

Orton Church of England Primary School

Orton, Penrith, Cumbria, CA10 3RG
Email: head@orton.cumbria.sch.uk or
admin@orton.cumbria.sch.uk
Tel: (015396) 24268
Thursday 3rd April 2025



Happy Easter!

We are rapidly heading to the end of another busy term in school. Thank you for all your help and support throughout the term.

It has been lovely to have such great weather for the last few weeks, we all feel so much better when we see a little bit of sunshine!!! Let's hope it continues into the holidays!

During the Easter break Mrs Simpson is running a Musical Moments Competition. Please see the separate letter for details. We hope there will be lots of entries. Children can send in as many entries as they want.

I hope you all have a lovely Easter break and we look forward to seeing you at the start of the Summer Term!



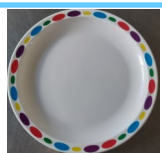
Spring Cleaning

We had a brilliant Spring Cleaning day with a small but hard working group of volunteers. Thank you if you helped in any way, we all really appreciate it as it helps save us money that can be spent on the children. There are still some jobs to be done, please let us know if you can help with any especially over the holidays. Jobs include:

- Painting an outside section of wall (If a few people too on a section it shouldn't be too big a job!)
- Taking rubbish to the tip (If a few people took a little it would save us paying for a skip)
- Making, painting and replacing the cover/ shelf for the Mayday tile montage
- Refix the loose tiles on the Mayday montage
- Replace some rotten panels in the Summer house & paint
- Take down the broken bird boxes in the tyre area
- Apply wood treatment to long bench in Jubilee Garden
- Replace a broken piece of downspout/ gutter
- Repair / Reaffix wood at bottom of Cube

School Plates

Do you have any of our school plates that have made their way home? If so please could you return them to us ASAP?



Easter Holiday Activities

There are a range of Easter holiday activities available in the Eden area. Most of these are open to all but there are free places available to children who are in receipt of benefits related Free School Meals, have an ECHP or SEND. Have a look at the link below.

<https://www.westmorlandandfurness.gov.uk/schools-and-education/holiday-activities-and-food-haf-programme>

Stars

Our next Stars Assembly of the year is on Friday 9th May 2.50pm. Visitors are very welcome to join us in school for our Stars Celebration! We hope you can join us.



Decorated Egg Competition.

As Easter is at the end of the holidays we have decided to have our Decorated Egg Competition at the beginning of the Summer term. We are inviting the children to bring their decorated eggs into school on Tuesday 22nd April to be judged. Eggs can be decorated in anyway the children want all we ask is that it is the children's own work. We love seeing their creativity!



Free After School Clubs

After the Easter holidays we will have two free After School Club. Please note these clubs finish at 4.40pm rather than 4.30pm.

On Tuesday we see the return of Family Zumba with Nicola. Parents and grandparents are invited to join in the fun too!!

On Fridays we will have the postponed Razzamatazz The theme this half term is Wicked the Musical. Open to Reception to Year 6

Residential

Payments for the Yr 5 & 6 London residential can be made in instalments on ParentPay.

The full balance must be paid before the trip.

Diary Dates



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

Blue denotes new dates

2-4/4/25	Yr3 & 4 Residential—Hawse End
4/4/25	End of Spring Term
4-22/4/25	Musical Moments
19/4/25	Families Together Easter Experience—attached
22/4/25	9am Start of Summer Term
	1st 3.40-4.40pm Zumba ASC
24/4/25	5.30-7.30pm FOOS—Movie Night
25/4/25	KS2 EVSP Tag Rugby & Art Visit to KS Methodist Chapel
25/4/25	1st Razzamatazz ASC—Wicked
30/4/25	Yr 5 & 6 STEM Challenge day at Settlebeck
9/5/25	2.50pm Stars—only one this half term due to busy Fridays!
12/5/25	SATs Wk—Year 6
	Guitar Monday instead of Wed this week
16/5/25	University of Central Lancashire Science Fair
19/5/25	Tempest School Photos
22/5/25	5.30-6.30pm FOOS Children's Disco
23/5/25	Wheelchair Basketball
	ASC Razzamatazz Showcase—time TBC
	End of Half Term
2/6/25	9am Start of Half Term
9/6/25	Musical Monday
16/6/25	School Swimming
30/6/25—4/7/25	Yr 5 & 6 Residential London
7/7/25	Musical Monday
9/7/25	Settlebeck Year 6 Transition Day
18/7/25	9.30am Leavers Service in All Saints Church
	End of Summer Term
3/9/25	9am Start of Autumn Term
27/9/25	Fell Race—Save the Date



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

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





Westmorland and Furness
SEND Information, Advice
and Support Service

CONTACT US

[Westmorland and Furness SEND IAS Service | Sendiass](#)

Your local SEND IAS Service Co-ordinator will listen to your concerns and can offer:

- Appropriate support, impartial information, and advice on a range of SEND related queries including - identifying a need, exclusions from school, complaints, and disagreements when something goes wrong.
- Advice regarding SEND related health and social care matters.
- Detailed explanations of how the Special Educational Needs (SEN) process should work, for example the support that should be ordinarily available for all children and young people with SEND in early years, schools, and post sixteen settings.
- Information about local and national voluntary organisations
- Information about young peoples' and parents' support groups in your area
- Support through the Education, Health, and Care Plan (EHCP) Process including annual reviews.
- To help you learn more about the SEND Code of Practice and your legal rights.
- Support at meetings where appropriate.

A child or young person may have learning difficulties caused by:

- A physical disability
- A problem with sight, hearing, or speech
- Difficulties with reading, writing or mathematics
- Emotional or behavioural problems
- Communication and social interaction.

For self-referral, please contact your local co-ordinator:

Area	Co-ordinator	Phone	Email
Kendal, Coniston, Windermere, Ambleside, and Grange area	Zoe McSorley	07774 337248	zoe.mcsorley@westmorlandandfurness.gov.uk
Barrow and Ulverston area	Celia Jones	07917 041116	Celia.jones@westmorlandandfurness.gov.uk
Penrith and East Cumbria	Emma Stephenson	07769 935448	Emma.stephenson@westmorlandandfurness.gov.uk



Westmorland
& Furness
Council

Information,
Advice & Support
Services Network



Offering impartial information, advice and support to children and young people with special educational needs and or disabilities and their parents & carers.

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 \(heiapply.com\)](https://www.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"> • 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; • Do not contact the school. Calling the school could tie up telephone lines that are needed for contacting emergency providers; • 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; • Wait for the school to contact them about when it is safe for them to collect their children, and where this will be from. 	
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

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.

Enter our **Super Draw**

**Win a £1,000 Sainsbury's
Voucher**

OR £1,000 CASH PRIZE



**YOUR
SCHOOL
LOTTERY**

- Tickets from just £1 a week
- Chance to win up to £25,000
- Play weekly, or just play the Super Draw!
- Support our fundraising!

PLAY NOW:

Go to

www.yourschoollottery.co.uk

Search for: Orton



Gamble **Aware**

See website for Terms & conditions. Enter by 28/09/24.



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 Video Clinics

(By appointment only)



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

Tuesday and Thursday

You will be able to talk to the nurse over a live video link using [Attend Anywhere](#). The link is private, secure, confidential and convenient.

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.

For more information on the **E-School Nurse video clinic**

Please read the information leaflet or visit:

www.cumbria.gov.uk/ph5to19

You can telephone for an appointment

01228 603973 Mon-Fri 8-4pm



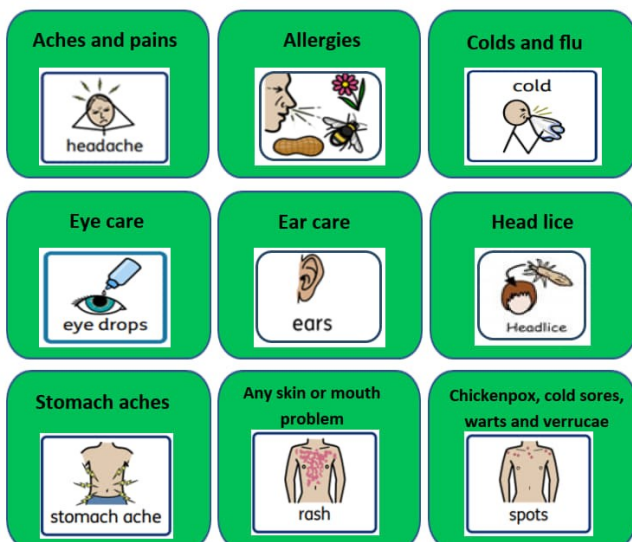
happierhealthiercommunities.



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 \(thedadpad.co.uk\)](#)

*Saturday 19th April
All Saints' Church, Orton*

FAMILIES TOGETHER

INVITES you to come and

EXPERIENCE EASTER

***Come any time between 2 & 4 pm
for your Easter experience!***

(You'll probably need to allow an hour or so)



***Refreshments
provided***

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

Book your FREE place here:

<https://cutt.ly/FTTOee25Orton>



