



WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

7 December 2018



THIS WEEK'S STAR OF THE WEEK CERTIFICATES HAVE BEEN AWARDED TO:

Kara Ashworth	Class 1	Her enthusiasm to read
Jacob Taylor	Class 2	Great reasoning work in maths
Ella Allan	Class 3	Becoming more confident in maths lessons

SCHOOL EVENTS FOR NEXT WEEK

WEEK 1 LUNCH MENU

MONDAY

Mathletics club
3.20-4.15 -Book Fair

TUESDAY

8.30-9am-Book Fair
3.20-4.15 -Book Fair

WEDNESDAY

Class 1—Wellie Wednesday!
3.20-4.15 -Book Fair

THURSDAY

NISCU puppet roadshow
Recorder lessons PM— PE

FRIDAY

9am—Celebration Assembly.
All welcome.
9-10.30 am - Parent & baby/ toddler group
Violin lessons
Lunchtime Art club
Guitar lessons Year 4 & 5

PLEASE SEE OVERLEAF FOR CHRISTMAS DINNER ORDER TO BE RETURNED BY WEDNESDAY 12TH DEC.

Dear parents

CHRISTMAS FAIR : We are delighted to say that so far you have raised the amazing sum of £711.45 . As we have had some excellent prizes donated for the Christmas Raffle we would like everyone to have the chance to enter the prize draw. We have therefore attached 2 raffle tickets per family if you would like to buy or sell to family or friends kindly return the raffle ticket with the name and contact details together with the £1 per ticket in a sealed named envelope by Monday, 17th December. Thank you for your continued support.



MRS JACKSON'S RETURN : Mrs Jackson came into school this week to plan and prepare for her return in January. It was lovely to see her again and she is looking forward to her return. I am also delighted that we will not be saying goodbye to Mrs Lamb just yet - she has shown such dedication and commitment in her role over the past year. Mrs Lamb will continue to work for a day and a half with Class 3 until the end of the summer term, which will ensure that there is a good transition and that the children will have consistency in their learning.

SWIMMING : Year 2 (as well as Years 3 & 4) children will be swimming every Tuesday next term from 8th January. Can parents of pupils in Year 2 please return the slips indicating your child's swimming experience if you have not already done so? This will enable our swimming teachers to organise appropriate teaching groups.

CONSULTATION ON MODEL ADMISSIONS POLICY : We are currently undertaking a consultation on our Admissions Policy for admission to St Patrick's CE School in September 2020. We would be grateful if you could visit the school website to view the document which can be found under the 'School Information—Admissions' tab at www.st-patrickscofe.cumbria.sch.uk

NATIVITY : If you have not yet placed your order for performance tickets for this year's Nativity kindly do so as soon as possible. Thank you.

CHRISTMAS PUPPET ROADSHOW : We will be welcoming members of Northern Inter Schools Christian Union (NISCU) on Thursday morning to perform their annual Christmas puppet performance to the children.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE IN TERM TIME : Please see the attached important letter to parents/ carers from John Macilwraith.

CHRISTMAS POST BOX : A Christmas Post Box has been set up in school. If your child would like to send a Christmas card to their friends in school they can post their cards in the box.

Finally, we subscribe to a Letter-join handwriting scheme and have attached details of how pupils can practise their handwriting at home. If you have any queries; please do not hesitate to contact us.

Kind regards. *S Edmondson* Head Teacher



THIS WEEK'S HEADTEACHER'S AWARD HAS BEEN PRESENTED TO:

Oliver Sanday : A sensible and responsible attitude



CHRISTMAS DINNER—MONDAY 17TH DECEMBER

Mrs Pereira will be serving a traditional turkey dinner followed by snowman ice cream log to pupils on Monday, 17th December. If your child **DOES NOT** currently take up a school meal on a Monday Week 2 and he/she would like to have a Christmas dinner then kindly complete the slip below and return it in a sealed named envelope to the office **no later than Wednesday, 12th December.**

Please order a Christmas dinner for my child(ren) Year.....

I enclose the sum of *£..... (£2.25 per meal).

Please note; pupils in Reception, Years 1 & 2 are eligible for a Universal Free School Meal & therefore no payment is required.

* Cheque to be made payable to Cumbria County Council

BOOK FAIR - Celebrate reading at our Book Fair! The Book Fair has arrived and will be open next week in the School Hall, with hundreds of new children's books to browse and buy. Come and join us!

Monday (10 Dec) 3.20 until 4.15 pm Tuesday (11 Dec) 8.30 until 9 am and 3.20 until 4.15 pm

Wednesday (12 Dec) 3.20 until 4.15 pm

ENTER THE DRAW AND YOU COULD WIN A £5 PRIZE VOUCHER



FOOTBALL COACHING



Our Thursday afternoon football PE sessions with Darren and Scott will be coming to an end shortly. They have proven to be inclusive sports coaches, who have really developed the skills of all the children. This term we have only had nine children taking part in their afterschool club on Tuesdays. As the school had subscribed to a term's PE sessions, Darren kindly agreed to run the afterschool club despite the low numbers. However, unless we have more children taking part, they will not continue to offer the after school club in the spring term.

Both Darren and Scott wanted to try to organise some matches for St Patrick's children against other local schools, which I think the children would be keen to take part in. We have some very talented players and it would be great if we could give them this opportunity. Therefore I would just like to get an idea of the numbers of children who would be interested in attending the club on Tuesday after school in the spring term (please note; these lessons do incur a charge from Darren & Scott). If we have enough children, then the club can continue and I can let Scott and Darren know. Please return the slip below to the office no later than **Tuesday, 11th December.** Thank you.

FOOTBALL COACHING

My son / daughter is interested in attending the Extra Curricular Football Club on a Tuesday after school in the spring term.

Signed (parent)

Date

People Services • Cumbria House • 117 Botchergate • Carlisle • Cumbria • CA1 1RD
T: 012228 226868 • John.Macilwraith@cumbria.gov.uk

Dear Parent/Carer

November 2018

RE: LEAVE OF ABSENCE IN TERM TIME

Absence from school due to family holidays taken in term time can be disruptive to children's education. It can also be disruptive to other pupils in the class. In addition, I am concerned that there could be some misunderstanding of the law in relation to absence from school because of holidays taken during term time

Any absence from school should be avoided unless for medical reasons, as it can have a serious effect on your child's educational progress, and can create difficulties for them on their return to school, particularly if they are joining a new school or class. It is important to note that only the Headteacher can authorise absence from school. Parents/Carers cannot authorise the absence themselves.

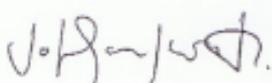
Changes to legislation have removed the discretionary 10 day period of absence which covered family holidays. Schools can only grant requests for holiday absence in term time in exceptional circumstances. If you believe that your circumstances are exceptional you can make a request to the school. In considering a request, the school will take into account the child's age, the time of year of the absence, and the nature of the visit. The Headteacher will also consider the child's stage of education and progress and the child's overall attendance record. It is highly unlikely that leave will be authorised if examinations or other important tests will be missed. Headteachers will not authorise absence unless they believe your circumstances are exceptional. In all cases it is best to have a discussion with the Headteacher in order to look at the issues as they affect your child.

All unauthorised absences, including holidays that have not been sanctioned by the Headteacher, are accumulated and parents who fail to ensure regular attendance of their children at school can be issued with a Fixed Penalty Notice. The amount is £60 if paid within 21 days and £120 if paid between 21 and 28 days. It is therefore essential that parents take this into consideration if they are thinking of a family holiday in term-time.

The Department for Education define persistent absenteeism as below 90% attendance and schools may wish to use this figure to determine whether or not to pursue legal action such as the issuing of a fixed penalty.

Many people are working very hard to help your child to succeed. I trust you will support us in this matter, in partnership with your child's school.

Yours faithfully



John Macilwraith
Executive Director – People (Deputy Chief Executive)