



St James' Church of England Junior School
Wellington Row, Whitehaven, CA28 7HG Tel: 01946 695311
Email: admin@stjamesjun.cumbria.sch.uk
Website: www.stjamesjun.cumbria.sch.uk

"With exploring minds, and faith, we achieve our challenging goals."

Newsletter Issue no.3
w/e 24 Sept 2021

Welcome to this week's newsletter

PUPILS OF THE WEEK

The children have all been working extremely hard this week. Here are our Pupils of the Week-

Class 1 - Lucas M

Class 2 - Zane H

Class 3 - Wyatt A

Class 4 - Zayne M & Rhys F

Class 5 - Layla O, Jasmine T & Harry B

Class 6 - Isla S



Each week, all of the children gaining 100% in a reading quiz are placed into a prize draw to win a book of their choice. This week's winners were Sophia R & Fletcher M



Spelling Shed Superstars

Class 1 - Shahidah A

Class 2 - Bailey M

Class 3 - Leo F

Class 4 - Fletcher M

Class 5 - Danny M

Class 6 - Jenson M

Attendance winners:

Class 4 had top attendance this week and will receive an extra MUGA day.
Overall school attendance this week is: 98.25%

Including Covid-19 absence

Timestable Rockstars

Maths Class 1 - Jamie C

Maths Class 2 - Keir M

Maths Class 3 - Erin S

Maths Class 4 - Harry B

Maths Class 5 - Jules F

Maths Class 6 - Yaa B



Click this icon to email the school office

As ever, do not hesitate to contact me if you have any concerns about any aspect of school life.

Mr Beattie





Welcome to this week's newsletter. You will notice this week, that as well as celebratory events and activities happening around school, there is also new guidance from public health regarding siblings of positive cases now needing to self-isolate for 3- 5 days. I would encourage you to read the guidance carefully. In terms of Covid at St James' our numbers have settled once more and we have been officially taken off the 'outbreak' list. This is clearly good news for all involved and we are hopeful that by working together we can avoid further disruptions. From now on, we no longer have to ask parents to wear masks while dropping off or collecting children, unless of course you personally feel more comfortable in doing so.

This week, we have been able to hold a couple of school outings for our upper children who have kicked off their History of Whitehaven topic with a visit to The Beacon Museum and a history walk around the town with staff. It is great to see this happen once more and we have received some lovely feedback from the general public of how our children behaved while about town. Music tuition will be returning next week with some taster sessions so it will be great to again hear the sound of guitars and keyboards around the school.

During the celebration assembly this morning, teachers spoke about the great efforts students were making towards their homework and highlighted a number of role models who are consistently showing acts of kindness, respect and giving their all each and every day. Well done to those children and others collecting certificates this week. Attendance has picked up back to our usual high standard and well done to Mrs Pickering's class for collecting the award three weeks in a row.

Wishing you all a restful weekend.

IMPORTANT COVID UPDATE—Please find below an important update from Public Health—

Managing COVID-19 cases is becoming increasingly challenging for educational settings in Cumbria, so Cumbria's Director of Public Health, Colin Cox and education leaders have agreed the following local additional advice measures to be implemented from Thursday 23 September.

Children and young people aged between the ages of 5 and 16, (unless exempt – see below) should now be advised **to stay at home when a sibling tests positive for COVID-19 (via either a PCR or Lateral Flow test).**

3-5 days following the onset of symptoms in the sibling who has tested positive (or test date if the positive case had no symptoms), the close contact child should get a PCR test. If this is negative, they can return to school, but should isolate again immediately and get another test if they develop symptoms of COVID-19 at a later date.

The groups exempt from this advice and able to continue to attend the setting when identified as a close contact of a sibling positive case are:

- 12-18 year-olds who have had at least one dose of the vaccine more than 14 days ago
- Any child aged between 5 – 16 who has tested positive for COVID-19 themselves via a PCR test within the past 90 days.



Public Health
England

We are constantly keeping up to date with new guidance and we appreciate that changes impact families. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact us.

Birthday Cakes & Sweets—During Covid, we decided to relax our policy on the children bringing in goodies for their birthdays. This was to try and support children who were missing out on traditional birthday parties.

Whilst we of course want the children to have lovely birthdays, we also have to protect children with allergies and implement a Healthy School Food Policy, and so we must reinstate the policy and respectfully ask parents not to bring any birthday goodies into school to avoid any disappointment. Thank you for understanding.

Harvest Festival—A reminder about the Harvest Festival donations mentioned on last week's Newsletter. Please can we ask that donations are brought in as soon as possible as the foodbank will be collecting on Friday 1st October.



Please only donate items from this list (they are not able to accept other items) -

Fruit Juice (1lt UHT carton), Tomatoes (400 g tinned/carton), Tinned Fruit or Vegetables (400g), Tinned Meat (400g), Tinned Fish (100g), Rice Pudding (400g tinned), Cereal (500g only), Pasta Sauces (jars or sachets—but no 'pasta & sauce' mixes please)), Pasta (500g bags), Milk (full fat or semi-skimmed UHT only), Sponge pudding (400g), Biscuits/Snack Bars/Chocolate, Coffee, Jam (not homemade) Tinned Beans & Soups (400g), Instant Mash Potato. They also request that items are NOT low calorie please.



Homework—A reminder that weekly homework will be set on Seesaw on a Thursday and the expectation is that homework is submitted the following Wednesday along with Spelling Shed, Timetables Rockstars and regular reading at home on a weekly basis, with reading diaries being completed. Children should have their Seesaw logins in their reading diaries but please contact the office if you need log in details.

Year 5 Residential—Letters have been sent home and emailed out today about the Year 5 Residential to Winmarleigh, Nr Preston. Please return the forms as soon as possible if your child would like to attend and we will start getting payments, consents, kits lists and all other important information put together.

Music Tuition—After a delayed start to the term, due to a number of reasons, we are excited that the plan is for Mr Curzon and Miss Bailey to come in next week for the initial sessions with the children who have expressed an interest in learning to play an instrument. All music lessons take place in school time and please see the diary overleaf for the weekly class timetable. This first session will be a free taster and charges will start the following week for lessons; at which point the children will require an instrument of their own. If you child already has an instrument then they can bring it with them for next weeks taster session as well.

With regards to the **type of instruments required**—

Guitars—Mr Curzon says 'In regard to the type of guitar and size, it all depends really on the physical size of the pupil, however in most cases the best one to get is a 3/4 size nylon string classical acoustic guitar. If you are unsure as to the best size, you may want to go to a music shop (Billy Bowman's in Cockermouth or Rainbow Music in Carlisle) and try a 1/2, 3/4 and full size nylon string classical acoustic guitar to see how they feel with the different sizes in regard to comfort.'

Keyboards—Miss Bailey says 'I would recommend getting a keyboard with full size keys and good makes are Yamaha or Casio.' She mentioned that if you are buying second hand, which is absolutely fine, just to make sure that it's in good condition and the electrics are safe.

We do have a limited number of older keyboards and guitars in school. Please speak to us if you are having any problems sourcing an instrument.

Here are links to some activities which have been happening in school this week (click on pictures) -



Class 1 enjoying a walk around
Whitehaven



Year 5s doing some dramatic read-
ings of Gulliver's Travels



Class 4 studying climate
zones



Class 5 selecting their
Class Ambassador

Check out some of the other [galleries](#) showing the children learning and exploring a range of different topics. Check out your child's [class page](#) here.

Coming up at St James' this half term-

- Thursday 30th September—School Photographs
- Monday 11th October—Full Governors Meeting
- Wednesday 13th October—Class 6 visit to the Sea Bins Whitehaven Harbour*
- Wednesday 20th October—Class 4 visit to the Sea Bins Whitehaven Harbour*
- Thursday 21st October—Class 5 visit to the Sea Bins Whitehaven Harbour*

**The Whitehaven Harbour Sea Bin visits will be within school time and be part of an Art Project (there is no charge or special arrangements required, but all children should make sure they bring coats with them)*

Weekly Clubs & Activities

- ⇒ Monday – Guitar Tuition* (Year 5 & 6) & Afterschool Maths Tuition (3.30-4.15)
- ⇒ Tuesday—Year 3 & 4 After School Cricket Club—3.10—4.15 p.m., Keyboard Tuition* (All Year Groups—starting 21st Sept) & Afterschool Maths Tuition (3.30-4.15)
- ⇒ Wednesday – Judo Breakfast Club (Year 3 & 4), Whitehaven Harbour Youth Project Adventure Club until 4.45 p.m. (Collection from Swingpump Lane) & Afterschool Maths Tuition (3.30-4.15)
- ⇒ Thursday - Guitar Tuition* (Year 3 & 4) & Afterschool Maths Tuition (3.30-4.15)
- ⇒ Friday - Mr Carruthers Tennis Club (Years 5 & 6) (3.30-4.15)

