

BECKSTONE PRIMARY NEWSLETTER



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Newsletter no. 5
January 2022



2022

Dear Parents,
Welcome to the first newsletter of 2022! I hope and trust you all

had a great holiday and Santa was kind to you all and that 2022 will see an end to the Pandemic and a return to normal school life before the year is out.

For the new Nursery starter parents, welcome to your first newsletter at Beckstone Primary. A newsletter is sent out usually on the first school day of each month on Tapestry, Seesaw, the website and via text. It contains information on activities at the school as well as important diary dates on the back.

The new term starts under the shadow of Covid as many have in recent months. The new Omicron variant has increased transmission and guidance has changed. There is further information inside. The main priority is to keep school open by striving to ensure that there are no outbreaks and absences (pupils and staff) are minimised by mitigating risks. PH Cumbria have issued guidance and we have agreed procedures that differ in some respects to national but are aimed at keeping all safe. **Please support our actions so we can keep the school working as close to normal as possible.**

Here's to the new term in the New Year. There are many articles relating to this term so please take the time to read this newsletter thoroughly

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!!

- Crone's Motors Limited
- Cumbria Coast Karate
- Harrington Pharmacy
- High Harrington Community Centre
- Robinsons & Co
- Step by Step
- The Wobbly Wand



Omicron Restrictions/Guidance Changes.....	3
Christmas Raffle	3
Allerdale Mayor's Christmas Card	4
Donations	4
School Funds	4
Young Voices 2022	Error! Bookmark not defined.
Dog Mess Around School	5
School Meals	5
Sporting Success.....	6
Safeguarding Children – A Place of Safety	6
Safeguarding/Child Protection	6
Domestic Violence.....	7
Christmas Technology	7
Police Advice for parents.....	8
Latest Covid Update	8
Face Masks	9
Visits to School.....	9
What are the Symptoms of Covid?.....	9
Parent letter from Public Health.....	10
Food & Drink	13
Give Blood – Help Save a Life!	13
Nursery Intakes	13
Governors' Board	14
Beckstone's Extended Services	15
Cinema Nights	15
Revisewise	15
Donations Needed.....	15
Advertisements	15
Reading.....	15
Learning Times Tables	16
Extreme Weather/Heating Emergencies.....	17
Allerdale Lottery	17
Facebook	17
QR Codes	17
High Harrington Community Centre	17
Easy Fund Raising	18
Amazon Smile	18
Workington Reds Season Pass.....	19
Non-Uniform Days.....	19
And Finally	19
Dates for rest of year.....	20
Diary Dates	20

Harrington Pharmacy



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

Opening hours

Mon-Fri 9am-5.30pm

Sat 9am-12.30pm



Omicron Restrictions/Guidance Changes

There has been much updated guidance both locally and nationally in the last couple of days. All will be reviewed again at the end of the month. The points we would like you all to note are:

- Masks are to be worn by all adults in the environs of the school. **If medically exempt please let the Office know.**
- If your child has symptoms or a positive LF test please keep them off school until they get a PCR result. If they are negative they can return to school, if positive they need to isolate for 10 days (the national option for individuals to test on day 6 & then day 7 or 2 negative LFTs in 24 hours does not apply to our pupils as we cannot limit close contacts in days 8 to 10 and PH Cumbria have agreed this).
- If your child lives in the same household as a positive PCR Covid individual they have to self-isolate for 5 days then take a PCR test.

Further information on Covid can be found later in the newsletter plus a letter from the Director of Public Health.

Outdoor Development

Further to the upgrade to the adventure playground we are now well on the way to completing an upgrade to the outdoor classroom. Fund raising over the years has enabled us to enhance the outdoor environment and hopefully add to the children's fun, enjoyment and excitement at school.

We hope you will all agree this is a fantastic addition to all the school offers and thank you all so much for your support of many fund raising activities in recent years.

The classroom reminds some of a Hobbit house or Hagrid's hut and will be used as a space to enhance reading. Once we have power, flooring and heat it will then be timetabled for each class to use





Christmas Raffle

The draw for the raffle took place on the last day of last term. The assembly on that day reverted to a Zoom streamed assembly as we had begun to see an uplift in cases and wanted to protect everybody before Christmas. The draw was done using a random number generator to choose numbers between 1 and over 500 for both the adult and children's raffle (amazing ticket sales of over £1,000).

Firstly we would like to thank our 2 special visitors who helped with the draw and to Linsey Fleet for the costumes:



CHRISTMAS RAFFLE

Secondly we would like to thank all who donated items for the fabulous Christmas hampers and to local firms for their donations of prizes, we are very

appreciative of everyone's support:

Emma Baxter 3 x Harvey Nichols Hampers
Kowloon / Hot Woks Vouchers
Joanne Frazer £50 'Hello You' beauty voucher
Debbie O'Pray £25 voucher for 'Look Nook'
Lakes Escapes pass
£50 Washington Central Hotel Voucher
£40 Galloping Horse voucher
£10 Solo Beauty voucher
Family pass to Clip 'n' climb, Maryport
Session for 1 to Clip 'n' Climb, Maryport
Lake District Aquarium Family day pass – Harry Sellors
Fearon Flowers Voucher
£20 Scarlett Beauty Voucher
£40 Treetop Nets Voucher

A list of all the prize winners is available on request from the School office.

BEGINNERS CLASSES ENROLLING NOW
www.cumbriacoastkarate.co.uk

**CUMBRIA COAST
KARATE**

**ADULTS, TEENS, BOYS AND GIRLS,
AGED 6 YEARS OLD ABOVE**

HIGH HARRINGTON COMMUNITY CENTRE TUESDAYS 6pm-8pm SUNDAYS 5pm-7pm	ST BEES SECONDARY SCHOOL MEMORIAL HALL THURSDAYS 6pm-8pm
LAMPLUGH VILLAGE HALL MONDAYS 6pm-8pm	THE GATHER ENNERDALE WEDNESDAYS 6pm-8pm

LEARN KARATE IN A FAMILY FRIENDLY CLUB
BUILD SELF CONFIDENCE
IMPROVE SELF ESTEEM
IMPROVE FITNESS
LOSE WEIGHT
LEARN HOW TO USE IN SELF DEFENCE
FAMILIES TRAINING TOGETHER

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

Allerdale Mayor's Christmas Card

The Mayor of Allerdale, Malcolm Grainger, held a competition for all Allerdale schools to enter. The competition involved designing the Mayor's corporate Christmas Card. There were a staggering 1,421 entries from 29 schools across Allerdale. To our delight the winning design was made by Kate from Y6 who is pictured with her prize and certificate. We also had 3 runners up, Lilly from Y1, Payton from 3JWa and Isla from Y5.



Donations

We would like to thank one of our grandparents, Mrs Dempster, for collecting coins and donating the tidy sum to school.



In addition, we would also like to thank Aiden from Nursery, who was featured in the last newsletter, for raising £200 for school through selling his wooden Christmas snowmen.

Donations to school are highly valued as money is tight. The new outdoor classroom as pictured earlier is testament to the impact donations can have on the life of the children in school.

School Funds

As mentioned above 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.

Young Voices 2022

We received sad news in the last week of the Autumn term that the Young Voices event planned for February has been postponed due to Covid concerns. It is hoped it will be re-scheduled later in this academic year and we will of course keep you informed of any developments. The Young Voices choir will continue practising with Mrs Yoxall and Ms McGill, they already sound wonderful and will be an asset to the concert once it is staged.



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Dog Mess Around School



The paths around the school continue to be hazardous due to the unthinking and inappropriate use of it by dog owners who are not picking up their poop. There is now a lot of dog dirt and it has already been brought into school on the

shoes of some of the users of the path. Dog owners at the very least should be bagging their dog's poop as the paths are used by children and families from the school and should quite rightly be **free from dog mess**.

Please report dog mess to Allerdale. This can be done by phone or through the 'Allerdale App' on an iPhone or Android phone. The more reports they receive the more likely it is that action will be taken.

Recently, hot on the heels of complaints from pupils, the Allerdale enforcement officers visited the school. They demonstrated how easy it is to report dog fouling (we would urge all parents to do it) and they promised to clean it and then enforce. They also delivered a poster to remind dog owners of their responsibilities.

They are pictured with Charlie and Brogan who have shown great concern over this ongoing anti-social action by others. If you know any dog owners who walk the paths please ask them to always ensure they 'scoop the poop'!



CLEAN IT UP!



If you would like some stickers to put on lamp posts/fences etc on your route to school to remind dog owners to pick up their poop please see the School office – we have a supply of them.



School Meals



Despite the price increase this term (£2.50 for a KS2 meal and £1.80 for a Nursery one) we understand our meal prices are still amongst the lowest in the area and are in line 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.



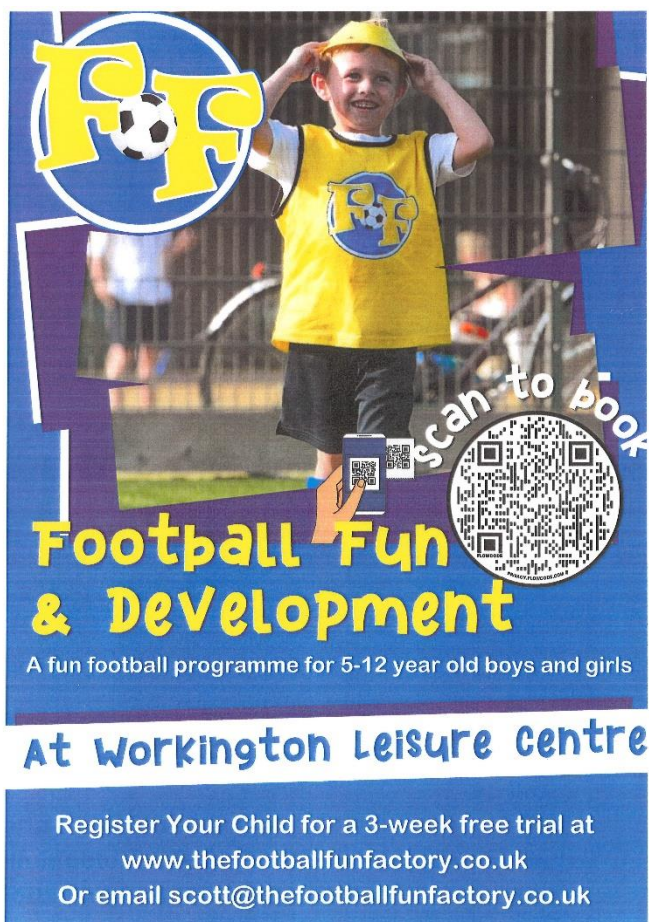
Circuits



anyway there is no need for different clothing on these

'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

days. The ones for this half term are Thursday 10th and Friday 11th February.



Football Fun & Development
A fun football programme for 5-12 year old boys and girls
At Workington Leisure Centre

Register Your Child for a 3-week free trial at
www.thefootballfunfactory.co.uk
Or email scott@thefootballfunfactory.co.uk

Sporting Success

The last inter school tournament of the calendar year featured Boccia (a game similar to bowls, boule or petanque). We were delighted one of our team went on to win this tournament and maintain our 100% record of sporting wins in 2021. Congratulations to all. The 2 Beckstone teams of 3 are pictured below.




DO YOU LIVE IN OR AROUND WORKINGTON?
DO YOU HAVE YOUNG CHILDREN?
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

Safeguarding Children – A Place of Safety

Running after school clubs and after school care requires robust systems to ensure safety at all times. Any system however is subject to human error either by an adult who in the highly busy end of the day time forgets to give out a lanyard or a child forgetting a club or a number of other factors. We do try and have fail safes in place but we recently had 2 children who for different reasons set off to walk home when they should have been in school. We have tried to impress on all the children in assemblies that if they then realise something is amiss e.g. a parent is not in the place they said they would be then they **MUST** come back to school and we will help them from there. The front of the school is **ALWAYS** open even if the back gates get locked. Please stress this to them if they use clubs/care after school.



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



The Wobbly Wand

Handmade, whimsical
arts & crafts



www.wobblywand.co.uk



Wobbly Wand's Page



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.

Operation
Encompass

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.

Security Thank You

A neighbour of the school reported suspicious activity at the school on New Year's Day. It turned out to be a false alarm but we are very grateful to that person for letting the Police know...better safe than sorry!

Christmas Technology

We understand some children, as a result of Christmas, now have access to phones/tablets. We strongly urge you to 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+		16+	
Facebook	Snapchat	WhatsApp	
Instagram	Twitter	17+	
TikTok	Kik	Sarahah	MeetMe
YouNow	Yubo	YOLO	LiveMe
House Party	Monkey		

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

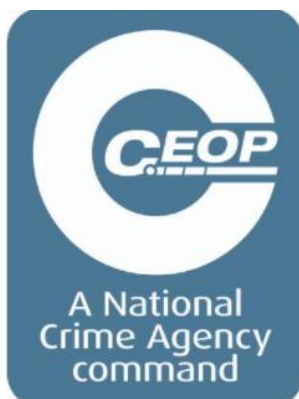
There is a parental guidance video presented by our own Ms Gorman on our web site which is well worth a watch. It is in the 'Parent Info' zone or follow the QR code.



Police Advice for parents and carers on the use of technology.

The advice below is directly from CEOP, the Police's Child Exploitation and Online Protection Agency. Please use the links to familiarise yourself on the steps you can take to protect your child. Lots of us will continue to rely on technology over the winter break, for entertainment and keeping in touch with friends and family. You can share the following articles to help parents and carers keep their children safer online:

1. [A parent's guide to privacy settings](#)
2. [Gaming: what parents and carers need to know](#)
3. [What is the Internet of Things \(IoT\)?](#)



The advertisement features the Easyfundraising logo at the top, followed by the text 'Help raise free funds for our school every time you shop online'. Below this, it says 'Join easyfundraising today and search for Beckstone Primary School'. A banner states 'Thousands of well-known retailers will give us a free donation when you shop with them - at no cost to you!'. A section titled 'Shop at over 4,100 online stores' displays logos for M&S, Clarks, Groupon, Currys PC World, Argos, Viking, Waitrose, Just Eat, eBay, Debenhams, and Waterstones. At the bottom, there are buttons to 'Download the app' on Google Play and the App Store, and a footer showing 'Over £31 million raised', a Trustpilot rating, and '1.8 million users'.

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 due to cases unless directed to the school under Public Health guidance if there is an 'Outbreak'.

In addition the local authority can advise closure if adult:pupil ratios become an issue due to staff absence.

Clearly we wish to avoid either scenario or our priority is to keep the school open. We need your help with this and your support in complying with the procedures and protocols as described in this newsletter.

Please can all parents note that Cumbria continues to have its own guidance for schools that differs from national and is classed as 'enhanced local guidance'

Please also note advice changes regularly. All school procedures will undergo a full review at the end of this month.

The current courses of action are described below:

- If your child is PCR positive (following absence due to symptoms or a positive LF test) then they will need to isolate for 10 days (the national option of LF testing from day 6 and having 2 negative LFs in a 24 hour period does not apply).
- 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 original exception for children who have already had Covid has been withdrawn as the new Omicron variant can re-infect. The option for daily LF testing and attending school does not apply to a Primary pupil at this school.

The reasons for this approach are to help address the continuing high levels of Covid in the area as can be seen in the latest figures at the top of the next page, and to keep the school open.

If your child has to isolate due to Covid their attendance will be marked as Covid related and this will not count towards their attendance figures. In addition you will be asked whether you would like remote work set daily for your child. We are happy to provide this but there have been a number of cases recently where families have found this unhelpful as they or their child are too ill to complete the work and it adds to stress levels.

Additionally if your child is eligible for free school meals and are missing out on their meal at school we will provide vouchers for the duration of their isolation.

Step by Step Education

THE SUPPLY TEACHER SERVICE



Nathan Doyle - Cert RP
Education Consultant

Telephone: 01772 713819

Mobile: 07930530076

Fax: 01772 774137

Step by Step Education Ltd

80 Lytham Road

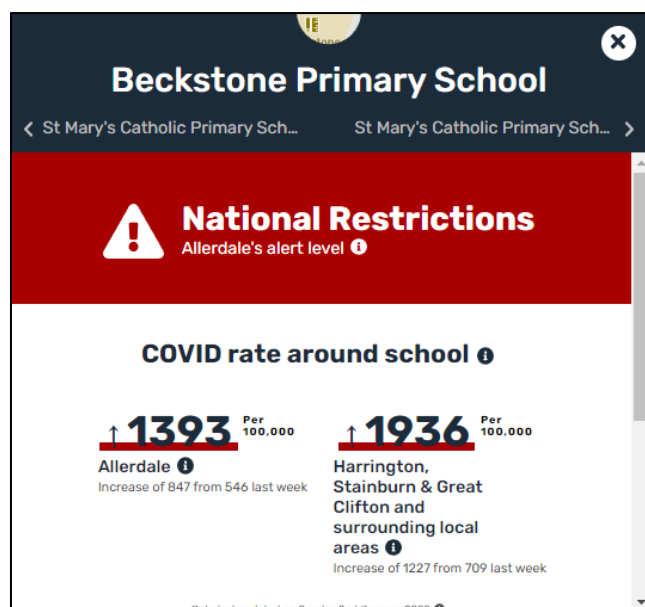
Fulwood

Preston

PR2 3AQ

Follow us on:    

www.stepbystepeducation.co.uk



The national rate for the same time period per 100,000 people was 1,338.

Finally, 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, **please ensure you make yourselves known to the School Office.**



Visits to the School

All visitors will be required to show proof of a negative LF test that day or will need to do one before entering the building.

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 still applies to the Omicron variant. 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>



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.

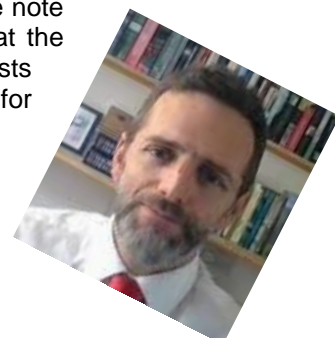
Arranging a Test

Testing can be arranged via the national portal:

<https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test>

Letter from Director of Public Health

We have been asked to pass the letter that is on the following 3 pages on to parents for information. The seriousness and importance of following guidance can be seen from this letter. Please note that the school has agreed that the 10 day isolation for positive tests and 5 day isolation plus PCR for positive cases in the household has been agreed as an additional safety procedure since this letter was produced.



Colin Cox | Director of Public Health | Cumbria County Council
107-117 Botchergate | Carlisle | CA1 1RD

5th January 2022

Preventing the spread of COVID-19: Guidance for parents and carers

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you for supporting our local COVID-19 control measures and for helping to keep staff, children, and young people safe.

Cases of the Omicron variant of COVID-19 are rapidly increasing in Cumbria. We want to limit the spread of COVID-19 to reduce the risk of outbreaks and staff absences, this will help maintain face-to-face learning where possible.

The updated national and local guidance for people who are contacts of someone with COVID-19 are outlined below. This letter is long, but please take time to read it carefully (depending on the ages of your children, some sections may not be relevant).

National guidance

From Tuesday 14 December, the national guidance for contacts of people with COVID-19 infection changed. Further details of this guidance can be found in the national [stay at home guidance](#) and guidance for [contacts of people with confirmed COVID-19 infection who do not live with the person](#).

This guidance says:

- Children aged 5 years and over who are a close contact of someone with COVID-19 should conduct daily lateral flow (LFD) tests.
- For children who live with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 (household contacts), the LFD tests should be taken every day for 7 days, or until the household member who has COVID-19 reaches the end of their self-isolation period if this is earlier.
- For children who are a contact of someone with COVID-19 who they DO NOT live with, the LFD tests should be taken every day for 7 days, or until 10 days after their last contact with the person who tested positive if this is earlier.
- Each LFD test should be taken before the child leaves the household for the first time that day. If they test negative on their LFD tests, they can continue to attend their education setting, and do not need to self-isolate.
- Anyone who receives a positive LFD test result, or who develops COVID-19 symptoms, should immediately self-isolate and take a PCR test. If the PCR result comes back positive, contacts must continue to self-isolate and follow the [stay at home guidance](#). If the PCR result comes back negative, contacts can leave self-isolation but should continue to take daily LFD tests for the remainder of their daily testing period.
- Children under the age of 5 who are contacts of a positive case do not need to self-isolate or take part in daily LFD testing. However, children under 5 who are household contacts of a positive case will still be advised to get a PCR test. They do not need to isolate while waiting for the results.

Additional local guidance for Cumbria

The guidance for children attending educational settings in Cumbria is now largely the same as the national guidance. However, there are a couple of important exceptions, which are outlined below.

This is because case rates remain high in school age children, and we have continued to see a significant number of outbreaks in education settings. These have a significant impact on children and their families, affect staffing levels, and risk causing additional outbreaks in the local community.

1. Children in early years settings (aged under 5 years)

Children who are close contacts of a positive case in their household

- Our local guidance remains that children under the age of five who live in the same household as someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 are advised to stay at home for 5 days, starting from the onset of symptoms in the household contact who has tested positive (or test date if the positive case had no symptoms).
- Children are exempt from this local guidance (and can attend the setting as normal) if there are significant concerns about the impact of exclusion on the child. Children may also be contacted by NHS Test and Trace and advised to get a PCR test.

Children who are close contacts of a positive case that they do not live with

- Children under the age of 5 who are close contacts of a positive case that they do not live with should follow the national guidance. They are not required to isolate or take part in daily LFD testing.
- If the child develops symptoms of COVID-19, they should immediately isolate and get a PCR test.

2. Children in primary, infant, and junior schools (aged 5 years and above)

Children who are close contacts of a positive case in their household

- Children in primary, infant, and junior schools (aged 5 years and above), who live with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 can choose to follow the national guidance on daily LFD testing outlined above.
- If they test negative on their LFD tests, they can continue to attend their education setting, and do not need to self-isolate. Anyone who receives a positive LFD test result, or who develops COVID-19 symptoms, should immediately self-isolate and take a PCR test.
- As a local alternative to daily LFD testing, children who live in the same household as someone who has COVID-19 still have the option to stay at home. Five days after the symptoms began in the household contact who tested positive (or test date if the positive case had no symptoms), the child should get a PCR test. If the PCR is negative, they can return to school, but should isolate again immediately and get another test if they develop symptoms of COVID-19 later.
- Children are exempt from this local guidance if there are significant concerns about the impact of exclusion on the child.

Children who are close contacts of a positive case that they do not live with

- Children aged 5 years and over who are close contacts of a positive case that they do not live with should follow the national guidance on daily LFD testing.

- If they test negative on their LFD tests, they can continue to attend their education setting, and do not need to self-isolate. Anyone who receives a positive LFD test result, or who develops COVID-19 symptoms, should immediately self-isolate and take a PCR test.

3. Pupils in secondary schools (aged up to 18+6 months)

- Pupils attending secondary schools who are either a close contact of a positive case in their household or who are a close contact of someone they do not live with should conduct daily LFD testing as outlined in the national guidance.
- If they test negative on their LFD tests, they can continue to attend their education setting, and do not need to self-isolate. Anyone who receives a positive LFD test result, or who develops COVID-19 symptoms, should immediately self-isolate and take a PCR test.

Additional advice

- Anyone who develops symptoms of COVID-19 should get a PCR test and stay at home until the result is known. Individuals informed by Test & Trace to isolate should stay at home for the time advised.
- Outside of daily testing periods, we encourage all secondary school aged children to self-test twice weekly with lateral flow devices.
- Until further notice, secondary school aged children are encouraged to wear face coverings in classrooms, indoor communal areas and on dedicated school transport unless they are exempt.
- We also recommend anyone eligible in your household gets any recommended doses of the [COVID-19 vaccine](#) if they have not done so already.

Supply of LFD tests has been a national problem recently, although the government are confident that there should be adequate supply to provide for the testing mentioned above. **If you have tested positive and are not able to "test-to-release" because you do not have a test kit, please continue to isolate until the end of the period, or until you are able to LFD test negative for 2 days in a row if earlier.**

The additional local measures outlined in this letter are guidance from Cumbria Public Health, they are not law. However, we strongly advise parents and carers to follow them, or at the very least, follow national guidance.

The additional local control measures will continue to be reviewed every 2 weeks and I will write to parents and carers again when they are revised or removed.

Thank you again for your support.

Yours Sincerely,



Colin Cox
Director of Public Health
Cumbria County Council



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Email: cronesmotors@aol.com

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Food & Drink

- School meals £2.50 a day or £12.50 a week
- 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 this half term is £7.50 and needs to be paid by **THIS 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 this 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



Nursery Intakes

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**.

Children born between **1 September 2019** and **31 December 2019** can receive their free 15 or 30 hours a week from **January 2023**.

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





Governors' Board



At the last Governors' meeting we discussed ways of supporting the school. It was suggested we created a directory of willing parental volunteers who could offer help with things such as joinery, sewing, building skills, gardening skills, painting etc. If you feel you could offer the school some time and share a skill please contact the school Office, leave your contact details and what you could possibly offer and at some point we will get back to you.

Thank you in advance from the Governors to anyone who could offer such practical support.



Hi,

Firstly, I would like to wish everyone a Happy New Year! I hope you all had a wonderful Christmas break and didn't suffer too much disruption to your plans with the current spike in Covid cases. When will we see some return to normality?!!

At the Governor's meeting in December we discussed Governor visibility and we were all in agreement that we don't really share what the Governing Body is doing to support the school, the pupils and their education. So, we decided that each newsletter would contain a short blog from one of the Governors as a way of sharing ideas and information from our meetings. We hope you find this useful.

The Governing body currently has two main areas of focus:

1. School continuity - Since the beginning of the global Covid pandemic, the majority of our meetings have focused on pupil and staff wellbeing and the school's resources to cover the impact created by Covid. We have also looked at the impact on pupil outcomes after the disruption they have experienced due to the virus.
On the whole the school is in a good place given the circumstances. Pupil and staff morale are high, attendance percentages are good and although slightly awry, pupil outcomes are good when compared with other primary schools. The pupils of Beckstone are certainly not the 'lost generation' the press talk of. Covid costs and the budget are concerning but the school and Governors are closely monitoring this.
2. The future of the school - Even with the all of the obstacles Covid continues to put in the school's way, the staff and Governors still have an eye on the future of the school.

Over the past 12 months the school and the Governing body have been working to develop "Beckstone 2025". This is an improvement programme with the simple question 'What do we want Beckstone Primary to look like in 2025?' All improvement actions are being developed, recorded and tracked to ensure Beckstone is able to adapt to the changes and challenges the future will hold.

This brings me nicely to my next item. Mr Warbrick has stated in the newsletter that the Governing Body has a parent vacancy. If you would like to support the school by helping to shape school policies and the development of Beckstone 2025 please apply. As stated in the newsletter our skills review indicates someone with accountancy experience would be advantageous but it's certainly not essential for joining the team. If you would like any more information please contact the school, a Governor you know or myself and we will be happy to answer any questions that you may have.

Finally, the Governors want to pass on a massive thank you to the staff, pupils and parents of Beckstone. Without the continued support, adaptation and hard work shown during this pandemic the school would not be in its current position.

As we move through 2022 with all the unknowns this virus could continue to bring, please stay safe and ask if you require any support.

Take care
Nick Whitehead
COG



Parent Governor Vacancy



The Governing Body of the school now has a further parental vacancy following the transferral of Kate Mahone's parental Governor role to being the Local Authority one. Following its self-review the Governors would be very interested in a new parental governor who either has skills in the areas of finance, human resources and business enterprise to complement the skills already on the Governing Body however applications would be welcomed from anyone who has strengths to offer the Body. The Governors are looking for someone who will be committed to the role and are prepared to give time to make such a worthwhile community role an effective and rewarding one. If you would like to be involved in shaping the policy and procedures of the school into the future then please ask the School Office for an application form. The Chair of Governors is available to meet with any potential candidates if they would like more information, simply book an appointment through the School Office. The form needs to be completed by **Thursday 27th January**. In the event of more than one application there will be a ballot in the following week in order for the new Governor to attend the next Governors' meeting at 6pm on Tuesday 1st February. Please note details in the 'pen profile' will be published on the ballot paper if there is an election.

Any election will again be held online and parents will need to register their email addresses to vote – one vote per parent.



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 **£1.80 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. = **£10.30** (including lunch)

11:50 a.m. — 3:15 p.m. = **£13.80** (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 month on Monday 7th



(Reception & KS1) and Wednesday 9th February (KS2). The cost for each night is £6, which is payable on ParentPay. The cost includes care and copious refreshments.

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.



REVISE WISE CLUBS

All Year 6 children should be attending

Donations Needed

The school would very much welcome any of the following;

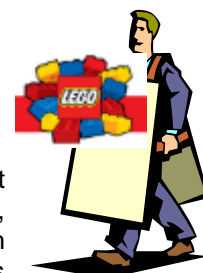
- Games, puzzles and jigsaws
- Construction Equipment e.g. K'Nex,
- Meccano or Lego
- Railway or road sets especially Thomas the Tank Engine
- Bikes and Trikes for Nursery & Reception
- Good quality books
- Comics/games for wet playtimes



Thank you in advance for any donations

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.

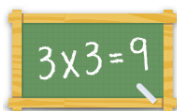


Reading



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 ☺

Learning Times Tables



It is essential that children know their times tables off by heart. It is a life skill and is something that is needed throughout life.

The National Curriculum states that children should know the 2 X, 5X and 10 X tables by the end of Year 2. The term 'knows' includes being able to manipulate and also know the inverse e.g. what is 65 divided by 5. By Year 4 all children should know every table up to the 12 X table. Indeed at the end of the school year they will face a national tables check.



Following recent pupil progress meetings internally within school our tracking data is showing that times tables are not known as they should be by a great many children.

We are now asking for your help. Your child(ren) need to know their times tables **and we are asking you to help your child learn their times tables.**

Information on how to support learning of times tables and strategies to use can be found in the KS1 & KS2 Curriculum Zone of our web site or follow the QR code. It also contains information on 'Times Table



'Rockstars' 'Sumdog' and 'Numbots' which your children can have access to at home.



You can use the times table listing on this page to test your children or help them learn, there is no harm in rote learning as the important thing is they know the facts.



There are many sites that offer free musical times tables or videos e.g. this YouTube 'Silly Songs' site offers tunes for all tables up to 12X Table:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C3PojOwjHcc>



Carol Vorderman has a site with songs for each times table that can be downloaded and played on phones, computers etc. It can be found here:

<https://www.dk.com/uk/information/times-tables-songs/>

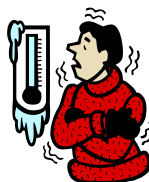


There are hundreds to choose from. Perhaps sing-along with ones you like with your children to help them learn.

1x	2x	3x	4x	5x
1 x 1 = 1	2 x 1 = 2	3 x 1 = 3	4 x 1 = 4	5 x 1 = 5
1 x 2 = 2	2 x 2 = 4	3 x 2 = 6	4 x 2 = 8	5 x 2 = 10
1 x 3 = 3	2 x 3 = 6	3 x 3 = 9	4 x 3 = 12	5 x 3 = 15
1 x 4 = 4	2 x 4 = 8	3 x 4 = 12	4 x 4 = 16	5 x 4 = 20
1 x 5 = 5	2 x 5 = 10	3 x 5 = 15	4 x 5 = 20	5 x 5 = 25
1 x 6 = 6	2 x 6 = 12	3 x 6 = 18	4 x 6 = 24	5 x 6 = 30
1 x 7 = 7	2 x 7 = 14	3 x 7 = 21	4 x 7 = 28	5 x 7 = 35
1 x 8 = 8	2 x 8 = 16	3 x 8 = 24	4 x 8 = 32	5 x 8 = 40
1 x 9 = 9	2 x 9 = 18	3 x 9 = 27	4 x 9 = 36	5 x 9 = 45
1 x 10 = 10	2 x 10 = 20	3 x 10 = 30	4 x 10 = 40	5 x 10 = 50
6x	7x	8x	9x	10x
6 x 1 = 6	7 x 1 = 7	8 x 1 = 8	9 x 1 = 9	10 x 1 = 10
6 x 2 = 12	7 x 2 = 14	8 x 2 = 16	9 x 2 = 18	10 x 2 = 20
6 x 3 = 18	7 x 3 = 21	8 x 3 = 24	9 x 3 = 27	10 x 3 = 30
6 x 4 = 24	7 x 4 = 28	8 x 4 = 32	9 x 4 = 36	10 x 4 = 40
6 x 5 = 30	7 x 5 = 35	8 x 5 = 40	9 x 5 = 45	10 x 5 = 50
6 x 6 = 36	7 x 6 = 42	8 x 6 = 48	9 x 6 = 54	10 x 6 = 60
6 x 7 = 42	7 x 7 = 49	8 x 7 = 56	9 x 7 = 63	10 x 7 = 70
6 x 8 = 48	7 x 8 = 56	8 x 8 = 64	9 x 8 = 72	10 x 8 = 80
6 x 9 = 54	7 x 9 = 63	8 x 9 = 72	9 x 9 = 81	10 x 9 = 90
6 x 10 = 60	7 x 10 = 70	8 x 10 = 80	9 x 10 = 90	10 x 10 = 100

Extreme Weather/Heating Emergencies

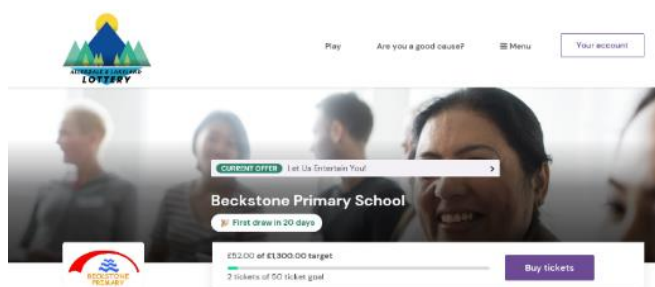
With winter here it is to be hoped that cold weather is not serious, and that the heating system works effectively. If this happens not to be the case and the school is forced to close, then the following will be sources of information;



- ❗ 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

Allerdale Lottery

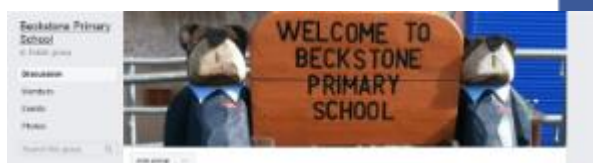
Allerdale's lottery is now live with a monthly draw. The top prize is £25,000 and it costs £1 a ticket. If you are going to play and you buy your ticket through our own Beckstone Primary Page then the school will receive **50p** for every ticket sold through our part of the site going forward. You can 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 easy fundraising?

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 easy fundraising 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.

Support Beckstone Primary School Parent Teacher Association And Friends

When you shop at smile.amazon.co.uk,
Amazon Donates

Visit smile.amazon.co.uk

smile.amazon.co.uk

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

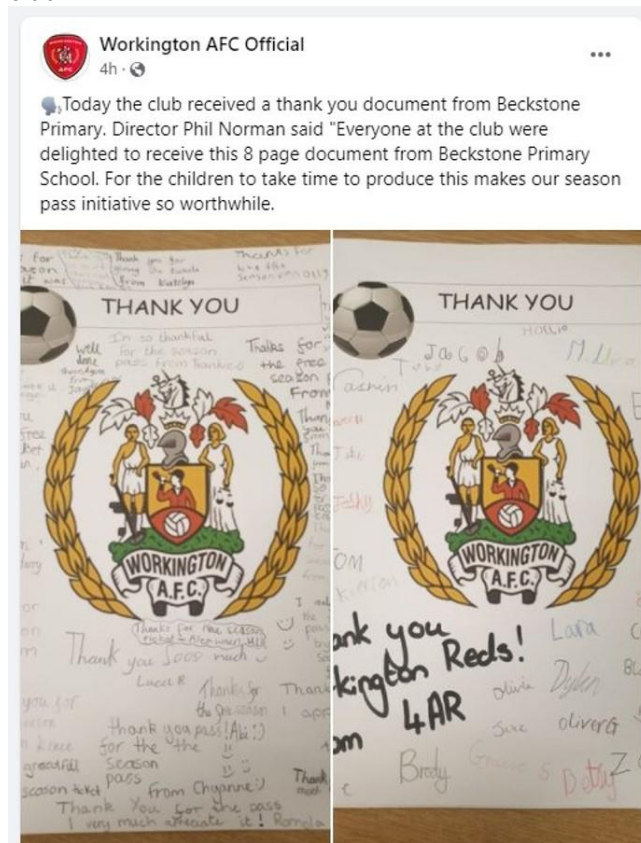
To shop AmazonSmile on your tablet, open smile.amazon.co.uk in the browser.

Workington Reds Season Pass



A reminder that for the rest of this season and for the whole of the 2022/23 season every child in Key Stage 2 received a season ticket to mark the centenary of Workington Reds. Every child will go free along with a paying adult until

May 2023. We sent thank you cards from the children and this was acknowledged and appreciated by the club.



The home fixtures left this season are:

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

Non-Uniform Day

There is a non-uniform day on Friday 28th January. Donations towards the development of the outdoors for the children would be welcomed.

Class Assemblies

Dates for these are on the back page, please note that they may be subject to change depending on Covid restrictions.

Christmas at the HSBC Bank



The HSBC bank in Workington was decorated with pictures from our Years from 4 to 6 as shown in the photo above.



Mr Fleming is now a father for the second time. His second son, Rafe Kasper Fleming arrived just before Christmas on the 13th December.

We wish every congratulation to him and his wife. He is on paternity leave at the moment but will re-join us towards the end of next week.



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

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

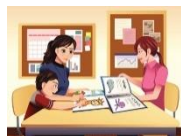
January

Wed 5th – Children start back
 Wed 5th & Thu 6th – New Nursery starters garden visits
 Mon 10th – Y5&6 Dodgeball competition
 Fri 14th – Strive for Five Draw
 Tue 18th – Y1&2 Dodgeball competition
 Tue 25th & Wed 26th – Reception & Y6 Heights & Weights
 Fri 28th – 2SF Class assembly – under review
 - Strive for Five Draw



February

Tue 1st – Curriculum & Pupil Committee & Governors
 Mon 7th – KS1 & R Cinema Night
 Tue 8th Feb – KS2 Dodgeball competition
 Wed 9th Feb – KS2 Cinema Night
 Thu 10th & Fri 11th – Circuits Days
 Thu 10th – Level 2 Quicksticks Hockey tournament for Y3&4
 Fri 11th Feb – 5LJ Class Assembly
 - Strive for Five draw
 - 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



Dates for rest of year



Tue 1st March – Pancake day
 - Ducks eggs arrive
 Thu 3rd March – World Book Day
 Week beg. 7th Mar – Intensive swim week for 5LJ
 Fri 11th March – 1AF Class Assembly
 - Ducks leave
 Week beg. 14th Mar – Intensive swim week for 5DP
 Tue 15th & Wed 16th – United Utilities visiting Y5&6
 Fri 18th – 1AB/AC Class Assembly
 - 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
 Fri 29th April – 3LS Class Assembly
 Mon 2nd May – Bank Holiday
 Fri 6th May – 4AR Class Assembly
Mon 9th – Thu 12th May – KS1 & KS2 SATs Week
 Tue 10th May – Y3&4 Rounders competition
 Fri 13th May – 3JWa Class Assembly
 Tue 17th May – Kicky Rounders competition
 Fri 20th May – 4AN Class Assembly
 - 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 – 5DP Class Assembly
 - Y1&2 Kinder cricket competition
 Tue 21st Jun – Y5&6 Football competition
 Thu 23rd & Fri 24th Jun – Circuits Days
 Fri 24th June – 2SF Class Assembly
 Tue 28th Jun – Y5&6 Cricket Competition
 Mon 4th July – KS1 & R Cinema Night
 Tue 5th Jul – Sports Day
 Wed 6th Jul – Reception Beacon Trip
 - County Finals (fingers crossed for teams there!)
 - KS2 Cinema Night
 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
 Wed 20th Jul – Break up for summer

