice.

Visit your pharmacy if you're suffering from:



## Free advice and treatment

If you don't pay for your prescriptions you can get a wide range of medication free from your local community pharmacy.

Pharmacists are experts in the use of medicine and they can help you manage your minor illness.



# DADPAD - App for new dads for advice and support

Dads-to-be in Lancashire and South Cumbria can now download the DadPad app for advice and support. The app is a useful resource before baby arrives and after baby is born, and is designed to be used as a quick, on-the-go reference tool, allowing new dads to enjoy their babies and feel more confident about fatherhood. The app covers topics such as:

- Feeding, holding, changing, and cleaning your baby
- Surviving without sleep and coping with crying
- Getting to know your baby
- Home safety and first aid
- Looking after yourself and supporting your partner.

The app is now free to download for parents in all Lancashire and South Cumbria postcodes.

[DadPad](#) | [DadPad app](#) | [Essential guide for new dads \(thedadpad.co.uk\)](#)