

# Beckstone Primary Newsletter



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Newsletter no. 9

June 2025



Dear Parents,

We are sending the June newsletter out early as there is information about 10p swims over half term and also important updates on the kitchen fire, entry and exit information and lunches we thought you may like to know before next half term starts.

Whilst the first half term of summer has been intense with many major events the next half term is extremely busy as witnessed by the many dates on the back page, please keep them somewhere safe so you can keep up to speed with what is happening at school.

You will receive notification soon of our annual parental questionnaire. Please can you spare a couple of minutes to complete it, it would really help us.

We have been very lucky recently with the good weather. Fingers crossed this continues for the Sports Day and the summer trips. I am sure I will get to see many of you at least one of the events that will be taking place soon.

Finally, this is the half term your child will receive their end of term report. This is an important document and summarises their progress and attainment over the year, in addition to the report parents in Y6 will receive data summaries too. There will be more information in the next newsletter.

Hoping you have a wonderful half term,

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**
- **Robinsons & Co**
- **The Wobbly Wand**
- **Premier Blinds and Curtains**



Fire/Explosion.....	2
School Lunches .....	3
Start and end of the Day Routines .....	4
Mobile Phones and Smart Watches .....	4
Social Media & Pupils .....	4
Social Media & Parents .....	5
Arabella .....	5
Bingo Night .....	5
Governors' Board .....	6
Governors Blog .....	6
New Parent Governor .....	6
Attendance Cup Winners & 100% Certificates .....	7
Holidays & Fines .....	7
Revisewise .....	7
Sporting Success Continues .....	8
Blain Rooney Sporting Trophy .....	8
Sporting Value Trophies .....	9
Annual Parents' Questionnaire .....	9
Workington Academy Transition .....	10
Statutory tests .....	10
Sports Day .....	11
Be Sun Wise .....	11
Duck Race .....	11
Give Blood – Help Save a Life! .....	11
Nursery Intakes .....	12
Food & Drink .....	12
Summer Camp .....	12
Non-Uniform Day .....	12
Beckstone's Extended Services .....	13
Foodbank Donations .....	13
Safeguarding/Child Protection .....	14
Strive for Five .....	14
Advertisements .....	14
100 Years of Vulcans Park .....	14
Class Photos.....	14
The Marie Wright Kindness Cup .....	15
Holiday Activities .....	15
Donations Needed.....	15
Intensive Swims.....	15
Messy Mary's at St Mary's Harrington .....	15
The Creativity Cup .....	16
Facebook & Instagram.....	16
The Community Chamipons Cup .....	17
School Funds .....	17
And Finally .....	17
Diary Dates .....	18

## Harrington Pharmacy



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- ❖ 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



### **Fire/Explosion**

In the early hours of Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> April, the motor of an industrial fridge that kept the pupils' milk cold overheated and went on fire which then caused the gases in the cooling system to explode and it blew the fridge door across the room. The explosion gave out tremendous heat melting microwaves, plastic plumbing pipes and covering the



whole kitchen in soot and a sticky black grime.

This was a very rare event, all equipment is regularly tested and we fully comply with all regulations (this was checked by the Fire Service after the event).



The soot and grime spread through the ceiling voids and covered a number of offices and 2 classrooms in soot, there was also a very pungent smell across the school. To ensure the safety of all and being unable to

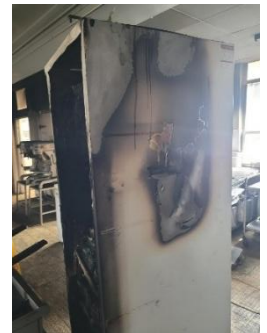
fulfil the statutory duty of providing food the school had no choice but to close on that day.



An example of the heat was the clock, which was well away from the



fridge also melted and the likeness to 'The Persistence of Memory' by Salvador Dali was uncanny.



We were commended by the County for opening the following day, it was assumed we would be closed for at least a couple of weeks. As always, we strive to stay open in order to prioritise teaching and learning.

The staff team worked extremely hard on that Wednesday cleaning everything across the school and making it fit to open. An amazing team putting pupils and their families first!

The school has a statutory duty to provide food for pupils as there must be free school meals for all infants and benefit eligible pupils, we then had to very quickly solve the issue of having no kitchen with no time to organise alternative provision. On that Wednesday we turned the Rainbow Room into a makeshift kitchen so we could feed children the following day and hoped all would appreciate the effort that went into this and would bear with us as we work with the catering provider to enhance what we can offer which we have been doing. A big thank you also goes to Caterlink, the caterers, for also working so quickly and effectively to ensure we could quickly re-open. Given the lack of a kitchen the contracted compliance to national standards for on-site lunches had to be temporarily revised with the aim of restoring them fully as soon as practically possible.

Moving forward the whole fabric and contents of the kitchen needs cleaning and/or replaced. This will not be a quick fix as is witnessed by the photos on this page. The hope is that it will be operational from September but there is no guarantee, we all need to keep our fingers crossed.

The builders, cleaning contractors, ceiling specialists etc will need access for their lorries, workmen, welfare facilities over next half term. As a result, the temporary use of the front yard as a car park will continue until at least the summer holidays. We apologise for any inconvenience this may cause but it is out of our hands.

## School Lunches

Following on from the fire we understand there has been some disquiet about lunch provision in some areas. This is disappointing as the school worked so hard to re-open and continue a meals service against huge odds.

There are national standards for school dinners and for packed lunches. These have been in force since the school opened and indeed are adopted by the vast majority of schools in England.

The school dinner standards clearly have had to be temporarily compromised with a view to restoring them as quickly as possible. These standards seem in some quarters to be being confused with packed lunch standards. School dinner items such as cakes and biscuits which are offered on occasion contain minimal sugar and vegetables are used even in the recipes. All meals are checked for nutritional compliance and are subject to rigorous standards underpinned by promoting healthy eating as well as ensuring items have reduced salt and sugar and very little oil is used in the production of any items. Also as far as is possible fresh produce is used. The caterers have been able to offer a variety of choices and cater for individual and medical needs and are striving to continue to do so in the challenging situation we find ourselves in.

We have also learnt that there have been comments on WhatsApp groups that the school does not comply to standards at events such as party nights and fun days. These are 'one off' events and are not daily provisions so different guidance applies.

The use of WhatsApp by parents' groups to criticise school is very hurtful to staff and will be covered later. If as a parent, you have a concern then please contact school rather than moan to other parents without seeking the reasoning behind actions first.

As a school we have always had a policy to adhere to the recommendations of the School Food Trust to ensure healthy lifestyles and long-term health and the packed lunch information we have shared is national guidance and used by the vast majority of schools.

There has been NO change to school policy and the packed lunch policy has not been impacted by the fire. Very sadly there has been a lot of pupils that have moved to packed lunches as a result of the kitchen fire, this is disappointing as we had hoped parents

would appreciate the immense work and effort, we are going to in order to make things as right as we can in this situation. We are in a contract and had hoped our budget would not be impacted by many moving to packed lunches so there will be less now to spend elsewhere.

The standards for packed lunches are very clear. Lunch boxes should contain items from the 4 food groups shown and there are items which if eat daily would be very detrimental to long term health so are not allowed.



In addition, for health and safety reasons no hot food is allowed to be brought in.

The Food standards are there for a reason, for example eating one packet of crisps daily will result in your child drinking around 5 litres of oil a year and therefore potential health issues in the long run. While occasional consumption might not be a major concern, regular, daily consumption can lead to excess salt, fat, and calorie intake, potentially impacting weight management and overall health.



The packed lunch policy has been compromised on many occasions since the fire and there have been fizzy drinks, Lucozade, packets of chocolates, crisps, chocolate biscuits, cakes and chewy sweets! As a result, as we are inspected for food, we have had to remind parents of what is allowed, this is not a campaign against packed lunches but a reminder of a policy that has been in place for many years.

There are schools including one in Workington who do not allow packed lunches, that is not a road we want to go down but non-compliance and the WhatsApp chatter may lead to such a move in the future. If as a parent you don't want your child to have the current developing meal offer and don't like the packed lunch policy you can collect your child and take them home for their lunch, this is a parental option.

The menus for on-site meals are changing regularly as the caterer is able to put in place infrastructures and transport that allow other kitchens to be used (currently a big thank you to Westfield for the use of their ovens). The menus are available on our web site [https://www.beckstone.cumbria.sch.uk/parents\\_info/school-meals/2024-2025/summer-2025.pdf](https://www.beckstone.cumbria.sch.uk/parents_info/school-meals/2024-2025/summer-2025.pdf)



W/C 02/06/2025	Hot baguette: cheese & ham or turkey & gravy with sweetcorn Selection of sandwiches Pudding of the day	Spaghetti Bolognese Selection of sandwiches Pudding of the day	Hot sausage sandwich with wedges & beans Selection of sandwiches Pudding of the day	Cheese & tomato pizza with summer salad Selection of sandwiches Pudding of the day	Chicken bites, chips & peas Selection of sandwiches Pudding of the day

and these are updated as soon as we have them. As you will see from above, we are able to offer more hot food options and this will continue to develop.

### Start and end of the Day Routines

As you will have read in the section above on the fire the recent changes to the start and end of the day will remain until the end of the term for the reasons described in that section.

If you have a blue badge and need vehicular access then please see the Office otherwise please can any other vehicles not enter the site at these times and please can Nursery children collected over lunchtime also not come in cars due to the current restrictions on car park space.



### Mobile Phones and Smart Watches

A reminder that the school does not allow mobile phones on site unless exceptional circumstances have been

agreed and they are stored in the Office. Smart watches are not allowed at all. In line with Government guidance the school has the right to randomly check bags etc and confiscate any items. Confiscated items will be returned only to the parent and a further breach will result in a temporary exclusion.

### Social Media & Pupils

National surveys of Headteachers are showing that the use of social media by children underage for the social media apps they are using are causing widespread problems of bullying, deteriorating mental health and conflicts. Why expose your child to any of this???

Despite regular items about this in this newsletter we are continuing to get pupils who are upset at what has happened to them on a social media. It is not the role of

school to be sorting out things that have

happened outside school but with

the sadness and upset it causes

there are times it can't be

avoided and wastes valuable

learning time.

The school is a member of the

National College for Education

have released a plethora of parental

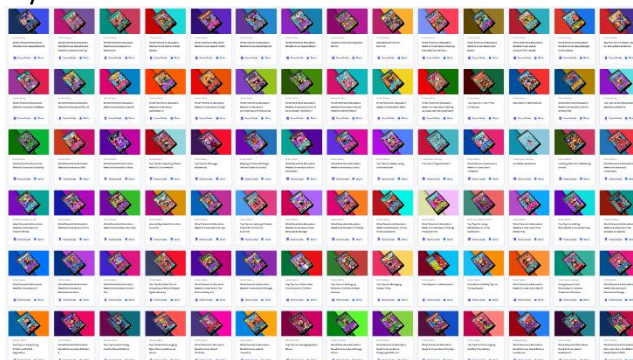
help guides for social media and

online safety with topics such as setting

parental controls on iOS or android, the

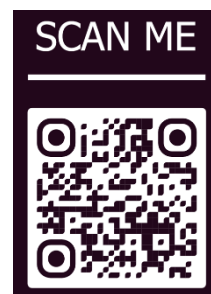
dangers of making friends online, advice on WhatsApp, Bluesky, Instagram, Marvel rivals, Roblox, Minecraft, Zepeto and much much more. In addition, there are also guides to support children's mental health.

They are well worth a look and are available to all our



parents. Follow this link or the QR code to see what is available.

<https://nationalcollege.com/library?sortBy=relevance&phase=2&types%5B0%5D=App%5CModels%5CResource&amount=24&selectedView=grid>





## Social Media & Parents

Related to the above article is the use of social media by parents to sound off about school issues. There are clear procedures in place if you have concerns about the school, resorting to social media is not one of these. Again, misuse will NOT be tolerated and action will be taken against 'keyboard warriors' who spread mistruths about the school. If you are witness to any of this please let us know and we can take appropriate action and we will keep your information/identity confidential.

Please also remember the detrimental impact it can have on staff mental health who work so hard to provide the best learning environment they can for your child. Please note the quote on the poster above.

## Arabella

We had a memorial assembly in school today for Arabella. She is missed greatly as she was such an integral part of school life and an asset to it.

The children have coped very well with this bereavement sharing thoughts, talking issues through, celebrating memories and preparing for the assembly has helped them and has developed their resilience, acceptance and positivity. To celebrate her life was a very moving experience for all. If your child has any worries or concerns following this please do

talk them through with them and if you need our support to help them, please let us know.



We still await the land transfer of the gifted allotment and an easement on its use to begin to plan an Arabella Adventure Area. We hope to install an adventure area to be enjoyed by all the children, a vibrant colourful area full of life like Arabella herself. We will be sharing lots of information about this

development over the coming months.

The generosity of many businesses in the area who have already donated funding for it has been very moving and heartwarming. There will be more about this in subsequent newsletter but in a nutshell over £6,000 has already been raised! Some of that money is a result of a sponsored event by one of our pupils – see the Community Champion Cup later.

## Summer Party Nights

These take place each term. The ones planned for this half term take place next month on Summer Party Nights;

YR-Monday 7<sup>th</sup> July;

Y1-Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> July

LKS2-Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> July

UKS2-Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> July &

Y2-Friday 11<sup>th</sup> July



**The cost for each night is £6, which is payable on ParentPay. The cost includes care and copious refreshments.**

## Bingo Night

There is a Summer Bingo Night on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> June. There are 100 tickets available. The Bingo Nights have been a huge success this year and we have sold out every time. If you would like to attend you can buy tickets on ParentPay but it is on a first come, first served basis.



Also, on the evening there will be a raffle, stand up Bingo and half time refreshments.



# Governors' Board

## Governors Blog

Hello everyone,

I'm pleased to share my first blog post as one of our Governors. It is a privilege to be part of such a vibrant and dedicated school community, and I'm looking forward to sharing regular updates with you moving forward.

I want to begin by addressing the recent incident in the school kitchen. The fire/explosion occurred overnight, and thankfully, no pupils or staff were on site at the time. Emergency services and school staff responded swiftly and efficiently, and thanks to their hard work, the school was able to reopen safely after just one day of closure. We're incredibly grateful for their efforts and will continue to work with the local authority to manage repairs and ensure everything is restored to a high standard.

As the Governor with responsibility for Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND), I'm also keen to share some positive developments. This month, I'll be working closely with Mrs Needham, our dedicated SENDCo, to review how we support our SEND pupils and explore ways to enhance our facilities and learning resources. Every child deserves to feel supported, included, and empowered to reach their full potential—and I'm committed to helping make that a reality.

I'm also really looking forward to the **School Summer Fayre on Saturday 14th June, from 10am to 12pm**. It promises to be a fun and lively event for families and a great way to support the school community. I hope to see many of you there!

If you have any thoughts, concerns, or ideas, please don't hesitate to get in touch via the school office. I'm here to listen and to represent the voice of our families as best I can.

Wishing you all a safe and sunny June.

Dannielle x



### New Parent Governor

Mr Karl Chamley was elected unopposed to the Governing Board. He is a parent of a child in Reception and will be attending the next Governors' Meeting on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> June. We look forward to working with him and benefitting from his input into the strategic direction of the school.

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### Attendance Cup Winners & 100% Certificates

In the first assembly of the Summer term all children with 100% attendance in the Spring term were awarded a certificate. In addition, the class with the best attendance for the second half term of Spring was 5RM with an attendance rate of 96.94%, well over the national percentage. They are pictured below with their trophy.



### Holidays & Fines

To dispel any rumours and as we understand it some WhatsApp chat it is not the school that fines parents. The last Government introduced a new rule that

penalises families if they take 5 days unauthorised leave for their child in any school year, this can be all at once or an accumulation of sporadic days.

The fines are issued by the County's access and inclusion officer. The County now has electronic access to all our registers. The guidance for Headteachers is simple, no holidays can be authorised. Authorisation is exceptional for one off events such as a wedding of parents, funeral etc. There is a form to complete if you think an exceptional absence is coming up available from the School Office but please note this cannot be a holiday whatever the reason.

Finally, we have been informed that if there is a fabrication of the truth (e.g. stating child is ill when actually on holiday) will result in an immediate fine/prosecution.

### Summer Fayre – Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> June

Please note the date and come along if you can in a couple of weeks for a morning of fun!



### Revisewise

The Revisewise clubs are now on a Wednesday or a Thursday morning from 8.15am until the start of the school day and are now for **Year 5** children who can attend one or both. The sessions are designed to consolidate learning and will run up to SATs in Year 6.

**Year 5 children will benefit enormously from attending at least one session.**





## **Sporting Success Continues**

### **Lower Key Stage 2 Rounders Competition**

Our rounders team competed against teams from many other schools and were a class above the field retaining the trophy we have won for a number of years and becoming area champions. The team is pictured below.



### **Key Stage 1 Kicky Rounders Competition**

Kicky Rounders is similar to rounders but the children kick a football rather than hit a ball with a bat. Our Key Stage 1 team played very well and showed all our sporting values even at a young age. They also won the competition and retained the trophy we have also won for many years now. They are pictured below.



### **Lower Key Stage 2 Hockey Competition**

Our hockey team played well and reached the final against a team who had beaten them in the qualifying rounds. The team found an extra gear and won the final handsomely winning the trophy for the school. They are also pictured below.



### **Key Stage 1 Football Competition**

Our KS1 team did really well reaching the final in which they were runners up following a penalty shoot out. The team is pictured at the top of the next column.

Our rounders team competed against teams from many other schools and were a class above the field.



### **Upper Key Stage 2 Netball County Finals**

Our team were runners up in the County Finals. They were only a point behind the winners and in fact had beaten the team at the top 5-1 in the last game. They showed excellent netball skills and sporting values.



### **Blain Rooney Sporting Trophy**

This was awarded at the end of the Spring term to Elsie in Year 3 for her all round sporting talent, enthusiasm and attitude. She is excellent at all sports she tries and is a big asset to all sporting activities.

It has then been awarded for the first half of the



summer term to Troy from Y2 was chosen for his amazing positive attitude to sport. He truly shows all the sporting values the school prides itself of in lessons and competitions. He has the makings of being a fantastic sportsman in the future.



## Sporting Value Trophies

The school awards trophies for sporting behaviour on a termly basis. The children who won trophies for showing specific sporting values were awarded them in assembly in April. Their trophies are kept with them in class for the term. Trophies will be re-awarded at the end of the Summer term for the coming half term.

### **Key Stage 1**



### **Key Stage 2**



### Annual Parents' Questionnaire

A questionnaire will be issued in the very near future. It will be on a Google form. Please can you complete it as it will help us improve the school into the future.



Many thanks in advance.

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High Harrington Community Centre Tuesday 6-8pm	Harrington Scout Hut Thursday 6-8pm
The Gather Ennderdale Wednesday 6-8pm	Sunday 5-7pm

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 IMPROVE SELF-ESTEEM  
 IMPROVE FITNESS  
 LOSE WEIGHT  
 LEARN HOW TO USE IN SELF-DEFENCE  
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**FOR MORE INFO OR TO ENROL CALL**  
**07543 876490**  
 (THIS NUMBER DOES NOT ACCEPT TEXT MESSAGES)

**ALL INSTRUCTORS ARE FIRST AID TRAINED AND DBS CHECKED**

### Workington Academy Transition

The Academy has set up a website to help transition for our Y6 children, the details are here:

**WORKINGTON ACADEMY** **Ofsted Good Provider**

**TEAM YEAR 7 TRANSITION WEBSITE**

[www.workingtonacademy.org/primaryzone/postadmission](http://www.workingtonacademy.org/primaryzone/postadmission)

Log in to find out more about what you can look forward to as part of Team Year 7 at **Workington Academy**

- Check out our 360° Virtual Tour
- Find a wide range of useful documents to support your transition
- Find out about Summer School
- Complete your Admission Form online

**SCAN ME**





**WORKINGTON ACADEMY** **Ofsted Good Provider**

In addition, there is an information evening for Y6 parents, details are below:

**WORKINGTON ACADEMY** **Ofsted Good Provider**

**YEAR 6-7 INFORMATION EVENING**

**FOR SEPTEMBER 2025 ADMISSIONS**

**WEDNESDAY 11 JUNE 2025**  
**5PM - 8PM**

Arrival Time by Primary School. Please see bespoke letter sent in your information pack.



Come along and meet Mr Bedford, Miss Tweddle and a range of other Senior Workington Academy staff to support your Transition to Team Year 7 at Workington Academy. Information provided on our Year 7 curriculum, school day and timetable, pastoral care, uniform, equipment, school lunches, summer school and much more.



### Statutory tests

The Year 6 children have had their SAT tests in the week beginning the 12<sup>th</sup> of May. These exams are highly stressful and some of the papers appear to trick the children rather than be a straightforward test of their knowledge. The children coped really well and all tried their very best, we couldn't ask for anymore and they were a credit to themselves and to you.



We will share their results on relevant reports which are due out on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> July and Year 6 parents will also get a results analysis sheet giving them more information.

The Year 2 SATs are no longer statutory and are no longer nationally reportable. The Government has however released the usual test papers and our Year 2 children sat them in the week before half term. This is a useful exercise and it enables us to benchmark their attainment against national measures.



Year 4 children have their times table test in the first two weeks after half term and Year 1 children have their phonics screening check in the week beginning 9<sup>th</sup> June.



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### Sports Day



This takes place on the afternoon of the 18<sup>th</sup> June, weather permitting.

It will commence at 1pm (the children will have an early lunch) and will last until the end of the school day. Parents are welcome to attend. As well as the usual events and the parents' races there will also be a tug-of-war event.

Finally due to mole hill issues the track will be on the other side of the field this year so there are no trip hazards.

### Be Sun Wise

There hopefully will be a lot of sunny days in the next half term. It is important that thoughts go to protecting children from the sun. The children at the school spend a lot of time outdoors during the school day and lunch times in particular are times when the sun is at its hottest.



Please help your child by applying sun screen **before** they get dressed in the morning (it should

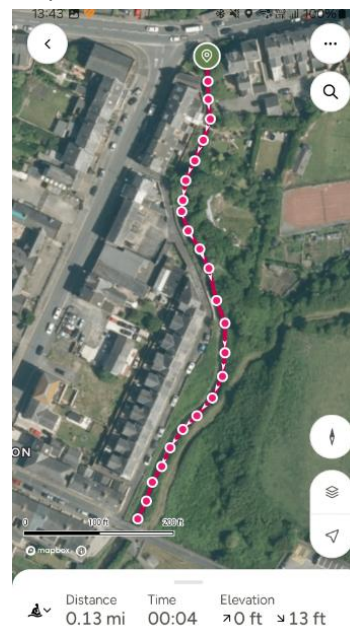
last for the school day so children don't need to apply it at school and given chemical content staff aren't allowed to). Also, please ensure they have the minimum of skin showing and provide them with a hat to wear outside to protect their heads...remember...

## **'Wrap, Splat and Hat!'**

### Duck Race



The school will again be hosting a mini duck race. The ducks will race down the beck at the bottom of the hill at 2.30pm on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> July watched by the whole school. The prizes for the first 10 ducks to finish are well worth it with a first prize of £150. If you want to take part then ducks can be purchased on ParentPay. Each duck will have a unique number and will be entered into the race (you get to keep the ducks you have bought). It may be there are other family members or friends who would like to take part and you can buy ducks for them too – there is a maximum of 4 ducks that can be bought per person. In total there are 600 ducks!! The route the ducks will follow is shown alongside.



### 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 Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> June from 3 to 7pm at Energus.

**Do something worthwhile and save someone's life**

Further details and booking details can be found at [www.blood.co.uk](http://www.blood.co.uk)



## Nursery Intakes

Children born between **1 January 2022** and **31 March 2022** can receive their free 15 or 30 hours a week Nursery education from **April 2025**.

Children born between **1 April 2022** and **31 August 2022** can receive their free 15 or 30 hours a week from **September 2025**.

Children born between **1 September 2022** and **31 December 2022** can receive their free 15 or 30 hours a week from **January 2026**.



**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 contact 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.cumberland.gov.uk/schools-and-education/apply-school-place-or-change-schools> (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 proof of address.



\*\* Please note that a child can attend afternoon Nursery as soon as they turn 3 so can settle in prior to starting properly in the term after their 3<sup>rd</sup> birthday. Further information is available from Nursery or the School Office.



## Food & Drink

**School Meals** currently cost **£15.50** per week payable on ParentPay. This is great value when you look at prices of goods in supermarkets for packed lunches. We would recommend a hot meal for all the children and would encourage those on packed lunches to make a change.

- 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 Reception & KS1 children).



The cost of milk for next half term is **£11** and needs to be paid by **Friday 6<sup>th</sup> June 2025** via ParentPay NOT cash or cheque. 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 **£14** for this half term. This is paid on ParentPay and please pay by **Friday 6<sup>th</sup> June 2025**.



- Fruit is **£14.00** for this half term, again payable on ParentPay by **Friday 6<sup>th</sup> June 2025**. This is for playtime snacks.

Children in EY & KS1 also get free fruit during the day.

## Summer Camp

Given the number of proposed bookings following a Google form we are able to run the summer camp.

If you still wish to enrol your child for all of it, part of it or just for chosen days then please email or use the QR code:

[bookings@beckstone.cumbria.sch.uk](mailto:bookings@beckstone.cumbria.sch.uk)



## Non-Uniform Day

The non-uniform day for this month is on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> June.

Donations of chocolate would be gratefully received to support the Bingo Night.





### Beckstone's Extended Services



Our extended services include the Breakfast Club £5.50 from 7.30am and £5.00 from 8am. **Last entry is at 8.25am.** Prices have risen due to increased costs but are still very competitive.

Our popular afternoon childcare provision is afternoon Nursery – see table in next column – please note these places (**MUST BE BOOKED IN ADVANCE**) with pick up times at 2.15pm and 3.15pm (please see prices poster on the previous page). **Please note that unfortunately we are unable to offer facilities for packed lunches for Nursery children.**

Beckstone Xtra runs from the end of the school day until 5.15pm (the cost is £5 per hour). Beckstone Xtra is available from 3.15 to 5.15pm **for anyone who**

**books in advance** at the Office or via



[bookings@beckstone.cumbria.sch.uk](mailto:bookings@beckstone.cumbria.sch.uk)

or simply use the QR code.

**Please note after school learning/sport clubs cost £12.50 per half term.**

**Please be aware that Beckstone Xtra attendance is not logged on to ParentPay until the day after attendance so a Friday session will not be charged to your account until a Monday or if an end of term the first day back.**

**\*\*\*\* Please also note that children need to be booked into Beckstone Xtra by 12pm. If a booking is cancelled after 12pm on the same day you will be charged \*\*\*\***



### Foodbank Donations

In the midst of this cost-of-living crisis donations would be more than welcomed to help support the vulnerable families in the locality.

Currently stock levels are very low (the lowest they have ever been) at the Foodbank so any support would be gratefully received. Donations continue to be very much welcome and there is a collection bin in the green shelter at the top of the school hill.

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.

### Please donate from the list.

Tinned Rice Pudding  
Pasta (500g)  
Tinned Meat  
Tinned Veg (Carrots, Peas, Sweetcorn)  
Tinned Tuna  
Sponge Pudding  
Tinned Fruit  
Biscuits  
Jam  
Baked Beans  
Tinned Potatoes  
Pasta Sauce  
Dried Rice (500g)  
Cereal (approx 350g)



## **Safeguarding/Child Protection**

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**

There is 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



**0800 800 5000**

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. 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.

## **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' Please use this as an incentive to read regularly with your child. In addition, the class with the best record each half term will receive a class treat so don't let the side down!



## **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.



## **100 Years of Vulcans Park**

The Town Council ran a competition across all schools in the town inviting the children to create a design that makes them think of Vulcans Park. Workington Town Council called to inform us that Thomas Plaskett (3/4LS) won the competition. He has been invited to Vulcans Park on Friday 23rd May from 10.15am – 11.45am along with 9 friends to be involved in the painting.



## **Class Photos**



You can still order class photos but the free postage window has now closed. The links to see the photos are below:.

MRS

FLOOK: <https://heidibeaphotography.gotphoto.co.uk/gc/kDw7TXVtm6Ck5cvR3LAa>

MRS WELLS:

<https://heidibeaphotography.gotphoto.co.uk/gc/lxI5r1RhJop2kZqIGnzI>

MRS TROTTER:

<https://heidibeaphotography.gotphoto.co.uk/gc/wGt6Kfo8ZUxvuKJUZOfb>

MRS NEEDHAM:

<https://heidibeaphotography.gotphoto.co.uk/gc/BSRBOWqfR3G3XVgoPgo9>

MRS TURK:

<https://heidibeaphotography.gotphoto.co.uk/gc/72rRogEn7L1JNDZXvDRj>

MR FLEMING:

<https://heidibeaphotography.gotphoto.co.uk/gc/7CKtJqktidgOhWYzD2Z2>

MISS BINGHAM:

<https://heidibeaphotography.gotphoto.co.uk/gc/yEtOtuzlZUYX2zDhk8Ze>

MISS STRONG:

<https://heidibeaphotography.gotphoto.co.uk/gc/u5XH3EOTRxlXkS5Koym>

MISS JACKSON:

<https://heidibeaphotography.gotphoto.co.uk/gc/h20ayYGM4QoSXmMCP1BH>

MISS MCMINN:

<https://heidibeaphotography.gotphoto.co.uk/gc/MmQXdlul8bjVdb7pWcOR>

MISS MCGILL:

<https://heidibeaphotography.gotphoto.co.uk/gc/v3Vp3mhTlJicuBptNzHg>

MISS CROOK:

<https://heidibeaphotography.gotphoto.co.uk/gc/F3pwDbx7bM2MKTzFN2IB>

NURSERY:

<https://heidibeaphotography.gotphoto.co.uk/gc/xgvZb1dA8QjLXLmsRaQP>

### The Marie Wright Kindness Cup

Aria from Nursery was chosen for the trophy for the last half term as she is always showing kindness to all around her and goes out of her way to befriend everyone.



This half term the trophy was won by Eleanor from Year 2. She was a unanimous choice by all staff in the Stage for her ongoing kindness and care for all the pupils around her. A worthy winner.



### Holiday Activities

Please note our

'Holiday Activity Ideas' zone of the web site, which can be found in the Parents' drop-down menu or by following the link below or the QR code. Do



have a look as there may be activities of interest to you and your family.

[https://www.beckstone.cumbria.sch.uk/parents\\_info/holiday\\_activity\\_ideas.html](https://www.beckstone.cumbria.sch.uk/parents_info/holiday_activity_ideas.html)

Of note:

### Make a splash this half-term holidays!

All schoolchildren aged up to 16 years old from the Cumberland area will be able to go for a swim in a choice of five indoor pools for only 10p over the May school holidays (26 - 30 May).



The discounted scheme has been put in place by Cumberland Council, with the support of GLL and Wigton Baths Trust.

The council scheme will offer discounted swimming opportunities throughout the half-term holiday.

It will be available at the following leisure sites at allocated times during the May half-term school holidays:

- **The Sands Centre (Carlisle):** Weekdays (except Bank Holiday Monday) 10am - 10.50am and Sundays (25 May and 1 June) 10am - 10.50am.
- **Cockermouth Leisure Centre:** Monday - Friday, 1pm - 2pm.
- **Workington Leisure Centre:** Weekdays (except Friday) 11am - 11.50am.
- **Copeland Pool and Fitness Centre (Whitehaven):** Weekdays (except Wednesday) 1pm - 1.50pm, Saturday 31 May 12pm - 1pm, Sunday 1 June 10am - 11am.
- **Wigton Baths:** Monday 26 May: 10am - 11am. Tuesday 27 May 11.15am - 12.15pm and 3.15pm - 4.15pm. Wednesday 28 May: 9.15am - 10.15am and 3pm - 4pm. Thursday 29 May: 10.15am - 11.15am and 3.30pm - 4.30pm. Friday 30 May: 10am - 11am. Saturday 31 May: 10am - 11.30am.

### Donations Needed

The school would very much welcome

- Barbie & Ken clothes
- Clothes for doll babies
- Hot wheels type cars
- Paw Patrol toys



### Intensive Swims

Please can relevant parents note these dates as your child will need a swimming costume and a towel and hairbrush/comb for the following weeks (each with a daily morning swim);

Week beg. 2nd June – Year 4's from 3/4SF & 3/4LB

Week beg 9th June – 5RM & 5 Y4's from 3/4LS

Week beg. 23rd June – Y6 non-swimmers

Week beg. 30th June – 5LJ & 6 Y4's from 3/4LS

### Messy Mary's at St Mary's Harrington

Messy Church is held on the third Saturday of every month in St Mary's Church Hall from 4pm to 6pm.

Messy Church is for all the family and includes a number of craft activities, songs, a story and some prayers all based on the theme of for the day. It then finishes with a shared meal together. All are welcome. (Please note that all children must be accompanied by an adult).

Help raise funds for the youngest children at Beckstone Primary School.

ParentPay Pay on ParentPay or at the School Office.

**Buy your raffle tickets today!**

*Beckstone's Summer Fayre*  
**Raffle Tickets**  
JUNE 14 2025  
£1 per strip NO: 012345

Washington Central £75.00 Voucher  
Zoe £30  
Kat & Kris £30  
Family Day Pass  
The Countryman £25  
1 Month Pass  
And much more, too!

Family Voucher  
£50  
The Beacon Family Pass  
Cinema Tickets  
FUSION TRAMPOLINE PARK £10 e-voucher  
Rosehill Theatre £25

### The Creativity Cup



Otis from Year 6 was the winner for last half term. He is extremely creative with his story and comic books; he works tirelessly on creating these at home and at school. He is also a very adept coder and programmer and develops lots of exciting and innovative programs and games.



Ella from Nursery won the trophy for this half term. She fills every room with her singing, dancing feet and brilliant ideas. She can sing every word to her favourites songs, shows Nursery her best moves and creates wonderful pictures at the writing table. Her musical ear is a force to be reckoned with. Keep dancing Ella.

### Facebook & Instagram



The school is on Facebook and Instagram.



Instagram



Facebook

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

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

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

**BECKSTONE NURSERY PLACES 2025/26**

**SEPTEMBER 2025**  
Children born between 1st April - 31st Aug 2022

**JANUARY 2026**  
Children born between 1st Sept - 31st Dec 2022

**APRIL 2026**  
Children born between 1st Jan - 31st Mar 2023

**SEPTEMBER 2026**  
Children born between 1st April - 31st Aug 2023

Children can attend 'Afternoon Nursery' as soon as they turn 3 - further information is available from the school office.

Nursery application forms can be collected from the school office or found on the Cumberland website.

Please apply as soon as possible!

## The Community Champions Cup



Mrs Yoxall was chosen last half term for all the fabulous work she has done for 'FAB' for fund raising and inspired ideas to improve the school community. A very well deserved accolade.



Addisyn from Y4 was awarded the trophy for this half term for her very thoughtful and moving fundraising in memory of her friend Arabella. She is walking 200km over a number of days and is receiving lots of sponsors and consequently raising lots of money for Brain Tumour Research and a playground at school in memory of Arabella.



## 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 help if you can by donating to this fund.**



With 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 into 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.

## Staff Changes

Following a very strong field of applicants and a challenging process Mrs Needham was successful in her application to be Deputy Head of this school from September. Her expertise in many facets of the role will be very valuable and as she is known to us all it will hopefully be a seamless transition.



With her moving into that role the school has appointed



Ms Moller following a job advert for a teaching role in KS1 from September. Ms Moller is currently completing her qualification teaching practice in 1/2DT and she is an excellent student and is destined to be an excellent teacher.



We all wish you a wonderful half term. We hope receiving this newsletter early will ensure you and your child are ready for what is often the busiest half term of the school year.



# Term Dates until Summer 2027

	Summer 2025	Autumn 2025	Spring 2026	Summer 2026	Autumn 2026	Spring 2027	Summer 2027
Start of Term	Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> April May Day – Mon 5 <sup>th</sup>	Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> September	Wednesday 7 <sup>th</sup> January	Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> April May Day – Mon 4 <sup>th</sup>	Wednesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> September	Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> January	Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> April May Day – Mon 3 <sup>rd</sup>
Half Term	Monday 26 <sup>th</sup> May - Friday 30 <sup>th</sup> May	Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> October - Friday 31 <sup>st</sup> October	Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> February - Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> February	Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> May - Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> May	Monday 26 <sup>th</sup> October - Friday 30 <sup>th</sup> October	Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> February - Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> February	Monday 31 <sup>st</sup> May - Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> June
End of Term	Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> July	Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> December	Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> March	Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> July	Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> December	Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup> March	Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> July



Diary Dates

## June

2 weeks from week beg. 2<sup>nd</sup> – Y4 Times Table tests

Week beg. 9<sup>th</sup> – Y1 Phonics Screening Check Week

Weeks beg. 2<sup>nd</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>; 23<sup>rd</sup> & 30<sup>th</sup> - UKS2 Intensive Swims (

Tue 3<sup>rd</sup> – Water Workshops for UKS2 classes

- Reception Vision Check

Thu 5<sup>th</sup> – Peter Nutsford Wild Africa talks to classes

Fri 6<sup>th</sup> – Rev. Dom in assembly to talk about Pentecost

Week beg. 9<sup>th</sup> - Nursery Come & Play Week

Tue 10<sup>th</sup> – Reception Multi-Skills Festival

- Governor Staffing & Finance 5pm and main

- KS1 Kinder Cricket Competition

- Y6 Vision check

Fri 13<sup>th</sup> – Midsummer Night's Dream – UKS2

Sat 14<sup>th</sup> EY Summer Fair -All welcome

Sun 15<sup>th</sup> Father's Day

Tue 17<sup>th</sup> – UKS2 Football Tournament

Wed 18<sup>th</sup> Sports Day 1.00pm

Thu 19<sup>th</sup> – UKS2 Dalscone Farm Trip

Fri 20<sup>th</sup> UKS2 Boys Football at Harraby

- Sports Experience Day- Fencing

- Non uniform day – chocolate donation

Tue 24<sup>th</sup> – UKS2 Cricket Tournament

Wed 25<sup>th</sup> & Thu 26<sup>th</sup> – Lifesavers First Aid Training for Y3 pupils

Thu 26<sup>th</sup> – Nursery September starters information

BINGO Night 6pm (doors open 5.50pm)

Fri 27<sup>th</sup> – LKS2 visting Dalscone Farm Park

## July

Tue 1<sup>st</sup> – Fire Safety Assembly

Thu 3<sup>rd</sup> – Transition days for Workington Academy & St Jo's

- Y5 Girls Cricket tournament

Fri 4<sup>th</sup> – KS1 summer Trip to Walby Farm Park

- Reception trip to Lakeland Wildlife Park

- EY Summer Blast!

Y3/4 Boys Harraby football tournament

Y5 Girls Football tournament

Week beg. 7<sup>th</sup> Summer Party nights; Mon YR; Tue Y1; Wed Y2; Thu LKS2; Fri UKS2

- Nursery Come & Play week

Mon 7<sup>th</sup> – 'Open the Door' presentation

- Some Y5's attending a 'Sing Up' event at St Joseph's

Tue 8<sup>th</sup> Governor Challenge Day & Main Meeting

Thu 10<sup>th</sup> & Fri 11<sup>th</sup> – Meet new classes mornings

Thu 10<sup>th</sup> - UKS2 Curriculum Evening

Duck Race 2.30pm

Fri 11<sup>th</sup> – Sports Experience day – Golf

- Workington Football Cup

Mon 14<sup>th</sup> – Wed 16<sup>th</sup> UKS2 Langdale Residential

Mon 14<sup>th</sup> Reports Out & Curriculum Eve YR-Y4

Thu 17<sup>th</sup> – FUN day & Y6 Graduation 6pm

Fri 18<sup>th</sup> Beckstone's Got Talent

School Year Ends. no Beck Xtra or Afternoon Nursery



Monday 9<sup>th</sup> June 2-3pm: Giraffes  
Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> June 2-3pm: Elephants  
Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> June 2-3pm: Monkeys  
Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> June 2-3pm: Zebras  
Friday 13<sup>th</sup> June 2-3pm: Meerkats



6pm



12



## Dates for next year already!

Wed 3<sup>rd</sup> Sep – Children start back

Fri 5<sup>th</sup> – new Nursery Starters taster session

- 20 Years of Beckstone Celebration Day

Mon 8<sup>th</sup> – New Nursery Starters start

Tue 16<sup>th</sup> Sep – Individual & family photos

Fri 19<sup>th</sup> Sep – Gurning Final

Mon 22<sup>nd</sup> Sep – FAB AGM

Fri 26<sup>th</sup> Sep – Macmillan Coffee Morning

Mon 29<sup>th</sup> – Sand creation Workshop 3.15-4pm for EY & KS1

Wed 1<sup>st</sup> Oct – Sand creation Workshop for KS2 3.15 – 4pm

Mon 13<sup>th</sup> – Harvest

Wed 15<sup>th</sup> & Thu 16<sup>th</sup> Oct – Parents' Evenings & Phonics Workshops

Mon 20<sup>th</sup> Oct – R & KS1 Cinema Night

Tues 21<sup>st</sup> Oct – KS2 Cinema Night

- Governors AGM

Fri 24<sup>th</sup> Oct – Halloween Themed Day

Week beg. 28<sup>th</sup> Oct – Half term

Mon 3<sup>rd</sup> Nov – Poppies on sale

Sun 9<sup>th</sup> Nov - Remembrance Parade

Wed 11<sup>th</sup> Nov – Remembrance Silence 11am

Thurs 20<sup>th</sup> Nov – Y6 Takeover Morning

Tues 25<sup>th</sup> Nov – Governor Challenge day, Finance & Main Meeting

Fri 28<sup>th</sup> Nov – Josh McAllister MP visiting school

Thu 11<sup>th</sup> Dec – Christmas Dinner day

Week beg. 15<sup>th</sup> Dec – Party Nights; Y1- Mon; Y2 – Tue; LKS2 -Wed;

UKS2 - Thu

Thu 18<sup>th</sup> Dec- Christmas Party Day

Fri 20<sup>th</sup> Dec – Carols in the Square 10.30am

- No Beck Xtra or Afternoon Nursery, Break up for Christmas

Wed 7<sup>th</sup> Jan – Children start back

Tue 27<sup>th</sup> Jan – Governors' meeting

Wed 11<sup>th</sup> Feb –KS2 Cinema Night

Thu 12<sup>th</sup> Feb – KS1 & R Cinema Night

Week beg. 16<sup>th</sup> Feb – Half term

Thu 5<sup>th</sup> Mar – World Book Day

Sun 15<sup>th</sup> March – Mother's day

Tues 17<sup>th</sup> & Wed 18<sup>th</sup> March – Parents' Evenings

Thu 19<sup>th</sup> March – Poetry by Heart Showcase

- LKS2 Party night

Week beg. 23<sup>rd</sup> March – Easter Party Nights YR- Mon; Y1 – Tue; Y2; Wed

LKS2 - Thu;

Tue 24<sup>th</sup> March – Governors' Meeting & Challenge Day

Week beg.23<sup>rd</sup> Mar – Egg & Bonnet Design Week

Fri 27<sup>th</sup> March – Egg Dumping Final

- School breaks up for Easter, no Beck Xtra or Educare

Mion 13<sup>th</sup> April – Children start back

May – KS1 Optional SATs Month

Week beg. 11<sup>th</sup> May – KS2 SATs

Fri 15<sup>th</sup> May – Y6 children can wear the hoodies

Wed 20<sup>th</sup> May – Staffing & Finance Committee & Main Governors

Mon 19<sup>th</sup> May – KS1 & R Cinema Night

Thu 21<sup>st</sup> May – KS2 Cinema Night

Week beg. 25<sup>th</sup> May – Half term

2 weeks from week beg. 1<sup>st</sup> June – Y4 Times Table Check

Week beg. 9<sup>th</sup> June – Y1 Phonics Screening Check Week

Weeks beg. 1<sup>st</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> June - UKS2 Intensive Swims

Sun 21<sup>st</sup> Jun – Father's Day

Tue 23<sup>rd</sup> June – Sports Day

Week beg. 29<sup>th</sup> Jun – Summer Trips week

Week beg. 6<sup>th</sup> July – Summer Party nights

Tue 7<sup>th</sup> July – Governor Challenge Day & Main Meeting

Thu 9<sup>th</sup> & Fri 10<sup>th</sup> July – Meet new classes mornings

Mon 13<sup>th</sup> Jul - Reports Out & Curriculum Evening

Tue 14<sup>th</sup> July - Graduation

Thu 16<sup>th</sup> – FUN day

Fri 18<sup>th</sup> Jul – Beckstone's Got Talent

- School Year Ends, no Beck Xtra or Educare

20

