



'We lift our eyes to the hills'

November Newsletter 2023

I wanted to take a moment to celebrate the incredible experiences our students have had in the past few weeks. Our school has been brimming with excitement and learning, and I'm thrilled to share some highlights with you.

Selside now has its very own Ski club which is running every Friday. A big thank you to Mrs Corbett, Greg Jen and Dan who have made this possible. Whilst learning about bonfire night, the Adventurers made their very own Guy Fawkes. The Explorers have been making decorations for church for Remembrance Sunday and our Discoverers enjoyed a leadership day at Castle Head with the Year 5 & 6 from Lindale School.



Antibullying week-13th - 17th

This year's focus is to encourage pupils to consider what bullying means, how banter can turn into something more hurtful, and what we can do to stop bullying. Our antibullying week will start with **Odd Socks Day- Monday 13th November**. Remember to wear your odd socks! There's a serious message behind wearing odd socks. It reminds us that we ALL unique and different, and let's be kind to each other and respect each other's individuality.

This fits very well with this term's half term- Friendship. We will be thinking and talking about how we support our friends and build them up. Our school council will be working on new ways to support friendships at playtime.

We **discover, grow and thrive** together.



Safeguarding

Safeguarding and child protection is at the heart of everything we do at Selside School. The Designated Safeguarding Lead in our school is June Lowther and the Deputy Safeguarding Lead is Laura Corbett. The governor with responsibility for safeguarding in our school is Densie Clarke. Our door is always open if you want to have a chat or if you have any concerns. The internet has now become a part of our everyday lives, from phones to computers and gaming, and at younger ages as this technology develops it is very important that if we allow our children to use the internet we also take measures to keep them safe whilst doing so. It's quite scary how easy and quickly it can go wrong!

<https://youtu.be/z1n9Jly3CQ8>
www.youtube.com/watch?v=DY-D_tebNXs
<https://youtu.be/LqgnxQzz17c>



0 – 19 Child and Family Support Services – South Lakeland

Online Safety, Virtual Event

Wednesday 22nd November, 7-8pm

Open to all parents of children aged 5-19. Are you worried about your child's online activity? Do you want to learn more about keeping them safe? Join our facilitator lead session to look at the risks children and young people face online and how parents can help. Supported by Cumbria police.

To book a place and MS Teams link contact: joan.hanson@actionforchildren.org.uk

Registered Charity Number: 1057940/SC258002
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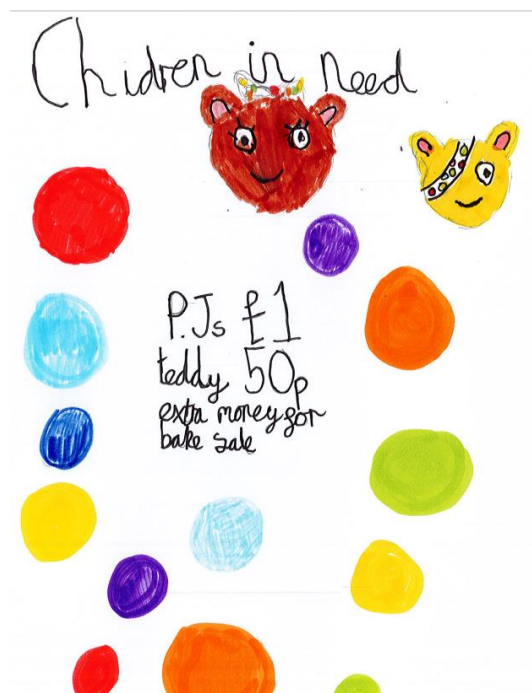


westmorlandandfurness.gov.uk

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Children in Need- Friday 17th November

The school council have decided to raise money for children in need by asking for a £1 donation for the children to wear their pyjamas and 50p to bring a teddy bear. Please bring in cakes to sell at morning break and at the end of the day.



Attendance

You will be vividly aware that professionals in education always encourage good attendance for very clear, well researched reasons:

- Absenteeism in the first month of school can predict poor attendance throughout the school year. Half the students who miss 2-4 days in September go on to miss nearly a month of school.
- Chronic absence appears to have doubled by the end of the 2021-22 school year.
- Whilst academic achievement is important, absenteeism has a profound affect on personal development.
- Poor attendance can influence whether children read proficiently by the end of Year 3.
- Research shows that missing 10 percent of the school, or about 18 days in most schools, negatively affects a student's academic performance. That's just two days a month and that's known as chronic absence.

You will already be aware that Headteachers are unable to authorise holidays. The Local Authority are working with all schools to reduce absence and promote attendance and this has changed the way attendance is managed. Each month Miss Lowther (as with other primary schools and secondary schools) now hold monthly meetings to review pupil attendance.

Where parents notify us or take a holiday or where absence is low, the Headteacher is now required to refer these to the Local Authority (Westmorland and Furness). They

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will then make the decision to fine or prosecute families. All unauthorised absences, including holidays will not be sanctioned by the Headteacher, and are accumulated. Parents who fail to ensure regular attendance of their children at school can be issued with a Fixed Penalty Notice under Section 444 of the Education Act 1996 by the Local Authority. The amount is £60 (per parent per child) if paid within 21 days and £120 (per parent per child) if paid between 21 and 28 days. Failure to pay a Penalty Notice will result in prosecution, except in limited circumstances.

ATTENDANCE

WHY IS IT IMPORTANT?

ABSENCE FROM SCHOOL


Children are required by law to attend school 195 days per year. The government states that every pupil's attendance should be at least 95%.

How do YOU measure up?

Attendance	Days Absent	Weeks Absent	Lessons Missed
95%	9 Days	2 Weeks	50 Lessons
90%	19 Days	4 Weeks	100 Lessons
85%	29 Days	6 Weeks	150 Lessons
80%	38 Days	8 Weeks	200 Lessons
75%	48 Days	10 Weeks	250 Lessons
70%	57 Days	11.5 Weeks	290 Lessons
65%	67 Days	13.5 Weeks	340 Lessons


89% & Below

Drastic effect on academic achievement




95% - 90%

Cause for concern



100% - 96%

Excellent



Selside School Association

A big thank you to the SSA ,who paid for WoodMatters to come into school and work with the children. The children enjoyed using their woodworking skills to build three shave horses to add to our growing bank of resources for outdoor learning. This was the first opportunity to use our new shed. It was a welcomed shelter from the rain on Monday! Thank you for all the volunteers who have helped to get the shed finished. The children are working on a name!



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Next meeting- Monday 13th November at 7.00pm, Selside School.

Exciting things to come...

Fri. 24th November -Bag2school collection

Fri. 8th December- Christmas Fair

Fri. 19th January Family Bingo

Tepee Tots



Before half term, Tepee Tots visited the Adventurers for a dinosaur themed stay and play in school. We are currently showing parents around for Reception places- September 2024 and Nursery places. Children can start in our nursery as soon as they turn three years old.

Tepee Tots runs every Friday from 9.30am until 11.30pm. If you know any friends or family members who would like to join our

sessions or look around our provision, just get them to contact the School office- admin@selside.cumbria.sch.uk

Christingle Service

We are currently without a lead vicar in the Beacon Team. They are currently putting together an advert for the position and will be interviewing in the the spring. Michelle Woodcock, from the Beacon Team, is supporting school and leading collective worship every Tuesday. At the moment, the Children are working with Michelle to prepare for a Christingle Service on Tuesday 5th December at 2.30.

We would like to invite friends, family and members of the community to join us in church. Parents can collect children from church.



Tuesday 21st November
Family photos 1.00pm

Staffing

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As you Mrs Mackenzie is moving onto a new adventure. The governors and I as pleased to announce that we have appointed a new business manager- Helen Dove. Helen is currently working at Dallam school and will be joining our team on Tuesday 5th December. We will be covering the office internally until she starts. The phones and emails won't be monitored throughout the day. They will be checked after lunch and at the end of the day. Please use SeeSaw to communicate with staff and ensure that lunches are pre-ordered. Thank you for your understanding and support during this transition period.

Best wishes

June Lowther

Dates for the diary

Monday 13th November -Odd socks day

Friday 17th November - Children in Need

-Discoverers Mountain Festival

Friday 24th November -Bags 2 school collection

Friday 1st December -Pupil Parliament

Tuesday 5th December- Christingle Service in Church 2.30pm. Friends and family welcome!

Thursday 14th December- Christmas Play -Afternoon and Evening.