

BECKSTONE PRIMARY NEWSLETTER



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Newsletter no. 4

December 2021



Dear Parents,

The end of the calendar year is not far away but school is still very busy as is witnessed by the dates on the back of this newsletter. It is my favourite month of the school year as the children are so excited by Christmas (as are many of the staff) and the school's efforts to make everything magical and special for our wonderful children are a wonder to behold.

The children this term have gone from strength and they bounce back better than ever from a turbulent year. This newsletter is packed with good news and amazing achievements and I am so proud of them all, they are a real credit to you.

Unbeknown to many of you the school has been under immense stress and pressure due to Covid with many staff having to isolate as a result. Indeed, for a time we were 8 classroom staff missing...more staff than children isolating. The remaining staff of the school have really pulled together, ensured your children's education has been seamless and have strived to ensure their enjoyment of school and learning continues unabated. They have succeeded in this and I am sure this attitude and dedication to the school has made you unaware of the difficulties we have faced. As their leader I am so very proud of my team and I would like to publicly thank them for their



unswerving commitment to providing a top class education and joy of learning at all times.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish each and every one of you a magical Christmas and here's to a fabulous 2022!

Best wishes, Mr Warbrick

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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Harrington Pharmacy



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- ❖ Free prescription collection service from Workington and Distington surgeries, for all ages
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Mon-Fri 9am-5.30pm
Sat 9am-12.30pm



****STOP PRESS****

Omicron Restrictions/Guidance Changes



Much of this newsletter was written before news broke at the weekend over new restrictions as a result of a new Coronavirus mutation.

This all has very much a deja vous feeling. The Department for Education were very quick to issue directives on mask wearing. We are awaiting further advice on many other issues and some of the events listed in this newsletter may be subject to change as guidance changes. We desperately want to ensure everyone has a non-isolation free Christmas and can mix with family and friends and will do our utmost to follow guidance to ensure this. It is to be hoped that we can continue as planned but please understand that any changes/cancellations will be taken with a very heavy heart and decisions will be taken with the safety of all school community members as the paramount driving force behind them.

Free School Meal Children & Holidays

At the time of writing it is hoped and of a firm belief that vouchers will again will be provided for our families over Christmas.

Christmas Community Support

In addition to the above we are again aiming, like last year to provide our more vulnerable community members with food hampers to make the Christmas season a less stressful and more enjoyable one. As a result we will be using the foodbank bin at the front of the school as the repository for donations to family hampers for the festive season. Our Educational Support Manager, Debbie Cook, will put these donations together and deliver them.

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. In addition Christmas treats would also be very welcome. Thank you in advance.



School Meals

As many of you are aware food prices have been rocketing, a combination of Covid affecting delivery drivers and Brexit. In addition the catering supplier is facing additional wage costs. We have tried so very hard to protect our community from increasing the price of meals but can no longer manage to do so. Our suppliers wanted to put the price up by 20p just after half term but after some hard negotiations we have restricted the increase to 10p from January. We understand this will have an impact on family finances and that the 50p extra a week is difficult, weekly school meal costs will rise to £12.50 instead of £12 for KS2 pupils (the price change does not affect KS1 or Reception pupils) and the Nursery meal for the 30 hour pupils will rise to £1.80.



Given the above we understand our meal prices are still amongst the lowest in the area and are approaching the national average cost.

We continue to urge you to take the school meal option. The cook has worked out that the cost of a nutritional packed lunch is more than the cost of a school dinner even with the 10p a day increase. So, without all the hassle for you as a parent to make up lunches every night, you can opt for school dinners, still save money and be comforted in the knowledge that your child is having a hot meal that complies with nutritional guidelines for a healthy life in the future.



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Free School Meals



Are you entitled?

If you are entitled to Free School Meals then the above price rise will not impact on you. If you have never claimed then please do even if your child receives a free infant meal. The school receives additional funding for

every free school meal child and families also receive money towards school free school meals and clothing vouchers are available for your child(ren) if you receive one of the following qualifying benefits:



- Income Support (IS)
- Income Based Jobseekers Allowance (IBJSA)
- An income related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- Child Tax Credit, provided you are not entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual income (as assessed by Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs) that as of April 2012 does not exceed £16,190. Note: From 1st May 2009 where you are entitled to Working Tax Credit during the four week period immediately after your employment ceases, or after you start to

- work less than 16 hours per week, your children are entitled to Free School Meals, this may be extended
- The Guarantee element of State Pension Credit
- Universal Credit

For further details please visit

<https://cumbria.gov.uk/childrensservices/schoolsandlearning/freeschoolmeals.asp>

or follow the QR code



National English Breakfast Day

Who would have thought it but there is such a day - 2nd December. As a result there will be an all-day breakfast option on Thursday this week.



Sporting Success



As the calendar year comes to an end it is worthy of note that our school has won every sporting competition that it has entered/has been available. This is a remarkable feat (a bit like United in 1999 for all those football fans out there ☺). This statistic shows the importance and focus the school has on sport. We comply fully with Government standards and children at the school have at least 2 hours sporting activity a week with their play and lunchtimes also enhanced with sporting activity. On top of that we have an excellent sporting team now led by Ms Jackson and praise is due to her, Mrs Walker, Mrs Chambers, Mrs Neesham and the plethora of visiting sports coaches we actively seek to hone the pupils' skills. Long may it continue!

Of recent note:

Our netball team moved on from winning the Workington competition (with our 2 teams meeting in the final) to win the Allerdale Finals. They will now go on to represent



Allerdale at the County Finals. The winning team is pictured below.

Our Year 3 & 4 bench ball teams (a new inter school competition) came 1st and 4th in the Workington competition and they are pictured below:



Circuits



'Circuits Days' will take place each half term this school year. They will be on a Thursday or a Friday depending on the day your child has their PE session. As they are now coming to school in PE Kits on those days anyway

BEGINNERS CLASSES ENROLLING NOW
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LAMPLUGH VILLAGE HALL MONDAYS 6pm-8pm	THE GATHER ENNERDALE WEDNESDAYS 6pm-8pm

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FOR MORE INFO OR TO ENROL CALL
07543 876490
(THIS NUMBER DOES NOT ACCEPT TEXT MESSAGES)

ALL INSTRUCTORS ARE FIRST AID TRAINED AND DBS CHECKED



Christmas 2021

All items described below will be available either through ParentPay or cash for the 'pop up' stalls, please support them as best you can as the

Christmas Fair was historically the main fund raiser for our funding supporter, 'Friends at Beckstone'. In addition there will be some 'pop up' stalls after school on various nights selling plum jam (a BIG thanks to Mrs Rosser's Mum, sister & Mrs Rosser herself for this delicious treat), hot dogs (£1 each - KS2 on Friday 3rd & KS1 & EY on Friday 10th), reindeer food etc. so please watch out for texts detailing these.



Main School Raffle



We are putting together 4 amazing hampers that can be won in our adult raffle (**donations are welcome from all if you feel able to donate**). As well as the bumper hampers there are many other wonderful prizes donated by local businesses and indeed pupils e.g. Harry in Year 1 has donated a family day pass for Maryport Aquarium he won in a competition to the school to support it (what a wonderful idea from a young child). Tickets cost £1 on ParentPay and the raffle will be drawn alongside the children's raffle on the final day of this term (Thursday 16th December).



Children's Christmas Raffle



Instead of the raffle ticket books again this year there is a Christmas raffle with a first prize of a cuddly Christmas Reindeer and other prizes. Tickets for this raffle cost a £1

and again can be bought through ParentPay.



Step by Step Education

THE SUPPLY TEACHER SERVICE



Nathan Doyle - Cert RP
Education Consultant

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Mobile: 07930530076

Fax: 01772 774137

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School 2022 Calendar

Our calendars were in high demand last year and are so again. There are four different Key Stage calendars altogether with children posing for their birthday month, they are previewed on the next pages. Unfortunately there are a number of children missing on each calendar and this was a result of a high level of absence

due to Covid isolations etc and the school could not put this right so please look carefully to check your child is on the calendar. 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 £3.00 and are available to order and buy through ParentPay. They would make ideal family Christmas presents.



Reception Pupil Fund Raising for School

Aiden from Reception has been making snowmen from wood (with a little help from Dad) and has been selling them to friends and relatives to raise money for school. We are all very impressed at this fund raising effort and support for the school at such an early age. He is pictured alongside with a barrow of snowmen.



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 found at;

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



If you go to the Home Learning Zone> Christmas Carols area of our web site (or use the QR code) then you sing along to Christmas carols with lyrics and music. A big thank you to Wendy Bailey for setting up this page. We hope you make use of it.





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



Christmas Dinner

This takes place on Thursday 9th December, the canteen staff do sterling work to make a wonderful Christmas dinner for over 400 people which is no mean feat. Our thanks go to them. The whole of Nursery will have a Christmas dinner so please can parents pay on ParentPay (£1.70) if not already booked for Educare.

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.

Christmas Party Day

These take place on Wednesday 15th December for Nursery to Y6. Children can come dressed in party clothes if they wish. Educare will have theirs on Friday 10th December with Christmas jumpers to be worn.



Attendance Matters



Attendance Cup

The school's attendance rate continues to be well over national with over 95% last half term compared to around 91% nationally which is wonderful given the high rates of Covid we have had. It is so very important 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 the winning class was 1AF with a 96.08% attendance for that period. They are pictured below with their certificate and trophy.



Creativity Cup



Rosanna from Reception is the winner of the Creativity Cup this half term.

She was chosen for the artistic flair and great imagination she has in all aspects of her Reception work.

The Marie Wright Kindness Cup

Billy was chosen by all staff members in Upper Key Stage 2 as his friendliness, kindness and respect for others and his consistent willingness to help others transcends not just his own class but is right across all other classes in the Stage.



Little Princess Trust



The Little Princess Trust is a charity that provides real hair wigs, free of charge, to children and young people who have lost their own hair through cancer treatment and other conditions. Asha from Y6 has chosen to support this

charity in 2 ways, by donating a large portion of her hair (see before and after photos below) and through raising money by sponsorship. If you would like to support Asha's fund raising then cash donations in an envelope can be sent into school to be given to Ms Crook who is collecting donations for Asha. Alternatively you can support the charity generally through online, phone or post donations, please see <https://www.littleprincesses.org.uk/donate-money> or



follow the QR code.

New Crossing Patrol Officer

The Mayor of Workington Cllr Herbert Briggs, Cllr Hillary Harrington and ex pupil Cllr Ryan Briggs have campaigned for a crossing on the A597 Main Road High Harrington since 2019. After various meetings with the County Council and Police, parties from Allerdale Council and MP Mark Jenkinson were invited to attend a meeting at the proposed site.



Several months later it has been announced that the County Council will employ a school crossing patrol officer at the site along the A597. Cllr Herbert Briggs (pictured at the area of concern) said "It's not what we wanted but it's a start and a step in the right direction". Indeed, the school Governors had also hoped a permanent road crossing such as a Pelican crossing would be installed.

Cllr Ryan Briggs former pupil of Beckstone added "Often using this route myself with my children, one of which is a current pupil, I'm delighted the hard work from myself and fellow independent councillors has been recognised and hope there will be more road signage installed along this route to highlight and make motorists more aware of the particular area used heavily by pedestrians crossing that section".



The campaign for a permanent crossing that will enhance safety in case of absence of a crossing officer or out of school hours will continue to be a campaign the school will support and we hope all parents will too.

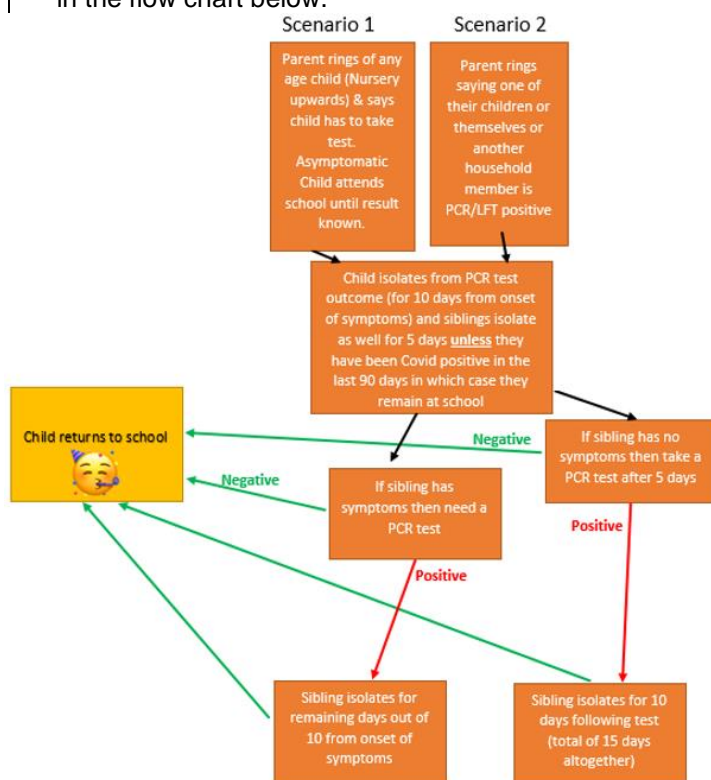


Latest Covid Update

The responsibility for following up positive Covid cases lies with NHS track and trace and not with schools. As a result, unless there is what is classed as an 'Outbreak' there will be no class sent home unless directed to the school under Public Health guidance if there is an 'Outbreak'.

Please note however that the school has procedures it follows that are agreed with Public Health. The advice changes regularly and the details of the current courses of action are described below however, in a nutshell if there is a positive case in a household then all children need to isolate for **5** days and then have a PCR test and if negative the children can return to school. The only exception is if a child had already had Covid they don't need to isolate or they have the new Omicron variant and they then have to isolate for **10** days, NHS will provide guidance on this.

The details of this approach to help address the continuing high levels of Covid in the area can be seen in the flow chart below.



Please also have contingency child care plans at the ready as schools have been advised to send pupils home if they are displaying Covid symptoms (see next page). A Covid Summary is available in the 'News & Events' section of our web site.

http://www.beckstone.cumbria.sch.uk/news_and_events/covid-alerts.html

Face Masks

Thank you to all for now wearing face masks on the paths around school and also in the school grounds again. It is to minimise the risk of Omicron spread to each other and to staff. We are aware there are some parents who cannot wear them for health reasons – **as it is a government directive to now wear them please can those people need to make themselves known to the School Office with proof of exemption or they will not be allowed into the school grounds and will have to leave their children at gates and not attend events.**

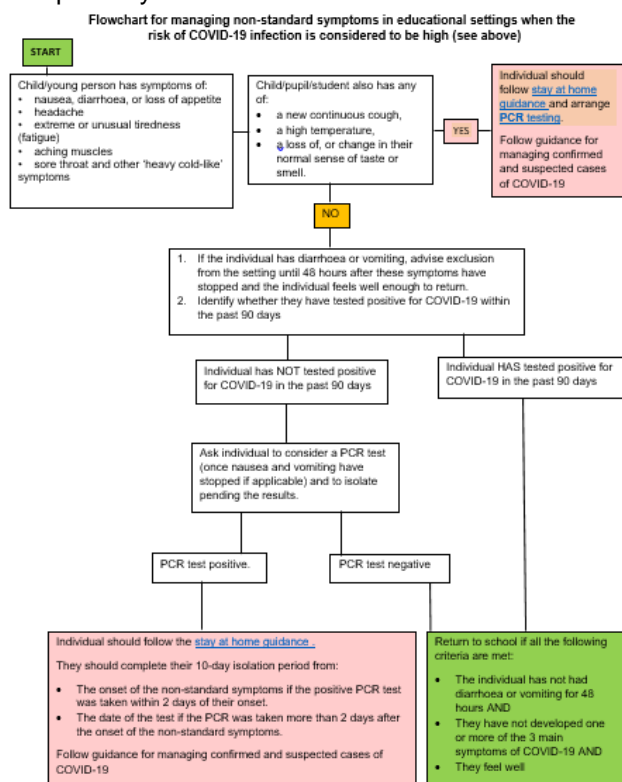


What are the Symptoms of Covid?

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 website, using the QR code or clicking here <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/av/health-54182329>



In addition Public Health Cumbria have issued the following flow chart to help parents ascertain whether it is possibly Covid that their child has:



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 'News & Events>Covid Alerts section on our web site or by following the QR code



or by clicking here <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/health-51048366>

Lateral flow tests are available for asymptomatic testing for yourselves or other adult family members, these are not advised for Primary aged children. These are available by post from Gov.uk, some pharmacies or from Allerdale house.

If you suspect you or any member of your family **including children** have Covid then you should go for a PCR test.



Arranging a Test

Testing can be arranged via the national portal: <https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test>

Food & Drink

- School meals cost £12 per week or £2.40 a day payable on ParentPay rising to £2.50 a day or £12.50 a week from January 2022.
- 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 the NEXT half term is £7.50 and needs to be paid by **Friday, 7th 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 is also paid by ParentPay and is also due by Friday, 7th January the cost is £6 for next half term
- Fruit tuck shop money from Year 1 up is again also paid this way, £6 for next half term, again payable by **Friday 7th January**.



Give Blood – Help Save a Life!



Giving blood to support others is a wonderful selfless act that helps fellow citizens. Who knows, a member of your family may rely on

someone else's blood donations to save their life at some point.

The next donor session you can book online is on Friday 7th January 2022 from 10am to 2pm at Energus, Lillyhall. You can book an appointment online.

Do something worthwhile and save someone's life

Further details and booking details can be found at www.blood.co.uk



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Takeover Morning

The Children's Commissioner encourages schools to allow its pupils to 'run' their establishments to give a taster of responsibility and accountability. These sessions give Y6 children an exciting insight into the working life of adults at the school. Due to the increased risk of Covid this half term the planned event that was due to take place on Friday 26th November has been postponed to Friday 20th May 2022 after the Y6 SATs.



Nursery Intakes

Children born between **1 September 2018** and **31 December 2018** can receive their free 15 or 30 hours a week from **January 2022**.

Children born between **1 January 2019** and **31 March 2019** can receive their free 15 or 30 hours a week Nursery education from **April 2022**.

Children born between **1 April 2019** and **31 August 2019** can receive their free 15 or 30 hours a week from **September 2022**.

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 as soon as possible.

Forms for applying for any of these intakes can be downloaded from the Cumbria County Council website <https://www.cumbria.gov.uk/childrensservices/schoolsandlearning/lss/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



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.



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 at the top of the next page – please note these places **MUST BE BOOKED IN ADVANCE**) 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 £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. Beckstone Xtra is available from 3.15 to 5.15pm for anyone who

books in advance via

bookings@beckstone.cumbria.sch.uk

or simply use the QR code.

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.



30 HOURS ENTITLEMENT

Sessions will run from:

11:50 a.m. — 2:15 p.m. (2 hours)
11:50 a.m. — 3:15 p.m. (3 hours)

A charge of **£1.70 per day** will be required to cover the cost of a school dinner and midday care.

Payment can be made in cash in a named envelope or by Computershare or Edenred Childcare Vouchers.

Please contact the office to book Educare or for further details.

NON-ENTITLEMENT

Sessions will run from:

11:50 a.m. — 2:15 p.m. = **£10.20** (including lunch)
11:50 a.m. — 3:15 p.m. = **£13.70** (including lunch)

Payment can be made in cash in a named envelope or by Computershare or Edenred Childcare Vouchers.

Please contact the office to book Educare or for further details.

Please note 30 hour Scheme can be used in Breakfast Club and Beckstone Xtra.

Cinema Nights

These take place each half term. The ones planned for this half term take place next week on Wednesday (8th) and Thursday (9th). This can provide a time to go Christmas shopping without the children! Further details will go out in the near future.

The cost for each night is £6, which is payable on ParentPay. The cost includes care and copious refreshments. The film for KS2 is 'Space Jam' and for Reception and Key Stage 1 it is 'The Croods, A New Age'



DO YOU HAVE YOUNG CHILDREN?

DO YOU LIVE IN OR AROUND WORKINGTON?

30 HRS FREE CHILDCARE FOR ELIGIBLE FAMILIES

LOOKING FOR A NURSERY SETTING?

 Beckstone Primary 01946 830423	 Distington Community School 01946 830526	 St. Mary's Catholic Primary School 01946 830433	 Derwent Vale Primary & Nursery 01900 601233
 St Gregory's Catholic Primary 01900 606050	 Westfield Nursery & Primary 01900 874000	 Seaton Academy 01900 66982	 St Michael's Nursery & Infant 01900 608111

THE SCHOOLS ABOVE WOULD BE HAPPY TO ARRANGE A PRE-VISIT WITH YOU, TELL YOU MORE ABOUT THE SERVICES THEY OFFER OR ANSWER ANY QUESTIONS!




THIS ADVERT HAS BEEN PLACED THROUGH THE WORKINGTON PRIMARY SCHOOLS CONSORTIUM

Social Media

Please keep your child away from social media apps. They have a minimum legal age for a reason. These apps can cause upset when being used at such a young age and children can type things out of context and without thinking that can cause upset and also could haunt them in later life as once posted the messages are always there.

Please note: **Social media sites have a legal MINIMUM age for a reason, children's brains are not mature enough to understand texts out of context or share things that are inappropriate.**

The minimum ages are shown below:



APPS AND THEIR AGE RATINGS

13+ <div style="display: grid; grid-template-columns: 1fr 1fr; gap: 10px;"> <div>Facebook</div> <div>Snapchat</div> <div>Instagram</div> <div>Twitter</div> <div>TikTok</div> <div>Kik</div> <div>YouNow</div> <div>Yubo</div> <div>House Party</div> <div>Monkey</div> </div>		16+ <div style="display: grid; grid-template-columns: 1fr 1fr; gap: 10px;"> <div>WhatsApp</div> </div>	
17+ <div style="display: grid; grid-template-columns: 1fr 1fr; gap: 10px;"> <div>Sarahah</div> <div>YOLO</div> </div>		18+ <div style="display: grid; grid-template-columns: 1fr 1fr; gap: 10px;"> <div>MeetMe</div> <div>LiveMe</div> </div>	

We strongly urge you not to let your children use these sites.

There is a parental guidance video presented by our own Ms Gorman on our web site which is well worth a watch. It is in the 'Parent Info' zone or follow the QR code.



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 website at

www.cumbrialscb.com the site

also has a parental information zone.

In addition to the above the school has a 'Safeguarding Zone' on its website 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 wellbeing 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 advice (consultation) and if necessary undertake an assessment of need.



0333 240 1727



0808 800 5000

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

Domestic Violence

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.



REVISE WISE CLUBS

Revisewise

Free revision classes for **Year 6 children** take place weekly on Wednesday and a Thursday from 8.20 to 8.50am. **Please encourage your children to attend as it has proved to impact on their outcomes in Year 6.** We have noted numbers have dropped recently and this is a concern, please can you support us with this, it is in your child's best interests. Children need to queue at the back gate for entry from 8.15am.

All Year 6 children should be attending

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.





The Wobbly Wand

Handmade, whimsical
arts & crafts

www.wobblywand.co.uk



Wobbly Wand's Page



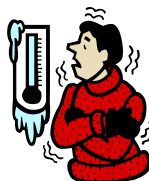
Reading



As a reward for those reading at least 5 times a week at home they become eligible to be part of the fortnightly 'Strive for Five' draw. Each year group winner will receive a book and chocolate for the parent(s) who have supported at home. Please use this as an incentive to read regularly with your child ☺

Extreme Weather/Heating Emergencies

With winter here it is to be hoped that cold 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 website carries information on schools that are closed
- ❗ CFM and Radio Cumbria will be informed, and closure details will be included in their broadcasts
- ❗ The school website will be updated underneath the 'Weather Warnings' link

School Funds

We need donations to this fund as funds are really REALLY tight. 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.



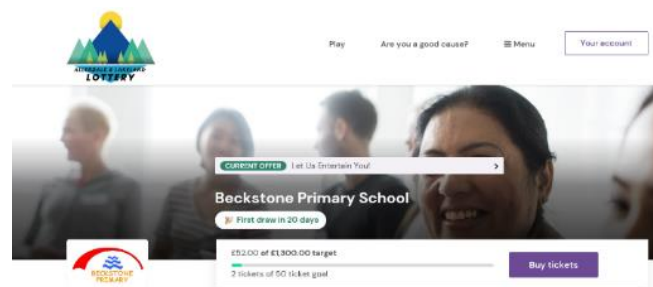
Now
we
have



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.

Allerdale Lottery

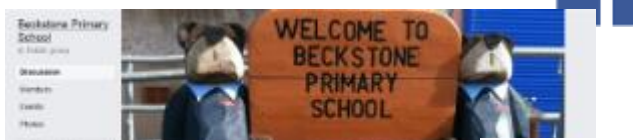
Allerdale's lottery is now live with a monthly draw. The top prize is £25,000 and it costs £1 a ticket. If you are going to play and you buy your ticket through our own Beckstone Primary Page then the school will receive **50p** for every ticket sold through our part of the site going forward. You can 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. We have over 60 players assigned to our school and many have already won prizes!! For more information and to play through our page please go to: <https://www.allerdalelottery.com/support/beckstone-primary-school> or use the QR code:

Please share this link with friends and family.

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 website 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 website 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.

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



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 once Covid restrictions are lifted for gatherings indoors 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 once these are allowed. If you do hire this venue, please let Marjorie know you read about it in this newsletter.

The Ladies Club which runs every Tuesday from 1.30 to 3.45pm. A great opportunity to get to know new people and make new friends.

Ladies Club

Tuesday

From 1.30 to 3.45pm at
High Harrington Community
Centre.



All ages are welcome to
attend.

*“A great opportunity to get to
know new people and make new
friends”*

Easy Fund Raising



Did you know that whenever you buy anything online – from your weekly shop to your annual holiday – you could be raising **FREE** donations for Beckstone Primary School with easyfundraising?

There are over 4,000 shops and sites on board ready to make a donation – including eBay, Argos, John Lewis, ASOS, Booking.com and M&S – and it won't cost you a penny extra to help us raise funds.

All you need to do is:

1. Go to https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/beckstoneprimary/?utm_campaign=raise-more and join for free.
2. Every time you shop online, go to easyfundraising first to find the site you want and start shopping.
3. After you've checked out, the retailer will make a donation to Beckstone Primary School at no extra cost to you whatsoever!

There are no catches or hidden charges and we will be really grateful for your donations that will enrich your child's experiences at school.

Thank you for your support.

Amazon Smile

Please follow this link and choose us



<https://smile.amazon.co.uk/ch/1075994-0>



To support us you would need to download the Amazon Smile app. Then if you order as normal from Amazon via the Amazon Smile app then Amazon will donate money to the school if you select Beckstone Primary School PTA & Friends from their Charity list. Please support this if you can.

How to turn on AmazonSmile in the mobile app

1

Get the app

Download or update to the latest version of the Amazon Shopping app on your phone. You can find it in the [App Store](#) for iOS or [Google Play](#) for Android.

2

Join AmazonSmile

Simply [sign up](#) by selecting your favorite charity (you can change this at any time).

3

Turn on AmazonSmile

Open the app and find 'Settings' in the main menu (≡). Tap on 'AmazonSmile' and follow the on-screen instructions to turn on AmazonSmile on your phone.

AmazonSmile in the app is not available for iPads and other tablet devices

To shop AmazonSmile on your tablet, open smile.amazon.co.uk in the browser.

Lantern Making & Parade

The following is from the Cumbria Wildlife Trust website but well worth a read. We hope that all who took part in the parade or watched it really enjoyed it. Everyone had a super time and the whole event had a real community 'pulling together' feel. There are many photos and videos of this event in the film and photo gallery of our website (in the Pupil Zone) or follow the QR code.



Primary Pupils show Cumbria's pollinators in a whole new light

Children enlighten their local village on the value of Cumbria's pollinators through their Pollinator Lantern Parade



Primary school pupils celebrate pollinators at a lantern parade in Harrington, West Cumbria © Haltwhistle Film Project and Beckstone Primary School

On Outdoor Classroom Day, pupils of Beckstone Primary School in Harrington, West Cumbria celebrated pollinators by day and night as part of Get Cumbria Buzzing, our project to boost the declining number of pollinating insects.

By day, Year 2 pupils sowed seed and planted 60 native wildflower plants in the school's grounds and in the evening, Year 6 pupils carried pollinator lanterns, while Year 5 pupils provided the ambient, atmospheric beat with instruments.

David Warbrick, Headteacher, Beckstone Primary School said: "The Pollinator Lantern parade was an absolute success. It was thoroughly enjoyed by the 41 pupils and 20 adults who carried the lanterns (including our Chair of Governors) and those lining the streets loved it. We have received many messages of appreciation at the spectacular effect the parade had. I would like to say a very big 'Thank You' to Workington Nature Partnership, the artists and the volunteers who contributed to this wonderful event. Photos and videos can be seen [here](#)."

The celebratory lantern procession provided a lap of honour around Jubilee Park, part of Harrington Nature Reserve, to acknowledge the Get Cumbria Buzzing project work done by schoolchildren, Lakes College students and Workington Nature Partnership (WPN) volunteers. They're creating habitat and nectar-rich wildflowers in the upper meadow and surrounding shrub beds, for all pollinating insects, in a bid to create "B-lines" (pollinator habitat pathways) across West Cumbria.

Carolyn Postlethwaite, Project Officer for Get Cumbria Buzzing said: "Wild pollinating insects are in trouble and need our help.

More than half of UK bee, butterfly and moth species have declined in the past 50 years, and over the last 75 years we've lost 97% of our flower rich meadows. To halt and reverse these alarming declines, we urgently need to restore wild spaces and wildflowers for pollinators."

"This lantern parade was a beautiful and memorable event to raise awareness of our project which is all about helping bees and other pollinators in North and West Cumbria. Huge thanks to everyone for getting involved, and to all the schools and communities, from Workington and Whitehaven up to Carlisle, taking actions from wildflower planting to recording pollinators!"

Staff from Allerdale Borough Council and volunteers from WNP took on the role of fire marshals and road safety crossing supervisors, to ensure the event was a great success.

Susan Cammish, Nature Ranger, WNP said, "I was overwhelmed at seeing the amazing turn-out of parents, families and friends, at both the school entrance and at the nature reserve, to support the children in the procession. I was proud of their achievements and the joy it brought to the local community who came out of their houses to support us as we passed by".

"It's a great way to inspire children to get involved in discovering and discussing the importance of nature and wildlife, and the positive impact we can make in our local environment".

Di and Naomi from Stomping Ground delivered the lantern-making workshops with children in Year 6, at Beckstone Primary School, supported by Susan Cammish from Workington Nature Partnership.

Children were shown how to create the basic lantern shape, with safety features, using willow, masking tape and secateurs. These were customised by the children, into 3-D designs based on the shapes and patterns of pollinating insects including moths, ladybirds and beetles, bees, butterflies, wasps, flies, and flowers. Others were designed with a stained-glass window effect in mind.

Di Larfynn, Director, Stomping Ground said: "We had 30 children working in pairs with me and Naomi over two days and they made some of the most impressive lanterns I have ever seen by children without a parent or guardian to support as it's quite a technical and fiddly process. I loved how good they were at pair work and how they came up with their ideas and executed them so well."

Remembrance

Hot on the heels of the Lantern Parade every child in the school made a poppy and these were placed up the school hill - a heart-warming sight that many of you, particularly in Early Years and Key Stage 1, will have seen as you came into school on the morning of the 11th of November. The school then lined the hill for a 2 minute silence at 11am which was respectfully observed, indeed one pupil asked afterwards why was it Mr Warbrick couldn't get the seagulls to be quiet! A couple of images are at



the top of the next page and there are more in the photo and film gallery in the pupil zone of our website.



In addition the school also took part in Harrington remembrance Parade, the paraders are pictured here and again there is more to view on our website or follow the QR code.



Children in Need

For those with eagle eyes you may have seen the couple of seconds that we appeared doing our 'By Your Side' dance on the national TV show. Despite the brevity it is to some acclaim that out of the many thousands of schools in the country we made it onto the show. Thanks go to all who rehearsed it and to Ms Forster for choreographing the whole event. The school video of the dance and the BBC Cumbria montage





(which included Bransty school as well) is also on the site.

In addition, thank you for your support of the event. We donated £492.00 to the cause.



Thanks also to those who dressed up, it was a very colourful day and there are many photos on our web site, some children from Ms Crook's class are pictured below:



Children in Years 1, 2 and 3 also decorated Pudseys for the HSBC bank they were used them to decorate the Workington branch, pictured below:



Global Reach

Our website has a 'Cluster Map' that records 'hits' to the site. The graphic on the following page shows that our site has been accessed well over 30,000 times in the past calendar year and it is being accessed from many areas of the world. It is really quite amazing how far the global reach of the school goes.

Workington Reds Season Pass

It is the centenary year for Workington Reds. To celebrate reaching such a milestone they have very kindly issued free season ticket passes for the rest of this season and for the whole of the 2022/23 season

to every child in Key Stage 2. The children should have received these on Friday. There is a letter inside the envelope explaining everything. Every child will go free along with a paying adult until May 2023. This is a very generous gift and we are very grateful to the board of Workington Reds. The home fixtures left this season are:

Sat 27 Nov	H	Prescot Cables	NPL West	3pm
Tue 7 Dec	H	Bootle	NPL West	7.45pm
Sat 18 Dec	H	Kidsgrove Athletic	NPL West	3pm
Sat 1 Jan	H	Clitheroe	NPL West	3pm
Sat 8 Jan	H	Glossop North End	NPL West	3pm
Sat 22 Jan	H	Newcastle Town	NPL West	3pm
Sat 5 Feb	H	Mossley	NPL West	3pm
Sat 26 Feb	H	Widnes	NPL West	3pm
Sat 19 Mar	H	Trafford	NPL West	3pm
Sat 2 Apr	H	Colne	NPL West	3pm
Sat 9 Apr	H	Warrington Rylands	NPL West	3pm
Mon 18 Apr	H	Kendal Town	NPL West	3pm

Family Support

The children's Centre at Westfield offers a wide range of family support activities. These are detailed below. If you would like to attend any then the contact details are below. There is also a flyer on the next page regarding health & fitness you may be interested in.



Visit our website at <https://www.family-action.org.uk/cumbria>

or check out our Facebook page at: [Facebook.com/AllerdaleSupport](https://www.facebook.com/AllerdaleSupport)



Happy to be Me



'Happy to be Me' is a 6 session programme which is aimed at school children (ages 6 - 11 years) who may be experiencing low self-esteem, lack of confidence, attachment problems and/or feeling insecure. However, it is also a valuable programme for children with healthy self esteem to learn essential 'self-esteem maintenance' tools that they will be able to draw upon for their lifetime.

Choose to Cope



'Choose to Cope' is an 8 session programme which is aimed at school children (ages 6 - 11 years) who may be experiencing a number of different issues at school and home, tend to worry about issues that are out of his/her control (e.g. wars and bombs) and exhibit feeling sad and upset but are not sure why. May exhibit signs of becoming paranoid about other people and what they might be thinking/saying about them.



Decider Skills



Decider Skills helps children to recognise their thoughts, feelings and behaviours and learn how to manage these in a safe way. This 6 week course can be delivered to children as part of a group or on an individual basis.



Bargain Bites

Bargain bites aims to provide low cost healthy snack and meal ideas for yourself and your family to enjoy together. During the sessions we will provide quick, easy and creative snacks/meals for you and your children to enjoy and we will look at Blooming Breakfasts, Lovely Lunches, Fakeaways, Delicious Desserts and Scrumptious Snacks.



Wishes and Feelings

Wishes and Feelings is an 8-week programme, which supports children's emotional wellbeing. This is delivered through a range of different activities, discussions and games. The sessions are based on the child's individual needs and covers topics such as: worries, feelings and emotions, self-esteem, bullying and friendships. This 8 week programme can be delivered to children as part of a group or on an individual basis

Brick Club (Lego Therapy)

Our Brick Club is based on LEGO® therapy and is around collaborative play in which children work together to build LEGO® models. The aim of the group is to help children to develop social interaction skills in a friendly, fun setting. Children will be able to practice key skills of collaboration, joint attention, sharing, turn taking, eye contact, communication, social problem-solving and compromise all whilst having fun and building some amazing models. Suitable for children ages 6+ years.



Drawing & Talking

Drawing and Talking is a therapeutic way for a child to work through their past trauma, in a safe environment. Children explore their trauma and feelings through their drawings with the support of a worker. This is a short-term intervention suitable children age 5+ and is delivered on an individual basis



Risk and Resilience

A nurturing group for children aged 8-12 years which aims to develop their own feelings of self-worth and confidence, building on their talents and skills enabling them to have an increased sense of belonging and develop aspirations for the future. The sessions look at building positive relationships with peers, and improving their emotional resilience and wellbeing.

Family Support

Family Action can offer one to one support to families in their own homes. This practical support will promote parenting capacity and could focus on boundaries, routines, home conditions, behaviour management, safety, relationships/ attachment, support to access other agencies.



Cumbria Family Support, in Partnership with iCan Health & Fitness:



My Own Guide to..... The child appropriate version (KS1- KS2) to the Live Well Guide.
Follow our character Resi (Lience) as they guide you towards empowering your:
Mental wellbeing, coping strategies, emotional resilience, eating well and food nutrients, drinking well, sleeping well and exercises at home.
Including home growth exercises to encourage families and support networks to improve cohesion, empowering the child to deliver wellbeing in a fun and interactive manner to their support network.

Allerdale MOG Programme!

"Allerdale MOG"

It's taking place at Better Bodies Cumbria House Workington CA14 2NA

Wednesday 1st December – With WOW – 4 to 6pm

Wednesday 8th December With WOW – 4 to 6pm

Wednesday 15th December With WOW – 4 to 6pm

Are working with a family that you feel would benefit from this programme?

For further information and booking, contact:

Sara Dawson, Cumbria Family Support

sdawson@cumbriafamilysupport.org.uk

LIMITED PLACES SO BOOK NOW



Christmas Holiday Activity Zone



We are receiving a number of flyers about activities available for your children over the Christmas holidays, many of them are free. Please go to our 'Holiday Activity Ideas' zone on our web site or follow the QR code. There is information already in there on fun outdoor activities at the Blencathra Centre and sport at St Joseph's. We will add any other information we receive into that zone.



Governor Parent Vacancy

We now have another parent Governor vacancy and elections will be held in January. Further information will go out in the January newsletter. The Governors would welcome applications from any parent and are keen on ensuring a broad base of skills so anyone with a financial or HR background would be a great asset to the board.



Christmas Events

Please note that some of these events may be subject to change/cancellation as further guidance on Omicron risk reduction is issued to schools.

- Community Carol Singing at various venues
- A Nursery Nativity on Tuesday 7th December 9.30am
- A Reception Nativity on Wed 8th December at 9.30am
- Christmas Dinner Day on Thursday 9th December
- Educare Christmas Party (Christmas jumpers to be worn) and dance for parents at 2.45pm on Friday 10th December
- A Y5&6 Carol Service at the Church on Monday 13th December at 2pm
- A Y3&4 Carol Service at the Church on Tuesday 14th December at 2pm
- A Christmas Party Day on Wednesday 15th December for all years.

To protect everyone and the local community it is with great sadness that we have already taken the decision

to cancel the community Carol Singing in the Square on the last day of term.

Non-Uniform Days



The final non-uniform Christmas Party Day on Wednesday 15th December. Educare will have a Christmas jumper day on Friday 10th December.

End of Autumn, Start of Spring Terms



Please note that this term ends on **Thursday 16th December** (there is no Beckstone Xtra that day) at 3.15pm and re-starts on **Wednesday 5th January 2022**.










We are sadly saying goodbye to Mrs Moore at the end of this term.

She began her teaching career at the school in September 2010 as Miss Harris, she has got married, had 2 children, has been a Stage Leader and taught across the school in this time. She is now moving on to new challenges and we thank her for her contribution to the school and wish her every success for her future.



Term Dates until Summer 2023

	Autumn 2021	Spring 2022	Summer 2022	Autumn 2022	Spring 2023	Summer 2023
						
Start of Term	Thursday 2nd September	Wednesday 5th January	Wednesday 20th April May Day – Mon 2nd May	Wednesday 7th September	Wednesday 4th January	Monday 17th April May Day – Mon 1st
Half Term	Monday 25th October - Friday 29th October	Monday 14th February – Friday 18th February	Monday 30th May - Friday 3rd June	Monday 24th October - Friday 28th October	Monday 20th February – Friday 24th February	Monday 29th May - Friday 2nd June
End of Term	Thursday 16th December	Friday 1st April	Wednesday 20th July	Tuesday 20th December	Friday 31st March	Wednesday 19th July

December

Please keep an eye out for text updates in case changes/cancellations have to unfortunately be made.

Wed 1st – Healthy Ways workshop for Y5

Thu 2nd & Fri 3rd – Class circuits sessions

Fri 3rd – Strive for Five

- KS2 Hot dogs for sale £1

Tue 7th – Nursery Nativity 9.30am

- KS2 Boccia competition
- Staffing & Finance Committee 5pm
- Governors 6pm

Wed 8th – Reception Nativity 9.30am

- Healthy Ways workshop for Y5
- YR & KS1 Cinema Night

Thu 9th – Christmas Dinner Day

- Nativity videos being shown to Over 55's
- KS2 Cinema Night

Fri 10th – NISCU Puppets visiting

- Educare Christmas Party and Educare Dance at 2.45pm,
- Nativity videos being shown to the Allerdale Disability Association
- KS1 & EY Hot Dogs for sale & reindeer Dust (£1 each)

Mon 13th – Y5&6 Carol Service 2pm

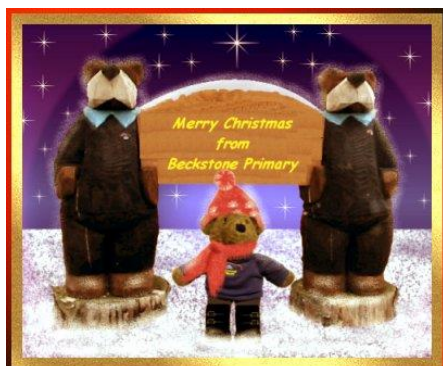
Tue 14th – Y3&4 Carol Service 2pm

Wed 15th – Healthy Ways workshop for Y5

- Christmas Party Day & Party Clothes

Thu 16th – Virtual Panto & 'Father Christmas' live event

- Christmas Raffle & Strive for Five Draw
- No Beckstone Xtra on this day



19

Dates in 2022



Wed 5th Jan – Children start back

Mon 10th Jan – Y5&6 Dodgeball competition

Tue 18th Jan – Y1&2 Dodgeball competition

Fri 28th Jan – Beauty & the Beast – M&M Prodns

Tue 1st Feb – Curriculum & Pupil Committee & Governors

Mon 7th Feb – KS1 & R Cinema Night

Tue 8th Feb – Young Voices Trip to Manchester

- Dodgeball competition

Wed 9th Feb – KS2 Cinema Night

Thu 10th & Fri 11th – Circuits Days

Fri 11th Feb – Break up for half term

Tue 22nd & Wed 23rd Feb – Parents' Evenings

Tue 22nd Feb – Table Tennis competition

Mon 28th Feb – Y1&2 Multi Skills tournament

Tue 1st March – Pancake day

- Ducks eggs arrive

Thu 3rd March – World Book Day

Week beg. 7th Mar – Intensive swim week for 5LJ

Thu 24th & Fri 25th Mar – Circuits Days

Fri 11th March – Ducks leave

Week beg. 14th Mar – Intensive swim week for 5DP

Tue 15th & Wed 16th – United Utilities visiting Y5&6

Fri 18th – Comic Relief/Red Nose Day

Mon 21st Mar – Y3&4 Dodgeball competition

- KS1 & R Cinema Night

Tue 22nd Mar – Governors

Wed 23rd Mar – KS2 Cinema Night

Thu 24th & Fri 25th Mar – Class circuits sessions

Week beg. 28th Mar – Egg & Bonnet Week

Tue 29th Mar – Y3&4 Football competition

Friday 1st Apr – Break up for Easter

Wed 20th Apr – Children Start back

Thu 28th – Class Photos

Mon 2nd May – Bank Holiday

Mon 9th – Thu 12th May – KS1 & KS2 SATs Week

Tue 10th May – Y3&4 Rounders competition

Tue 17th May – Kicky Rounders competition

Fri 20th May – Y6 Takeover morning

Mon 23rd May – KS1 & R Cinema Night

Wed 25th May – KS2 Cinema Night

Thu 26th & Fri 27th May – Circuits Days

Fri 27th May – Break up for half term

Week beg. Mon 6th Jun – KS1 Phonics Screening Check

- 3 week window for Y4 Times Table Check

Tue 14th Jun – Reception Multi Skills Festival

Fri 17th Jun – Y1&2 Kinder cricket competition

Tue 21st Jun – Y5&6 Football competition

Thu 23rd & Fri 24th Jun – Circuits Days

Mon 27th – KS1 & R Cinema Night

Tue 28th Jun – Y5&6 Cricket Competition

Wed 29th – KS2 Cinema Night

Tue 5th Jul – Sports Day

Wed 6th Jul – Reception Beacon Trip

- County Finals (fingers crossed for teams there!)

Thu 7th Jul – Sports Day reserve

Thu 14th Jul – Y6 Graduation

Fri 8th Jul – Y1&2 Kinder cricket competition #2

Tue 12th Jul – Y5&6 Tennis competition

Wed 13th July – Nursery Beacon trip

Thu 14th July – Y6 Graduation ceremony

Fri 15th Jul – Meet new classes

Mon 18th Jul – Reports Out & Curriculum Evening

Tue 19th Jul – FUN day

