BEBKSTONE PRIMARY NEWSLETTER



Tel: 01946 830423 Fax: 01946 834936 Email: <u>admin@beckstone.cumbria.sch.uk</u> Web site: <u>www.beckstone.cumbria.sch.uk</u>

Newsletter no. 4 - December 2020



Dear Parents,

Welcome to the December edition of the school newsletter and the last newsletter of the calendar year. What a year 2020 has been, nothing like we would have forecasted this time last year. It is perhaps timely to say a BIG thank you to each and every one of you. The ongoing support of the school, the acceptance of changes in routines, the quick positive responses to procedural changes have all ensured we have stayed safe and the children have had a very positive term to date.

We have been fortunate not to have closed any areas of the school as yet unlike some other schools locally and nationally but it is perhaps only a matter of time. Please can all families note that if there is a positive case we may have to shut down parts of the school at short notice. We have detailed action plans for this but please be aware of the possibility this may happen and have an emergency child care plan in place.

With 3 weeks to go the school is getting very Christmassy. The normal run of performances, community events and Carol singing has been changed by the Covid precautions, we are however doing our utmost to give your children a magical time in the lead up to the holidays. I would like to take this opportunity to wish each and every one of you a Merry Christmas and a fabulous 2021, let us hope it will be Covid free as the year progresses.

Best wishes,

Mr Warbrick



The greatest gift you can give your child isn't money or toys, give them your time.

This newsletter has been sponsored by the following local businesses, please look out for their advert and support them when you can. Please mention that you have seen their advert in the school's newsletter!!

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- Cumbria Coast Karate
- Harrington Pharmacy
 - High Harrington Community Centre
 - Robinsons & Co
 - Step by Step
 - The Wobbly Wand



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<u>Harrington Pharmacy</u>



25 Church Road Tel 01946 833565

Free prescription collection service from Workington and Distington surgeries, for all ages

Regular promotions throughout the shop

Selection of household, baby and toiletry products. Plus, perfumes and gifts

 Free repeat medication check- up service

<u>Opening hours</u> Mon-Fri 9am-5.30pm Sat 9am-12.30pm





Free School Meal Children & <u>Holidays</u>

The Government announced a Uturn on its policy for providing food for FSM children during holidays whilst the Pandemic is still with us. The responsibility and organisation

of this package has been devolved to local councils and not schools, to date we are not sure how this is going to work but hopefully there will be information for our families in the near future.

The donations from our community towards the half term meal vouchers we provided has been amazing and made us all feel very blessed that we have such a



supportive community. Councillor Harrington, Mayor of Allerdale, provided a very generous donation to round off all other donations to make the cost of the meals to the school budget only £14 which is tremendous.

We are aiming to provide food parcels for a number of our families that would make great use of them over Christmas. There are details of how to donate to this cause at the top of the next column following a quote from the former Chief Rabbi, who died earlier last month, it is very apt. 'We need to remember that societies are strong when they care for the weak. They are rich when they care for the poor. And they are invulnerable when they care for the vulnerable.

'When we restore social covenant, we defeat politics of anger and re-create politics of hope'.

Rabbi Lord Jonathan Sacks

Foodbank Changes

Recent events have shown that the school can be a focal point for supporting some of our more vulnerable school families. To this end



we are going to ensure that the donations to the foodbank collection point are distributed within our school community. If there are families struggling with food (whether FSM or not) then if you could make yourself known to Debbie via a phone call to school (totally confidential obviously) then the school will work with you to provide regular food donations.

A BIG 'thank you' to the Co-op in Cleator Moor for their donation of fresh bread to all the boxes once they are ready for dispatch.

To support this initiative please think of our more vulnerable community members and buy some nonperishable food items you think would help feed children and donate regularly. We would very much welcome boxes of cereal, pasta sauces and tins of soup, spaghetti, beans or other canned ready meal plus tins of fruit. Thank you in advance.

Children's Christmas Raffle



Instead of the raffle ticket books this year there is a Christmas raffle with a first prize of a cuddly Christmas

Reindeer and other prizes of hampers etc. Tickets for this raffle cost a £1 and again can be bought through ParentPay.



ParentPay

School 2021 Calendar

Our calendars are in high demand. There are four different Key Stage calendars altogether with children posing for their birthday month, they are previewed on the next 4 pages. The months will be clipped together for easy hanging and changing the month. There is an Early Years version, a Key Stage 1 version, a Year 3 & 4 one,

a Year 5 & 6 one and now a whole school one with 4 smaller images per month from all 4 calendars. They cost £3.50 and are available to order and buy through ParentPay. They would make ideal family Christmas presents.





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Friday



December 2021 📀

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27 Bask Haliday	28 Dank Haliday	29	30	31	NEW	P) YEAR

ADVISERS BUSINESS ACCOUNTANTS AND HARTERED



SAGE Software

01900 603623

Also in Whitehaven

carry on audit work by the institute of Ch in England & Wales and authorised and re

Christmas Bows

Mrs Chambers has been busy making Christmas bows in the run up to Christmas (a BIG 'thank you' to her). They will be distributed soon to all



who have ordered. They were so popular we have had to close the orders now.



Christmas Wreath/Bows

The wonderful wreath pictured and adorning the vestibule door has been donated by one of our parents, Mrs Glithero. She also makes bows and wreaths to order from 'Door Bows West Cumbria' on Facebook.

Adult Christmas Raffle

We have been donated some wonderful adult prizes from Emma Baxter and the PR firm she works for, BBJ&K.. The first prize 'Champagne is а Breakfast Hamper' from Harvey Nicholls worth over £100 and pictured here, plus a £50 gift



card plus a number of 'Soap and Glory' gift sets.

ParentPay

Tickets cost £1, are available from today from ParentPay and the raffle will be drawn alongside the children's raffle on the final Thursday of term.



Tracking Santa

On Christmas Eve you can follow Santa and where he

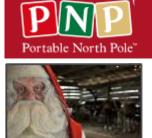


is in the world using the USA's radar tracking system. It is a wonderful and very exciting site, particularly as Santa approaches us and can be found at: www.noradsanta.org

Santa Video



Another good web site where you can make a video with Santa can be



www.portablenorthpole.com

Santa and his elves will speak directly to you once all details have been registered. Please ensure you follow the 'FREE' links for an exciting experience

Elf Yourself



You can make elf dancing videos with up to 5 people in for free by visiting





www.elfyourself.com

By manipulating photos the elves can sing and dance in a number of different scenarios



Christmas Carols

You can go to the Christmas zone of our web site and sing along to Christmas carols. You will need a modern browser to hear the music.

Santa Yourself

You can put your face into Santa's to make personalised cards or gift tags etc. or simply just to see what you would like. You can



add frames and other objects. also Go to https://funny.pho.to/santa-face-in-hole or follow the QR code.







Christmas Jumper Day

To support the local community we have planned a 'Christmas

Jumper Day for Friday 4th December. Children can come dressed in their Christmas jumpers for a donation to West Cumbria Hospice at Home.



Christmas Party Day

These take place on Thursday 17th December for Reception to Y6. Children can come dressed in party clothes if they wish. Nursery will have theirs on Friday 18th December.

Donations Needed

The school would very much welcome any of the following;

- Games, puzzles and jigsaws
- Construction Equipment e.g. K'Nex,
- Meccano or Lego
- Railway or road sets especially Thomas the Tank Engine
- Bikes and Trikes for Nursery & Reception
- Good quality books
- Comics/games for wet playtimes

Thank you in advance for any donations.





Give Blood – Help Save a Life!

Give Blood The next donor session you can book online is Friday 18th December from 3 to 7pm at Workington Leisure Centre.

Do something worthwhile and save someone's life

Further details and booking details can be found at <u>www.blood.co.uk</u>

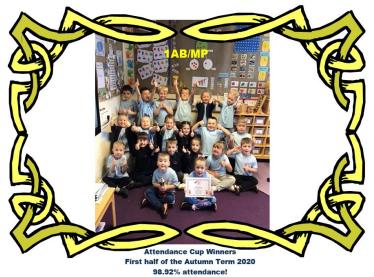


school day counts!

Attendance Cup

The school's attendance

over national with over 97% in November compared to around 85% nationally which is wonderful, children need to be in school to keep up with their learning. We award an attendance cup for every half term and for the first half of the Autumn term every single class/key worker group had attendance well over national for the same period of time. The winning class was 1AB/MP with a massive 98.92% attendance for that period. They are pictured below.



Creativity Cup

Harvey from Year 5. He was chosen for his fantastic art work. His work shows phenomenal detail and he takes time to produce work of the highest quality. A very deserving trophy winner.





The Marie Wright Kindness Cup

The winner of this cup was Clay from Reception who goes out of his way to check all his peers are having a good day and supports them and befriends them if they are not. He is a delight to have in the Reception Unit and his kindness just shines through.

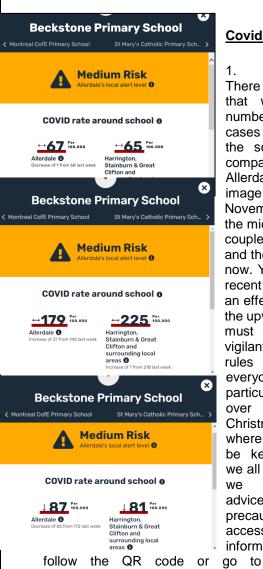




Christmas Fun Day

Thank you for your support of this day last week. The children had a great time and all the children from Year 1

upwards played Bingo in the afternoon right across the school via Zoom. It was lovely to be able to hold a whole school event for the first time in a long time. There are 2 bingo games left with prizes still to be won so there will be a further Bingo afternoon before the end of term.



https://www.schoolcovidmap.org.uk enter the school postcode CA14 5PX and you will get information such as shown above if you click on 'open'. You can of course search postcodes



1. Covid Map There is a web site that will show the number of Covid cases in the vicinity of the school and will compare these with Allerdale. The top image is from the November newsletter, the middle one from a couple of weeks ago and the bottom one is now. You will see the recent lockdown had an effect on reversing the upward trend. We must all remain vigilant and follow rules to keep everyone safe. This particularly applies over the 5 dav Christmas window where safety needs to be kept paramount, we all need to ensure we are following advice and taking precautions. То access this information simply



from all over the country so you can judge risk.

 Current Guidance Lockdown is due to be lifted tomorrow, 2nd December and our area is in 'Tier 2' restrictions. The rules that apply to tier 2 are on the top of the next page....



HM Government TIER 2 HIGH ALERT

In tier two you can't socialise with other households indoors
You can meet in a group of up to six outside - including in a garden, or a public place
Shops, gyms and personal

care services (such as hairdressing) can reopen (if Covid-secure)

- Pubs and bars can only open if they serve substantial meals. Alcohol can be served with that meal
- Sports can resume with up to 2,000 spectators, or 50% capacity (whichever is smaller)
- Collective worship, weddings and outdoor sports can resume (with restrictions)
- Non-essential foreign travel allowed, subject to <u>quarantine rules</u>
- 3. Face Masks Thank you to all for now wearing face masks on the paths around school and also in the school grounds. We are aware there are a couple of our parents who cannot wear them for health reasons and they have made themselves known to school staff so please do not think they are not following the protocols.

4. What are the Symptoms? There is a simple video that explains what to look for with regard to Covid symptoms as compared to other illnesses. It can be seen by clicking on the link in the noticeboard on the school web site, using the QR code or clicking here <u>https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/av/health-54182329</u> The NHS has produced some guidance to help parents understand when their child can and

cannot attend school which you may find useful. There is a link with further details in the 'Covid Alerts' box on our web site or by following the QR code or by clicking here



https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/health-51048366

We would urge all children who have not had a flu vaccination through school to get one so there is less confusion



over symptoms. Indeed it may help all parents too and you can get flu vaccinations at pharmacies where stocks allow.

5. Winter, Covid Guidance & Heating The current Government guidance to schools is very clear that they should be well ventilated and have windows open to ensure a free flow of air. There are of course some issues that arise from this guidance once the air temperature outside falls.

We are pleased to let you know that despite having windows open the school heating is working effectively and the school is at a good temperature, goodness knows what the bills will be like though as the heating is constant and never reaches set temperatures due to the cold ventilated air flow!

6. What to do if there is a Positive Test Result for a child If you receive a positive test result for your child then please let school know immediately. If it is out of hours, even in the middle of the night, please email admin@beckstone.cumbria.sch.uk immediately so we can put our emergency procedures into operation before school opens the next day.

Emergency Planning Experience Please note that children may be sent home with no notice e.g. a child had a test and was notified it was positive during the school day. We have a detailed action plan for every eventuality **but all parents need one too** as there is a possibility you will be contacted to come to school

immediately to collect your child for an isolation period of 14 days. It is perhaps prudent to let employers know this may occur if you don't have other child care arrangements.



Children isolating due to a confirmed case in the household or sent home

from school will be set work online to be completed in the exercise book that was sent home last month – please keep this in a safe place in case of need.

If your child currently receives a Free School Meal you will receive a phone call from school to discuss meal options and alternative Free School Meals provision will be offered, including, in some circumstances home delivery. In this instance, delivery may require assistance from Community Volunteers as the school may not have the staffing capacity to provide this..

To receive this service, if available, the school will be asked to share the following information with the County Council:

- Your Name •
- Child/Children's Name(s)
- Home Address
- **Telephone Number**

To allow Free School Meals to be delivered to a home address, family contact details may be shared with Community Volunteers. Please let the school know if you are an FSM family and do not wish your detailed shared with the County Council.

Displaying Covid Symptoms If your child is showing symptoms in school you will be asked to collect your child and their sibling(s) for self-isolation until there has been a negative test or they have isolated for 14 days. Classmates' families will get a text to inform them this has happened to keep an eve out for symptoms, YOU DO NOT have to keep these children at home.

A chart regarding symptoms is below.

Symptoms	;	Coronavirus	Flu	Cold
F	ever	Common	Common	Rare
C c	Cough	Common	Common	Mild
	oss of taste nd smell	Sudden	Rare	Sometimes
F	atigue	Sometimes	Common	Sometimes
н	leadaches	Sometimes	Common	Rare
	Aches and bains	Sometimes	Common	Common
	Runny/stuffy lose	Rare	Sometimes	Common
s s	ore throat	Sometimes	Sometimes	Common
S	ineezing	Νο	No	Common
	hortness of breath	Sometimes	No	No
	Diarrhoea	Sometimes for children	Sometimes, especially for childrer	No
Source: WHO, CD	с			BBC

Differences in School Approaches to Covid

The County have asked all schools to share the letter below as there have been many queries as to why some schools have different procedures and practices to other ones.

Cumbria County Council



Serving the people of Cumbria

Dear Parents and Carers,

This year continues to be very challenging for families and for schools. COVID-19 has meant disruption to pupil's education and significant changes to how schools are run.

As the virus has spread around the county many schools have had to take action because of confirmed COVID-19 infections among staff or pupils. Sometimes this has required whole schools to close for a period, but more commonly small groups or 'bubbles' have been required to self-isolate at home.

Schools take advice from the county council's Public Health team about what to do when there are cases confirmed at school. What is clear is that no two situations are the same; the specific circumstances in each school are always different.

This is why the action that schools are advised to take is not always the same.

It is important that parents and carers understand this and follow the instructions given by schools that are specific to their circumstances. By doing so everyone can help prevent infection spreading further and causing more disruption.

It is particularly important that everyone follows the guidance around what to do if someone in the family has symptoms of COVID-19 or tests positive. On the next page is an easy to follow summary of what you must do in different situations.

Schools are working incredibly hard in difficult circumstances and the support of parents and carers is vital to help keep schools open and people safe.

Yours sincerely

Dan Barton Assistant Director – Education & Skills Director of Public Health

Colin Cox

	navirus) absence: r parents / carers	County Council
What to do if…	Action needed	Back to school
my child has COVID- 19 (coronavirus) symptoms*	Child shouldn't attend school Child should get a test Whole household self-isolates while waiting for test result Inform school immediately about test results	when child's test comes back negative
my child tests positive for COVID-19 (coronavirus)	 Child shouldn't attend school Child self-isolates for at least 10 days from when symptoms* started (or from day of test if no symptoms) Inform school immediately about test results Whole household self-isolates for 14 days from day when symptoms* started (or from day of test if no symptoms) - even if someone tests negative during those 14 days 	when child feels better, and has been without a fever for at least 48 hours They can return to school after 10 days even if they have a cough or loss of smell / taste. These symptoms can last for several weeks once the infection is gone.
somebody in my household has COVID- 19 (coronavirus) symptoms*	 Child shouldn't attend school Household member with symptoms should get a test Whole household self-isolates while waiting for test result Inform school immediately about test results 	when household member test is negative, and child does not have COVID-19 symptoms*
somebody in my household has tested positive for COVID-19 (coronavirus)	 Child shouldn't attend school Whole household self-isolates for 14 days from day when symptoms' started (or from day of test if no symptoms) - even if someone tests negative during those 14 days 	when child has completed 14 days of self-isolation, even if they test negative during the 14 days

* Most people with coronavirus have at least 1 of these symptoms: -a high temperature (37.8°C or above. If you don't have a thermometer, feeling hot to the touch on your chest or back is a good indicator of a high temperature) -a new, continuous cough (this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours. If you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual) -a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste

What to do if	Action needed	Back to school
NHS Test and Trace has identified my child as a 'close contact' of somebody with symptoms' or confirmed COVID-19 (coronavirus)	 Child shouldn't attend school Child self-isolates for 14 days (as advised by NHS Test and Trace) – even if they test negative during those 14 days Rest of household does not need to self-isolate, unless they are a 'close contact' too 	when the child has completed 14 days of self-isolation, even if they test negative during those 14 days
we / my child has travelled and has to self- isolate as part of a period of quarantine	 Do not take unauthorised leave in term time Consider quarantine requirements and FCO advice when booking travel Provide information to school as per attendance policy Returning from a destination where quarantine is needed: Child shouldn't attend school Whole household self-isolates for 14 days – even if they test negative during those 14 days 	when the quarantine period of 14 days has been completed for the child, even if they test negative during those 14 days
we have received advice from a medical / official source that my child must resume shielding	 Child shouldn't attend school Contact school as advised by attendance officer / pastoral team Child should shield until you are informed that restrictions are lifted and shielding is paused again 	when school / other agencies inform you that restrictions have been lifted and your child can return to school again
I am not sure who should get a test for COVID -19 (coronavirus)	 Only people with symptoms* need to get a test People without symptoms are not advised to get a test, even if they are a 'close contact' of someone who tests positive 	when conditions above, as matching your situation, are met
F	or further information:	

gov.uk/backtoschool



	KS2	
	Class	AL CIT
	Class	No of Votes
3LS	Raking leaves by Barbara Vance	No of Votes
3LS 3/4JWa	Raking leaves by Barbara Vance	No of Votes
	Raking leaves by Barbara Vance Halloween Party by Ken Nesbitt	No of Votes
3/4JWa	Raking leaves by Barbara Vance Halloween Party by Ken Nesbitt Pumpkin Sigh by Linda Brown	No of Votes
3/4JWa 4MV	Raking leaves by Barbara Vance Halloween Party by Ken Nesbitt Pumpkin Sigh by Linda Brown Winter Song by Katherine Mansfield	No of Votes
3/4JWa 4MV 5LJ	Raking leaves by Barbara Vance Halloween Party by Ken Nesbitt Pumpkin Sigh by Linda Brown	No of Votes

The videos can now be seen on our web site, well worth a look. The children then voted for their favourite from Early Years and Key Stage 1 (the winning class was 1RM) and then for their favourite from Key Stage 2 (with 3/4JWa winning). The winning classes received a chocolate cookie baking session with our cook, Mrs Armstrong.



Online Safety

PLEASE REMOVE YOUR CHILDREN FROM WHATS APP/INSTAGRAM/TIK TOK/FACEBOOK/SNAPCHAT & YOU TUBE CHANNELS

Children have suffered a lot during lockdown and have had part of their childhood changed by what has happened. At school we can see the impact this has had on mental health and wellbeing. In some cases this is being compounded by them using social media sites where they are then subject to peer pressure, emotional bullying and sometimes nasty and derogatory comments. As a school we are finding we are spending more and more time on counselling children who are suffering because of these sites.

All the sites mentioned at the top of this piece have a minimum age of 13 and that is for a reason, it is because children under 13 lack the emotional maturity to act appropriately and accessing these sites puts them at a risk.

Very disturbingly, during recent sessions discussing online safety it has come to light that some of our pupils are making Tik Tok videos in their school uniform and using their names which puts them at tremendous risk from undesirables in the community and further afield. In addition some are making YouTube videos which also include their names etc. The potential risk is immense and the school would urge all these actions to stop, let children be children and keep them safe from outsiders. We realise some children may be in closed family WhatsApp groups to keep in touch with family members but please strictly control this and limit contacts to this if you still wish them to have access to social media.

The NSPCC has released findings from Freedom of Information (FOI) responses from 38 police forces in England and Wales which shows that 1,220 offences of sexual communication with a child were recorded in the first 3 months of lockdown. Figures show that, where the platform was recorded, Instagram was used in 37% of cases while Facebook-owned apps (Instagram, Facebook and WhatsApp) were used in 51% of cases and Snapchat was used in 20% of cases.



We have been informed of useful apps to set parental controls on phones or devices. It is called Qustodio. **Qustodio Parental Control App** is a parental control app for computers.

tablets, and smartphones that helps you monitor your kids' screen time and prevent them from seeing inappropriate content.

Kids App Qustodio is the companion app to **Qustodio** It is recommended you start by downloading the **Qustodio Parental Control App** onto your device

(usually your mobile phone or laptop). Then download this **Kids App Qustodio** onto your child's device or devices. Together, the two apps allow you to seamlessly manage your child's daily screen time allowance on linked mobile, tablet, or desktop devices



across platforms including Android, iOS, macOS and other major operating systems and control what they can see and use.

Please also give some thought to restricting time spent on games, we are having a number of children who are coming to school tired from playing game late into the night. Also it is important to realise that Gamers will usually communicate within the game to coordinate game tactics, although it can just to be to chat as they play. Depending on the game and its chat functions, they may be able to type messages or talk to one another through a headset. Some consoles also allow them to leave voice messages and chat when a game is not in play. Depending on their privacy settings, gamers can be contacted by people they may or may not know, or play against 'bots' (a computer-controlled character that may send messages to gamers). Bots can be hard to spot as their messages can seem very realistic. These messages often contain links to external websites which are inappropriate for young people; showing violent or sexual content.

Finally please also be aware that it is possible for children to use an Amazon Echo etc. to listen to inappropriate songs/materials so please be aware that access to these devices need to be controlled too.



Our Road Crossing Officer has Retired

Mary Glaister has been crossing children across Church Road safely for 21 years, as a result she has crossed many of our parents when they were children too. Indeed prior to her Church Road duties she



spent 14 years as a road crossing officer in town too! Mary has been such a great help to us all and will be sorely missed. She is pictured below with Mr Warbrick receiving cards from the children and flowers from the school to mark her retirement



We are awaiting news on whether she will be replaced and on whether the pedestrian crossing that prior to Covid was to be installed in the summer will go ahead soon. In the meantime please stress the importance of road safety to your child(ren) particularly on Church Road. We have stressed the importance in the whole school weekly video assembly and as part of road safety week last week.

Before & After School Clubs

The recent lockdown closed our before and after school learning clubs. These will remain closed until the New Year when hopefully they can re-open.



The Year 6 Revisewise sessions are now taking place at lunchtimes. We would like to say a great BIG 'thank you' to Asda

who have donated cereal bars and fruit juice to this learning club, it was very kind of them.

If your child is missing the sports clubs then the Youth Sports Trust now has a daily online sport club. If you type 'Youth Sport Trust' into YouTube then your child(ren) can take part every day from 5pm to keep them fit and healthy during the winter months.



Packed Lunches

Please can all note that the weakest point in all our Covid secure operations are packed lunches as guidance is to minimise items coming to and from school to prevent Covid spread.

Please can all packed lunch families give thought to moving their children to school meals in the new year.

Please also refer to the nutritional guidelines in last

CHILDREN'S FOOD TRUST Eaf Better Do Better month's newsletter for packed lunches. We follow the guidance of the children's food trust.



School meals only cost £2.20 a day or £11 for the week in Key Stage 2 and payment has never

been simpler using the Parent Pay facility. Your child will receive a nutritionally balanced meal with a wide range of choices and you can rest assured they are eating healthily and plentifully. Service speeds have now speeded up following the Covid changes and portion sizes are now plentiful. The menu is available on our web site.

School Angel

By shopping on-line using School Angel the school's PTA will receive valuable



funds to enrich your child's experience at school and to subsidise the cost of trips. Thank you.

To raise funds for Beckstone Primary School just visit the School Angel website (use the concertina tabs on the web page or simply click the logo above) and click on a retailer, all of the profit goes to help the school and you get exactly the same deal as if you had visited the retailer's website direct. There is no need for you to create an account and they don't need any of your personal details. They will simply track your donation straight back to your school every time you visit School Angel.

Please click **here** to view a step-by-step video on how to use School Angel.

With more and more people now shopping online please share this with friends and family. It costs nothing but gets the school

vital funds. We have already raised £436.81.





Allerdale Lottery

Allerdale is starting a new lottery and it is now live with the first draw this month .The top prize is £25,000 and it costs £1 a ticket. If you are going to play and you buy your ticket through our own Beckstone Primary Page

then the school will receive **50p** for every ticket sold through our part of the site going forward. This has the potential to raise a lot of money for the school but we need 50 players. You can play once or pay by direct debit which costs £4.34 a month for one ticket in every weekly draw. There are a number of ways of winning. For more information and to play through our page



please go to: https://www.allerdalelottery.com/support/beckstoneprimary-school or use the QR code:

Tickets go on sale soon and as soon as we have been sent the link to our page we will send it out to you. Please share it with friends and family.



Christmas Cards

Unfortunately to ensure we are minimising the risk of Covid spread we have to reduce the number of items that come from home to school. As a result children will not be able to bring Christmas cards in to school and there will be no school post boxes this year. We understand this may be disappointing but it is better to be safe than sorry.

Advertisements

If you run a business or know of someone who does (even baby-sitting services) then please do get in touch with the School Office. An advert costs £5 a month, goes to at least 500 local



households (parents, staff etc.) and also provides much needed funds for the school. Adverts are subject to the approval of the Governing Body



<u>The Rae Way – Back Path</u>

Please be careful using the back path in frosty weather as it was an issue last year with frost making the tarmacked parts of the path slippy. We will try our best to grit it this year but this is not common practice as it is not our land however as the paths are being used extensively for staggered school access we will do what we can. The grit for doing this will be an additional cost to the school budget which again wasn't budgeted for.



School Milk, Snack & Fruit

Milk is vital for growing children as it strengthens bones and teeth. Children in

Reception and Nursery are entitled to free milk as are children who are eligible for free school meals and clothing vouchers (not the universal free meal for all FS & KS1 children).

The cost of milk for next half term is **£7.50** and needs to be paid by **Friday**, **8**th**January**, **via ParentPay NOT cash or cheque.** If you need help with this please see the School Office. Due to the administrative burden of checking attendance and the inability to change the order daily unfortunately milk money cannot be refunded for absence



Snack money for Nursery and Reception can now also be paid by ParentPay and is due by the same Friday, 8th January (£6...£1 a week) and

fruit tuck shop money from Year 1 is now also paid this way (£6, again £1 a week) and again by Friday 8^{th} January.

ParentPay

School Funds



We need donations to this

fund as funds are getting REALLY tight as the school has had no extended services or donations income since March so please help if you can. The school fund is purely donation based and is used to buy many consumable items and fun activities outside the remit of the school budget for the pupils as well as many other things for school that enable us to provide services free of charge. Please have a ratch down the sofa or anywhere to find some spare money to donate to the school to support all the children.

Please help if you can by donating to this fund.



Now we have the ParentPay system we can offer the facility for families to make an automatic School Fund donation on a monthly basis, from their bank account even £2 per month would cumulate to a great fund to support activities in school. If you would like to support the school in this way please contact the School Office for further details on how to set this up or, if you would rather, for direct debit details.

Nursery Intakes

Children born between **1 September 2017** and **31 December 2017** can receive their free 15 or 30 hours a week Nursery education from January 2021.

If you know of any children with birth dates between these times and would like their child to come to this school, then please ask them to get in touch with the School Office <u>as soon as possible</u>.

Children born between 1 January 2018 and 31 March

2018 can receive their free 15 or 30 hours a week from **April 2021.**

Children born between 1 April 2018 and 31 August 2018 can receive their free 15 or 30 hours a week from September 2021.

Forms for applying for any of these intakes can be downloaded from the Cumbria County Council web site

https://www.cumbria.gov.uk/childrensservices/school

sandlearning/Iss/schooladmissions.asp (or use the QR code) ring the School Office and we can post them out. When returning the form we need to see the Birth Certificate and a proof of address.



Beckstone's Extended Services



Our extended services include the Breakfast Club (£4.00 from 7.30am, £3.50 from 8am) Last entry is at 8.30am; Educare (our popular

afternoon child care provision for morning Nursery children – see table) with pick up times at 2.15pm and 3.15pm. Please note



that unfortunately we are unable to offer facilities for packed lunches for Nursery children.

Beckstone Xtra (again $\pounds 3.50$ an hour) runs from the end of the school day until 5.15pm with an earlier pick up time of 4.15pm if required.

The prices for our extended services are extremely competitive to support families in these difficult economic times. The price per hour is only £3.50. This is very good value and an extremely competitive rate for child care



Safeguarding/Child Protection

Full details on the county's policies, procedures and processes with regard to safeguarding plus analysis of outcomes of serious case reviews can be accessed through the Cumbria LSCB Web Site at

<u>www.cumbrialscb.com</u> the site also has a parental information zone.

In addition to the above the school has a 'Safeguarding Zone' on its web site which contains the above link as well as relevant school policies, further information and a diagram showing how we keep your child safe in school. It is well worth a look.

Sharing information is in the best interests of children and their safeguarding. The school reserves the right to share and receive information from other agencies that may have had dealings with your child.



If you ever have any concerns about the safety or well-being of a child, then you can ring your concerns through to the County's 24 hour 'Safeguarding Hub' number and you can remain anonymous if you wish. Callers can outline their concerns and the Safeguarding Hub will give (consultation) advice and if necessary undertake an assessment

of need.



There is now also an adult NSPCC helpline where any concerned adult can seek advice if they are concerned about a child and would like advice on whether to make a referral. The number to call is



Debbie Cook. our Educational Support Manager has trained to be a



'Domestic Violence Champion' and is a resource available to any adult who would like to confidentially share incidents with her and is a very good source of advice. Just contact the School Office to get in touch with her.

Domestic violence is on the increase and causes terrible harm to victims and the associated children.

It is everyone's responsibility to ensure it is eradicated. We are working closely with the Police and the school will learn of any incidents to support any children whose lives are affected by such an occurrence.

Children's Birthdays



We realise that due to restrictions many children have not had birthday parties this year. On Friday 11th December we will host class parties for all those that have had a birthday this term and then

we will host parties on a half termly basis for the rest of the year so the children can have a 'special' day in school.

Extreme Weather/Heating Emergencies

With winter here it is to be hoped that inclement weather is not serious, and that the heating system works effectively. If this happens not to be the case and the school



is forced to close, then the following will be sources of information;

A text message will be sent to all parents (it is of vital importance we have an up to date mobile number contacts for every child)

- The County Council web site carries information A on schools that are closed
- CFM and Radio Cumbria will be informed, and 0 closure details will be included in their broadcasts
- The school web site will be updated underneath A the 'Weather Warnings' link

Cars on Eadie Street



Please can anyone collectina children from school avoid using



Eadie Street (which is

parking only) and certainly DO NOT residents' ATTEMPT A 3-POINT TURN there. We have had several complaints about a Range Rover doing this and putting children at risk. Some of our children are very small and cannot be seen easily in a rear view mirror. We are sure that if anyone injured a child in such a way they would find it very difficult to live with themselves.

Remove any danger by not picking up in a vehicle on Eadie Street

Facebook



The school has a live Facebook page - it is called "Beckstone Primary School (Official Facebook Group)", you should be able to search for the group or you can use this address or QR code.



https://www.facebook.com/groups/1922762928000636

The top of the Facebook page should look like the image above...there appears to be other sites with the school name on but these are not official:

We have created this page to let you know when our school website is updated and to send messages. It is for information only and doesn't accept comments.

If you are a Facebook user and would like to receive news feeds and updates about the school, then don't forget to 'join' the group and select the "see first" button. The Facebook page has open access and will also contain links to updates on our web site and messages from school - there is no facility to message school, please use other methods. As a result, any photos etc. will only appear from our web site following clicking on a link. It is hoped this will dissuade children who are under 13 using Facebook but will allow adults to receive updates about the school.

Indeed, please note no children should have Facebook accounts under the age of 13 and applications to join the group will be refused/accounts will be deleted.



High Harrington Community Centre

The Community Centre

is in Crooklands, High Harrington and is colloquially known as the 'Green Hut'. It is a very competitively priced and useful resource for all in the community to use.

To hire this facility for any event then please contact Marjorie Rae on 01946 831004.The venue can be used for children or adult parties, meetings etc. and hire rates are very reasonable indeed. If you do hire this venue, please let Marjorie know you read about it in this newsletter.

Also, please pass on the following details to anyone you think may be interested:

Ladies Club, every Tuesday from 1.30 to 3.45pm. All ages are welcome to attend. A great opportunity to get to know new people and make new friends.



QR Codes

QR stands for 'quick response'. QR Codes, if you don't know, are those funny black and white boxes you see in



newspapers and magazines such as the image alongside. These are placed within this newsletter at relevant points to give you quick access to websites mentioned. All you have to do is install a free QR code reader to your phone/tablet, just search the App/Play

friends"

store using 'QR', and simply scan the code or you can just use your camera with more modern phones.

Why not try downloading it and scan this code and see if it works. It should take you directly to our school web site.





Breakfast Club Sandwiches

On the last Friday of each month the Breakfast Club serve bacon or sausage sandwiches at a cost of 50p per child or

£1.50 per adult. Parents can purchase a buttie as they drop their children off as a take away. The next Breakfast Club sandwich day is on Friday 18^{th} December.

Web Site

We are working on a new site which we hope will be simpler to use. It is hoped to launch it in the new year, it will look a bit like this:



Our web site continues to be well viewed across the world. The latest data we have on who is viewing our site

Today Pageviews	Yesterday	Last 7 days	Previous Period	Last 30 days	Previous Period	Total Pageviews
Today rageviews	resterday	Last 7 days	Flevious Feliod	Last 30 days	Flevious Feliou	Total Fageviews
39	155	1,382	1,511	5,122	5,209	334,654
+11 (+28.21%)		Nov 22nd - Nov 28th	Nov 15th - Nov 21st	Oct 30th - Nov 28th		

Map for Beckstone.cumbria.sch.uk 5,142 total visits for: Nov 1, 2020 - Nov 30, 20





Cinema Nights

The organisation for the separate nights worked well last half term thanks to the effective of the second s



last half term thanks to the efficiency of Ms Forster. The Cinema Nights in the lead up to

Christmas will be organised in the same way with payments and bookings through Parent Pay (£6 including care and copious refreshments). The dates for these nights are on the back page of this newsletter.

The children in Reception and Key Stage 1 will be watching Arthur Christmas and the Key Stage 2 film is 'The Grinch'





Community Christmas

Current Government guidance allows singing if the children are side by side and singing forwards. It is recommended singing

takes place outside if possible. As a result we have realised that we will be able to share carols with the old peoples' homes in our area as we can stand outside and if they gather at the front of the home with their windows open we can share the spirit of Christmas. As a result 3LS will sing at West Winds on Monday 7th December and 5DP will sing at East Croft on Tuesday 8th December. Clearly these dates are weather dependent.

Unfortunately our 'Carols in the Square' community singing event cannot take place this year due to Covid restrictions.

Phonics Screening

Our Year 2 pupils will be having their 'Year 1' phonics screening check over the next couple of weeks. This group of children missed their check in June due to lockdown. The children have to phonetically pronounce real words and also made up ones. The pass mark is usually somewhere around 32 out of 40. If the child does not pass the test they will be re-tested in June following some intervention work. Results will be reported to Year 2 parents in the Spring term. In the example below the cards with monsters on are not real words.



End of Autumn, Start of Spring Terms

Please note that this term ends on **Friday 18th December** (there is no Beckstone Xtra that day) at 3.15pm and re-starts on **Tuesday 5th January 2021!**

Homework Expectations

Homework is set weekly for children from Nursery up to Year 6. We expect all children to try their best to complete their homework. It is set on Tapestry/Seesaw and this enables our child to make good use of this platform in case of



lockdown as well as being engaged in activities to enhance their classroom learning.

Grounds Development

The ranger from the Workington Nature Partnership, Susan Cammish, worked with the children from 2SF to plant a significant number of trees at the edge of the school field, Libby is pictured below planting her one. It is hoped they 'take' and develop into a wooded area.



Mr Fleming himself is developing a woodland clearing for forest school work. We will update you when it is near completion but a BIG 'thank you' to him for the evenings he has been spending chopping trees down with an axe!





Ms Vaughan finishes on the last Day of this term as Mrs Needham returns from her maternity leave in January. Ms Vaughan has been with us for over a year and has been a great asset to the school and will be greatly missed. We would like to thank her for all she has contributed to the school and wish her all the very best for her future career and we will eagerly await updates on her next role. Class 4MV will be renamed 4AN after the holidays.

Term Dates until Summer 2023 Staggered Timings Spring Spring Autumn Spring Autumn Autumn Summer Summe 2020 2021 2022 2023 2021 2021 2022 2022 2023 Start End Gate 9.05am 3:05pm Front Nursery 0 đ, 9:00am 3:00pm Front Reception Monday Wednesda Monday Start KS1 (Y1 & 2) 8:50am 3:00pm Front Wednesda Tuesday 19th April Thursday /ednesda 20th April /ednesday Wednesda 17th April of 2nd 2nd LKS2 (Y3&4) 8.50am 3:10pm Back May Day May Day eptembe lanuary May Day Septemb January temb January Term Mon 3rd Mon 1⁴ Mon 2* UKS2 (Y5&6) 8:50am 3:05pm Back Monday Monday Monday Monday Monday Monday Monday Monday Monday 15^{0} 25° 14^{3} 24^a 25 20* 29* May -October May October October February February February May Half Term Friday Friday Friday 19th Friday Friday 18th Friday Friday Friday 24th Friday 2rd 30 291 31 281 October February Octobe October Februar June Februar June Friday Thursday Friday Friday /ednesday Tuesday Friday Friday 16th Wednesday 19th July July Decembe April December April July March Decembe Term Jiary Dates for 2021 Dates Wed 27th Jan – Governors'' Meeting 6pm Mon 1st Feb – Reception Cinema Night Wed 3rd Feb – KS1 Cinema Night Mon 8th Feb – Circuits Morning Y5&6 December Y3&4 Cinema Night Phristmas Tues 9th – Circuits Morning – key stage 1 JUMPER DAY Tue 1st – Circuits Morning Key Stage 1 Wed 10th Feb – Y5&6 Cinema Night Fri 4th – Christmas Jumper Day for Hospice at Home Fri 12th – Circuits Morning Y3&4 Week beg. 22nd March – Parents' Evening Week Mon 7th – 3LS Carol Singing at West Winds 1.45pm Mon 15th – Fri 19th Feb – Half Term -**Reception Cinema Night** Thu 4th March – World Book day Tues 8th – Early Years Circuits Sun 14th March – Mother's day 5DP Carol Singing at East Croft 1.45pm Mon 15th March – Reception Cinema Night Wed 9th- KS1 Cinema Night Wed 17th March – KS1 Cinema Night Mon 22nd March – Circuits morning week Thu 10th – Christmas Dinner Day Y3&4 Cinema Night Fri 11th – Birthday party afternoon Wed 24th March – Y5&6 Cinema Night Mon 14th – Y3&4 Cinema Night - Governors' Meeting Week beg. 29th March – Egg & Bonnet week Tue 15th - Staffing & Finance Committee 5pm & Governors 6pm Wed 16th – Rapunzel - Online Lockdown Pantomime Fri 2nd – Friday 16th April – Easter Holidays Week beg. 10th May – SATs week Y5&6 Cinema Night Mon 17th May – Reception Cinema Night Thu 17th - Christmas Raffle Draw Wed 19th May – KS1 Cinema Night **Christmas Party Day** Mon 24th May – Circuits morning week Y3&4 Cinema Night Fri 18th – Breakfast Club sandwiches on sale -Tues 25th May Governors' Meeting 6pm - Educare Christmas Party Wed 26th May - - Y5&6 Cinema Night Break up for Christmas Mon 31st May – Fri 4th June – Half Term No Beckstone Xtra on this day Mon 7th June – Y1 Phonics Screening Check 3 week window for Y4 Multiplication Tables Test Fri 18th June – Off by Heart Individual Sun 20th June – Father's Day Mon 28th June - Reception Cinema Night Tues 29th June – Sports day (reserve Fri 2nd July) Wed 30th June – Key Stage 1 Cinema Night Mon 5th July – Circuits morning week Y3&4 Cinema Night Wed 7th July – Y5&6 Cinema Night Thu 1st July – Olympian Visiting Mon 12th July – Governors' meeting 6pm Tues 13th July – Graduation Wed 14th July – Curriculum Eve Thu 15th – FUN day!! 21 Fri 16th July - Break up for Summer metric and the second