

Beckstone Primary Newsletter



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Newsletter no. 4

December 2022



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.

This time of year is often a time of reflection and a time to look back at the year, 2022, that is almost leaving us. It has been a challenging year in many respects, the aftermath of the Pandemic, the cost of living crisis and a crippling squeeze on school budgets. Throughout all the challenges my life is made easier by the wonderful attitude and behaviour of the pupils, the support of you all as parents and the untiring dedication of the school staff to make the school a wonderful learning environment for the children in their care. There may be industrial action in the near future and I know it will be disruptive if it happens but please remember the staff of schools will not take



such action lightly. They work so hard and do not deserve to see their pay eroded so much over time (26% less in real terms for some staff than in 2010).

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to wish each and every one of you a magical Christmas and

here's to a fabulous 2023!

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!!



- **Cumbria Coast Karate**
- **Harrington Pharmacy**
- **High Harrington Community Centre**
- **L&K Curwen**
- **Robinsons & Co**
- **Step by Step**
- **The Laundry Studio**
- **The Wobbly Wand**



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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



Sporting Success

As the calendar year comes to an end it is worthy of note that our school has won almost every sporting competition that it has entered. This 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 Chambers, Mrs Thompson and Mrs Neesham and the plethora of visiting sports coaches we actively seek to hone the pupils' skills. Long may it continue!

Of recent note:

LKS2 Bench Ball – Our LKS2 team were runners up at the Workington event. The successful team is pictured below:



UKS2 Benchball

Our KS2 team were the winners of the Workington event, they are pictured below.



Quicksticks Hockey

Our LKS2 Hockey team were winners of the Workington inter-school competition



High 5 Netball – Our netball team won the Workington competition and went on to represent Allerdale in the middle of last month. The team then went on to win the Allerdale championships and will represent Allerdale at County level later this year.

The winning team is pictured below:



Dodgeball – Our team were runners up yesterday at the Allerdale Dodgeball championships and won silver medals.



BEGINNERS CLASSES ENROLLING NOW
www.cumbriacoastkarate.co.uk

FREE TRIAL

CC **CUMBRIA COAST KARATE**

SAFEGUARDING CODE
 IN MARTIAL ARTS

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

Remembrance Day

The whole school lined up on the hill for a 2 minute silence at 11am on Friday 11th November. A number of parents joined in with us. The pupils were absolutely excellent and the silence was extremely respectful.



Some photos of the poppies on the hill feature at the top of the next column and are also on our web site in the film and photo gallery in the Pupil Zone.



Remembrance Parade



The school took part in the Harrington Remembrance Parade on the morning of Sunday, 13th November. The Parade left the British Legion at 9.15am and arrived at Church at 10am for a service and then a commemoration at the Cenotaph afterwards. The pupil volunteers represented the school excellently. Mrs Beecroft, Ms McKeating, Mrs McAdam and Mrs Holliday all kindly volunteered to escort the Parade for the school. There are many photos on the web site (https://www.beckstone.cumbria.sch.uk/pupil_zone/film_photo_gallery/2022-2023/remembrance-parade/index.html) such as the one below.



Non-Uniform Days

The final non-uniform day of 2022 will be free & on the Christmas Party Day on Monday 19th December.



Christmas time is a key fund raising time for the 'Friends at Beckstone'. The group however is aware of the financial pressures on families in the lead up to Christmas so the fund raising activities will be mainly online allowing families to spend as little or as much as they like outside of public view. There will be no Christmas Fair as such. Each Stage will be putting a large hamper packed full of goodies together so there will be 4 hampers altogether. The very kind donations we received for our recent chocolate 7 bottle non-uniform day will help with this.

Christmas Hamper Raffle
Raffle tickets for the hampers are now available to purchase on ParentPay.



Children's Christmas Raffle

There is a Children's Christmas raffle with prizes of a cuddly unicorn or monkey. Tickets for this raffle cost a £1 and again can be bought through ParentPay.



Nearer the time we will also be selling reindeer dust and hot chocolate stocking fillers amongst other things after school. You will be notified in advance.



2023 School Calendar Every Stage is producing a 2023 Calendar which will include your child in their birthday month. They are great fun and would make lovely Christmas presents for friends/relatives etc. This is available to order on ParentPay.

All items will be available through ParentPay, please support them as best you can.

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

or follow the QR code to download the app to your phone. 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



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

lyrics and music. A big thank you to Wendy Bailey for setting up this page. We hope you make use of it.

https://www.beckstone.cumbria.sch.uk/home_learnin_g/christmas/index.html



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 look 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 15th 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 can have a Christmas dinner but parents pay on ParentPay (£2.00) if not already booked for Educare. Children on packed lunches will also be able to book their child a Christmas dinner on that day if they so wish – a letter went out 2 weeks ago. **Please notify the Office if you have not already done so.**

Christmas Party Nights

Apologies for the double set of dates for these after school events in the November newsletter. The dates are correct now. You should have received details by now on how to book these events for your child if you so wish. The cost of £6 includes party food, prizes, care costs etc. Payment is now live on parent Pay.

Christmas Party Day

Parties across the school take place on Monday 19th December for Nursery to Y6. Children can come dressed in non-uniform if they wish. Educare will have theirs on Tuesday 20th December. Christmas jumpers may be worn.



Other Christmas Events

In addition there are many other events, craft sessions, come & play sessions and performances from Nursery to Year 6 all listed on the dates page at the end of this newsletter. Why not pin up the dates page that will come home with your child in the kitchen?

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 about sporting activities at St Joseph's school and many activities with lunches for those who have benefits related free school meals.. We will add any other information we receive into that zone

Reader Teacher

Looking for an idea for a Christmas present for a child that can be enjoyed again and again? A really great web site is 'The Reader Teacher'. This can be a valuable resource in the lead up to Christmas as it suggests what it thinks are the best high quality reads for children at age appropriate levels.



Simply click on the Year Group and browse all the titles. Clicking on the book cover takes you to Amazon to read more about the book and to order it if you wish. **If you do please use Amazon Smile and select our school – see later article.**

The site also has reviews, book listings by author, genre and details of new releases.

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Takeover Morning

Unfortunately we have postponed this annual event until after SATs in May. There are many events taking place at school and a number of staff absences that will take the edge of this event hence postponement until May.



Creativity Cup



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

He was chosen for the artistic flair and the great imagination he has in all aspects of his Reception work.

The Marie Wright Kindness Cup

Betsy was a popular choice in Key Stage 2 for the winner of this cup as she always demonstrates kindness to all around her wherever and whatever she is doing in school.



Food & Drink



- **School Meals** cost £13.50 per week (£2.70 a day) payable on ParentPay. This still represents good value when you look at prices of goods in supermarkets for packed lunches.
- **Milk** is vital for growing children as it strengthens bones and teeth. Children in Reception and Nursery are entitled to free milk as are children who are eligible for free school meals and clothing vouchers (not the universal free meal for all FS & KS1 children). The cost of milk for next half term is **£8.50** and needs to be paid by **Friday, 6th January 2023** 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 due also by **Friday, 6th January 2023**, the cost is £13 for next half term.
- Fruit tuck shop money from Year 1 up is also paid this way, £8 for next half term by **Friday 6th January 2023**.





Free School Meal Children & Holidays

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



Foodbank Donations



In the run up to Christmas any donations would be more than welcomed to help support the vulnerable families in the locality.

Recent events have shown that the school can be a focal point for supporting some of our more vulnerable

school families. Donations continue to be very much welcome and there is a collection bin in the green shelter at the top of the school hill.



Reg Charity No 1067541

Shopping List

Please help local people in crisis by buying items from the list below and giving them to the North Lakes Foodbank

Thank you!

- * Milk (Full Fat or Semi- Skimmed UHT)
- * Fruit Juice (1 ltr carton UHT)
- * Pasta Sauces (jars or sachets)
- * Biscuits or snack bars
- * Cereals (Medium sized boxes)
- * Tinned Meat
- * Tomatoes (Tinned or Carton)
- * Tinned Fish
- * Tinned Fruit
- * Tinned Vegetables
- * Soup (Tinned no Cuppa Soup)
- * Rice Pudding (Tinned)
- * Instant Mash Potato
- * Sponge Pudding (Tinned)
- * Sugar
- * Jam
- * Pasta (Medium bags of dried pasta. No sachets of 'pasta & sauce' mixes)
- * Tea Bags/Instant coffee (Med)



No Low Calorie Foods

To support this initiative please think of our more vulnerable community members and buy some non-perishable food items you think would help feed children and donate regularly.

PARENTAL FEEDBACK

We hope that the information on our website and newsletters are useful in keeping you updated on what's going on at Beckstone.

We would very much welcome your feedback anytime with any queries or suggestions!

We have a Parents' Suggestions box at the top of the school hill or preferably please email us at the address below.

admin@beckstone.cumbria.sch.uk

If ever you wish anything to be included in a newsletter then please do let us know

PE Kits

Following on from last month a reminder that PE Kits consist of pale blue T shirts and at this time of year tracksuit trousers and dark trainers without any designer labels. This uniform policy remains unchanged over many years. We don't wish to add any additional costs and if you have inadvertently strayed from this policy with regard to tracksuit trousers or trainers then please ensure when you get new ones that they are dark with no labels. We are aiming for parents to source them from cheap suppliers to help with the cost of living.

After a re-visit of our PE curriculum the children no longer need plimsolls in school and can do indoor gymnastics in their bare feet.

Finally, the staff and Governors have recently re-affirmed the decision to allow children to come to school in their PE Kits on their PE days (apart from Early Years where they are taught to dress themselves) as this adds a lot of additional time to both ends of a PE lesson.

Uniform Issues

There have been a couple of issues with some new uniform clothes recently. Border Embroideries issued some PE tops that were a different colour blue to our usual uniform colour. They have tried to put this right by sending 19 shirts of the right colour to replace those ordered with the wrong colour batch. It then came to light that another firm Haig Embroideries were issuing our uniform without contacting the school. This has resulted in a further shade of blue and sweatshirts and fleeces a different colour too.

We have been working hard to try to put all this right, there is little point to a uniform if it is not the same colour. Let us hope we can return to uniform colours soon.

Uniform Exchange

The Governors have set up a uniform exchange where donations of nearly new uniform can be donated but most importantly parents can order replacement uniforms for free if they wish. It is a very discrete service and all you have to do is email uniforms@beckstone.cumbria.sch.uk or use the QR code in the flyer below and send in your request, if we have clothing of sizes needed we will bag them up and you can collect them from the School Office.



Names in Clothing

We are not long into the school year and we already have lots of lost property. Please, please, please put your child's name in their clothing. When this happens their clothing is easily returned. The amount of money some families lose by not doing this is staggering when you see how much is left unclaimed!



Coats



We will soon be asking all children to wear their coats at lunchtimes and playtimes. We have an external thermometer and when the temperature drops below 13°C then coats are mandatory. Please ensure they come to school with a coat and **one that has their name in** – thanks! There are also coats available for free via our uniform exchange. To enquire simply email uniform@beckstone.cumbria.sch.uk or use the QR code.



📍 1D Buddle Road, Workington Cumbria, CA14 3YD

✉ info@thelaundrystudiolt.com 📱 @thelaundrystudiolt

Revisewise

Free revision classes for **Year 6 children now** take place weekly on Wednesday at 8.15 – 8.45 and again on a Wednesday lunchtime 12.15 – 12.45. Y6 pupils have the choice to attend either club.

All Year 6 children should be attending one of the sessions



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



The Wobbly Wand

Handmade, whimsical
arts & crafts

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Wobbly Wand's Page



advice (consultation) and if necessary undertake an assessment of need.



0333 240 1727

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



0808 800 5000

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.

Nursery Intakes

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

Children born between **1 January 2020** and **31 March 2020** can receive their free 15 or 30 hours a week Nursery education from **April 2023**.

Children born between **1 April 2020** and **31 August 2020** can receive their free 15 or 30 hours a week from **September 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

Operation
Encompass

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/ss/schooladmissions.asp> (or use the QR code) ring the School Office and we can post them out.

When returning the form we need to see the Birth Certificate and a proof of address.

Beckstone's Extended Services

Our extended services include the Breakfast Club (£4.00 from 7.30am, £3.50 from 8am) Last entry is at 8.30am; Educare (our popular afternoon child care provision for morning Nursery children – see table at the bottom 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.

Carer & Toddler Club

This runs every Thursday afternoon from 1.30 to 3pm and is a very popular club. It is a great way to meet new friends. There is no cost to join but a £3.00 levy is charged to cover the cost of refreshments etc.



Attendance

It is of the utmost importance to your child's education that they attend school consistently as learning is planned in a progressive way and one day follows on from the next in each subject. Of course there will be times when a child is too poorly to come to school or they have to isolate (the latter does not count as an absence on their attendance records). However these should be **rare events** as prompt regular attendance will really help your child do well at school. **Planning holidays in term time is to the detriment of your child's education.** Please see letter from the Council later in this newsletter.

The class with the best attendance for the first half term was 3LS. They are pictured below with their trophy.





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 **£2.00 per day** will be required to cover the cost of a school dinner and is to be paid via Parentpay.

Please contact the office for further details.

NON-ENTITLEMENT

Sessions will run from:

11:50 a.m. – 2:15 p.m. = **£8.50**
11:50 a.m. – 3:15 p.m. = **£12.00**

Educare bookings and payment are to be made via Parentpay.

Please note you will need to choose your child's lunch (top choice) and pay for this at the same time via Parentpay at a cost of **£2.00 per day**

Please contact the office for further details.

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

Term Time Holidays & Tests



There is active discouragement of taking holidays in term time as it disrupts a child's learning – see article above.

Taking time off at the statutory testing time needs to be avoided completely.

The Government however have recently announced an additional Bank Holiday on Monday 8th May, the start of the Y6 SATs week!! We are awaiting further details but hope to fit the SATS into the 4 days of that week that remain.

The key dates this school year are:

May – KS1 SATs Month

Week beg. 8th May – KS2 SATs

3 weeks from week beg. 5th June – Y4 Times Table tests

Week beg. 12th June – Y1 Phonics Screening Check



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 sessions are on Friday 16th December (3-7pm) or Friday 23rd December (10am - 2pm) at Energus, Lillyhall. You can book an appointment online, just register and book.

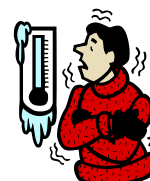
Do something worthwhile and save someone's life



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

Extreme Weather/Heating Emergencies

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



- A text message will be sent to all parents (**it is of vital importance we have an up to date mobile number contacts for every child**)
- The County Council web site carries information on schools that are closed
- CFM and Radio Cumbria will be informed, and closure details will be included in their broadcasts
- The school web site will be updated underneath the 'Weather Warnings' link

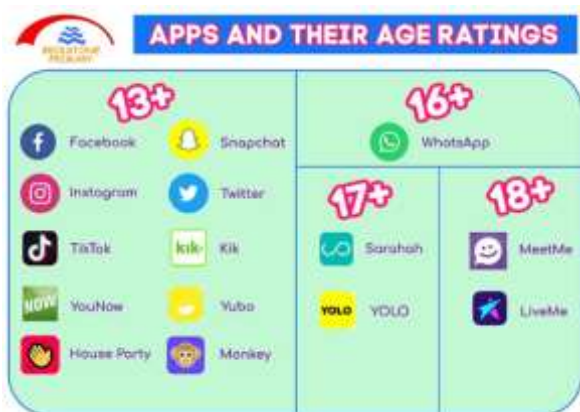
Asda Meals Offer

Asda are running a great offer for the rest of 2022 where children can eat for just £1. Hopefully this will help some household budgets. Details are below:



Social Media

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



Please protect their childhood and innocence. There is a minimum age for a reason. Please blame the school and if they say "Everyone is on them" then that is certainly not true!



Strive for Five

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 which will now precede the singing sessions on a Tuesday. 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 ☺

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 the QR Please this link friends family.

use code: share with and



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 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"

Supporting Young Children



The NHS has developed a wonderful web site to support parents of young children in helping their children to talk. If you have children from 0-5 it is well worth a look. Follow the link or QR code.

https://www.nhs.uk/start4life/baby/learning-to-talk/3-to-5-years/?WT.mc_ID=PR_Organic#anchor-tabs

Learning to talk



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.



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.

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>



**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

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.



Donations Needed

With the onset of Winter we would very much welcome any unwanted winter coats or watertight shoes in a good condition.

The school would very much welcome any of the following;

- Board games
- Construction Equipment e.g. K'Nex,
- Meccano or Lego
- Lego Classic Blocks
- Railway or road sets
- Bikes and Trikes for Nursery & Reception
- Comics/games for wet playtimes





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 accumulate in 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.

Children in Need

Children in Years 4 to 6 decorated Pudseys for the HSBC bank they were used them to decorate the Workington branch, pictured below:



Workington Reds Season Pass

It is the centenary year for Workington Reds. To celebrate reaching such a milestone they very kindly issued free season ticket passes to last year's Key Stage 2 children a for the whole of the 2022/23 season. They have issued passes now for this year's Year 3 which means again all Key Stage 2 children will have a pass. The Y3 children should have received these early last month. There is a letter inside the envelope explaining everything. Every child will go free along with a paying adult until April 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 displayed on the next page.



Date	Comp	Opponent	Venue
Sat 10/12 15:00	+ Northern Div 1 West	Bootle	Home
Mon 26/12 15:00	+ Northern Div 1 West	Kidsgrove Athletic	Home
Sat 07/01 15:00	+ Northern Div 1 West	Prescot Cables	Home
Sat 28/01 15:00	+ Northern Div 1 West	Newcastle Town	Home
Tue 07/02 19:45	+ Northern Div 1 West	Ramsbottom United	Home
Sat 25/02 15:00	+ Northern Div 1 West	Macclesfield	Home
Sat 04/03 15:00	+ Northern Div 1 West	Hanley Town	Home
Sat 25/03 15:00	+ Northern Div 1 West	Glossop North End AFC	Home
Sat 08/04 15:00	+ Northern Div 1 West	Witton Albion	Home
Sat 22/04 15:00	+ Northern Div 1 West	Colne	Home

Facebook & Instagram

The school is now on Facebook and Instagram with an updated presence!



Instagram

You should be able to search for the pages or you can use these addresses/QR codes.



Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/beckstoneprimaryschool/>

<https://instagram.com/beckstoneprimary?r=nametag>

A New Hope Cumbria Christmas party



New Hope Cumbria will have a disco and Live entertainment, all family friendly in the Youth Club building on Eadie Street. Face painting and other activities will be taking place and most importantly Santa will be there. All children can visit Santa, and receive a small gift, at no additional cost.

They will also have a tuck shop available selling sweetie cones, chocolate, candy floss, drinks, and more.

Tickets must be purchased in advance. They can bought either through their Facebook page

www.facebook.com/newhopecumbria

Or by emailing Louise at

louise.newhopecumbria@gmail.com

**The best gift
you can give
your child, is
your time.**

UKS2 Residential

Children in Year 5 & 6 had their first residential of the year on the 17th of this month. They visited Dove Cottage and learnt to write with a quill(!). They stayed at an amazing Youth Hostel at Ambleside. The following day was spent 'Tree Top Trekking', on trampolines, using forest skills and having a go at archery at Brockhole. The children were amazing, really enjoyed it and their behaviour was absolutely exemplary. There are over 400 photos in the film and photo gallery in the parent zone of our web site..... (https://www.beckstone.cumbria.sch.uk/pupil_zone/film_photo_gallery/2022-2023/uks2-residential/index.html).

A photo of the group in front of the Youth Hostel is below as well as a 'Tree Top' photo.



End of Autumn, Start of Spring Terms

Please note that this term ends on **Tuesday 20th December** (there is no Beckstone Xtra that day) at 3.15pm and re-starts on **Wednesday 4th January 2023**.



Apprentice Award

The school received an award for being an excellent placement provider for Apprentices. It is nice to be recognised for providing education over and above the age range of the school. We also provide placements for trainee graduate teachers and help them hone their skills too.



Healthy Habits 4 Life

Healthy Habits 4 Life is a **FREE** programme run by the Public Health 5-19 team for families in Cumbria with children in Reception to Year 7 who want to make the change to a healthier lifestyle. Families will be offered 1:1 support and advice on a range of areas:



A Public Health Practitioner will arrange to meet with you at a time and place to suit you and your family, this could be in your own home, at school or via video and will work with you over a number of weeks.

If you would like to know more or want your child to be included please contact us via the E-School Nurse clinic E-SchoolNurse@ncic.nhs.uk

happierhealthiercommunities

Leave of Absence in Term Time

The County have asked us to share the letter on the next page about taking holidays in term time. Please, please, please put your child's education ahead of holidays.

Dear Parent/Carer

November 2022

LEAVE OF ABSENCE IN TERM TIME

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

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

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

All unauthorised absences, including holidays that have not been sanctioned by the Headteacher, are accumulated and parents who fail to ensure regular attendance of their children at school can be issued with a Fixed Penalty Notice. The amount is £80 if paid within 21 days and £120 if paid between 21 and 28 days. It is therefore essential that parents take this into account if they are thinking of a family holiday in term-time.

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

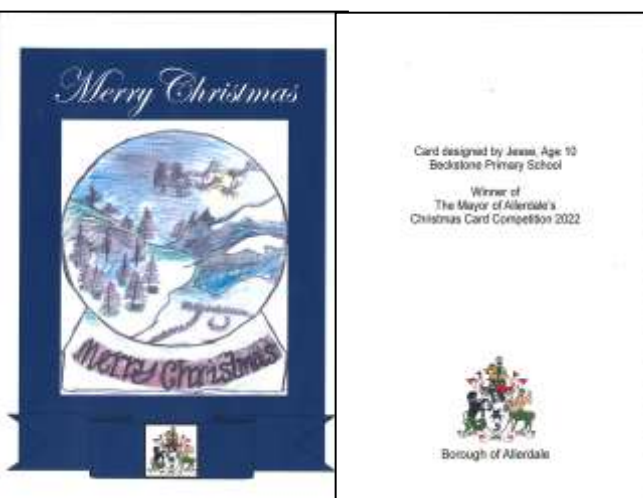
Many people are working very hard to help your child to succeed. I trust you will support us in this matter, in partnership with your child's school.

Yours sincerely



Daniel Barton
Assistant Director – Education & Skills

winner too, Jesse from year 6. She can be seen being presented with her prize and the actual card is pictured too.



The Workington M.P.'s, Mark Jenkinson, Christmas Card competition was also won by one of our pupils, Remi from Year 3. She hasn't been presented with her prize yet.

Christmas Card Winners



Our children did very well in a series of Christmas card Competitions.

The Mayor of Workington, Councillor Denise Rollo, chose Erin from Y6 as the main runner up in her competition. She won a hamper of goodies and was invited to join in the switching on of the Christmas lights ceremony in Workington on Saturday 26th November. Erin is pictured receiving her prize alongside.

The Mayor of Allerdale's competition is the last ever as Allerdale will not exist this time next year. There were a number of runners up from the school and the actual

We are amazed we did so well. Thanks to all the children who took part.

M.P.'s Christmas Book

We understand Mark Jenkinson will be sending every pupil a book for Christmas. We don't have any more details as yet but we will let you know more via other means when they arrive,



Christmas Card Post Boxes will go out for internal mail on Monday 5th December for any children wishing to send cards to friends in the school. Cards can be home-made or purchased (you can get cheap boxes of cards from many retailers e.g. 50 for £2 from Asda)



CHILDREN ARE MADE READERS ON THE LAPS OF THEIR PARENTS.

Diary Dates

December

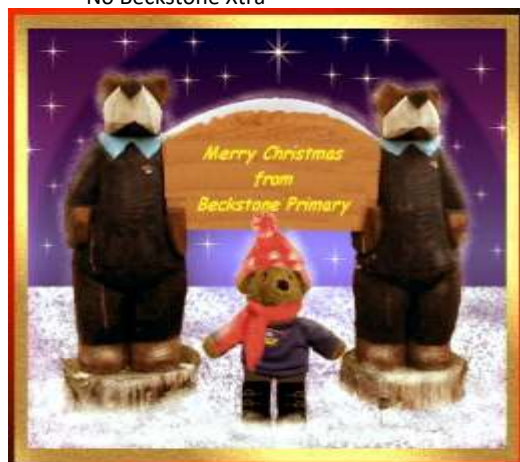
- Fri 2nd – Reception Whinlatter Trip
 - Nursery Nativity for parents 9.30am
- Mon 5th – New to school 2023 Reception Parents' Tour 3.30pm
 - Christmas Post Boxes go out.
 - Reception Party Night
- Tue 6th – Strive for Five Draw
 - Inclusive Boccia Completion, St Joseph's, 12-2.30pm
- Wed 7th – Reception Christmas Nativity 2pm
- Thu 8th – Reception Christmas Nativity 9.30am
 - LKS2 Carol Service 'Babushka' 2pm at St Mary's on the hill
 - Reception Nativity for Harrington Over 55's 2pm
- Fri 9th – UKS2 Carol Service 2pm at St Mary's on the hill
- Mon 12th – Reception Party Night until 5.15pm
- Tue 13th Dec – Y4 singing at the Galloping Horse for East Croft
 - UKS2 Christmas Crafts with parents 1.30pm
 - KS1 Party Night until 5.15pm
- Wed 14th – Autumn Governor Challenge Day,
 - Staffing & Finance (2.30pm) &
 - KS1 Christmas Crafts with parents 1.30pm
 - Gov's meeting 3.30pm
- Thu 15th – Christmas Dinner Day
 - LKS2 Party Night until 5.15pm
 - Christmas Raffle Draw 2pm
- Fri 16th – KS1 Nativity for parents 9.30am or 2.15pm
 - Y6 Victorian Christmas at the Helena Thompson Museum
 - UKS2 Party Night until 5.15pm
- Mon 19th – Christmas Party Day & non-uniform
 - Y2 Nativity for Allerdale Disability Association
- Tue 20th – Strive for Five Draw
 - Carols in the Square 10.30am
 - Educare Party
 - No Beckstone Xtra



Whinlatter



CHALLENGE



Term Dates until Summer 2024

	Autumn 2022	Spring 2023	Summer 2023	Autumn 2023	Spring 2024	Summer 2024
Start of Term	Wednesday 7 th September	Wednesday 4 th January	Monday 17 th April May Day – Mon 1 st	Wednesday 6 th September	Wednesday 3 rd January	Tuesday 16 th April May Day – Mon 1 st
Half Term	Monday 24 th October – Friday 28 th October	Monday 20 th February – Friday 24 th February	Monday 29 th May – Friday 2 nd June	Monday 23 rd October – Friday 27 th October	Monday 12 th February – Friday 16 th February	Monday 27 th May – Friday 31 st May
End of Term	Tuesday 20 th December	Friday 31 st March	Wednesday 19 th July	Tuesday 18 th December	Thursday 28 th March	Friday 19 th July

Dates for 2023

- Wed 11th – UKS2 Dodgeball Competition, Lakes College
- Tue 17th Jan – KS1 Dodgeball Competition
- Fri 20th Jan – Year 5 Assembly
- Fri 27th Jan – Aladdin, M&M Productions 9.30am
- Fri 3rd Feb – 4AN Class Assembly
- Tue 7th Feb – KS2 Dodgeball Competition
 - Governors Meeting
- Wed 8th Feb – Y3&4 Multi Sport Festival
- Fri 10th Feb – 1AF Class Assembly
- Mon 13th Feb – R&KS1 Cinema Night
- Tue 14th Feb – UKS2 Table Tennis Competition
- Wed 15th Feb – KS2 Cinema Night
- Half Term**
- Wed 1st Mar – Y1&2 Multi Skills Festival
- Thu 2nd Mar – World Book Day
- Fri 10th Mar – 3SF Class Assembly
- Sun 19th Mar – Mother's Day
- Tue 21st Mar – Y5&6 Dodgeball, Lakes College
- Wed 22nd & Thu 23rd Mar – Parents' Evenings (N to Y6)
- Fri 24th Mar – 1/2RM Class Assembly
- Week beg. 27th Mar – Egg & Bonnet Design Week
- Tue 28th Mar – LKS2 Football Competition
 - Spring Governor Challenge Day & Governors
- Wed 29th March – KS1 Easter Cheesecake making with parents
- Fri 31st Mar – Egg Dumping Final
- Easter Holidays**
- Thu 27th Apr – Class Photos
- Fri 28th Apr – 4DP Class Assembly
- Mon 1st May – Bank Holiday
- May – KS1 SATs Month**
- Week beg. 8th May – KS2 SATs**
- Tue 8th May – LKS2 Rounders Competition
- Wed 10th May – Y1&2 Football Competition
- Tue 16th May – Summer Governor Challenge Day, Staffing & Finance & Main Governors
- Week beg. 22nd May – Whinlatter Field Trip Week
- Mon 22nd May – Y5&6 Kwik Cricket
- Tue 23rd May – KS1 Football Competition
- Half Term**
- 3 weeks from week beg. 5th June – Y4 Times Table tests**
- Week beg. 12th June – Y1 Phonics Screening Check Week**
- Wed 7th & Thu 8th – UKS2 Liverpool Residential
- Thu 8th & Fri 9th Jun – EY Come & Play
- Week beg 12th Jun – Intensive Swim Week – Y6 class
- Tue 13th Jun – Reception Multi Skills Competition
- Fri 16th Jun – Y1&2 Kinder Cricket Festival
- Sun 18th Jun – Father's Day
- Week beg. 19th June – Intensive Swim Week – Y5/6 class
- Tue 20th Jun – UKS2 Football Competition
- Week beg. 26th Jun – Intensive Swim Week – 5 class
- Tue 27th Jun – Sports Day
- Thu 29th Jun – Sports Day Reserve
- Mon 3rd July – Swimming Gala Practice
- Tue 4th July – Large Schools Swimming Gala
- Thu 6th July – KS1 Picnic with parents
- Fri 7th July – Y1&2 Kinder Cricket Festival
- Tue 11th Jul – UKS2 Tennis
 - Curriculum Committee & Main Governors
- Thu 13th July – Meet new classes morning part 1
 - Y6 Graduation
- Fri 14th July – Meet new classes' morning part 2
- Mon 17th Jul – Reports Out & Curriculum Evening
- Tue 18th – FUN day
- Wed 19th Jul – School Year Ends

