



'We lift our eyes to the hills'

September Newsletter 2024

As the crisp Autumn air begins to fill the mornings and the days slowly shorten, we are in full swing into the Autumn Term. The children have had a wonderful week settling back into their classes and seeing their friends. We have been enjoying the sunshine on our Morning Mile Challenge, exploring the field for invertebrates, and catching up on some gardening. Our goal is to ensure that every child, whether returning or new, feels supported, valued, and excited about their learning adventures ahead.



Harvest Festival

Harvest Festival is a time to think about all the things we are thankful for and to think of others who are not so lucky. Andrea joined us in Collective Worship to share the work that they do with at Manna House in Kendal, a centre for homeless, vulnerably housed, for people feeling lonely or needing help.

We will be collecting again this year for **Manna House Foodbank in Kendal**. Please bring any store cupboard essentials (tea, coffee, pasta, rice, biscuits, tinned foods), you would like to kindly donate to be stored in the Zen Den before Thursday 10 October. Thank you. Our **Harvest Festival** will be taking place on **Friday 11 October at 9.30 am in Selside Church**. Please let us know if you would like to walk with the children from school up to church at 9.00 am.



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From our Classes



Adventurers Class

The Adventurers have been outside in the sunshine. The children were using spirals,



filling and layering to create their own natural sculptures inspired by the artist

Andy Goldsworthy. The children worked together in their class teams supporting and sharing ideas together to create their designs. We like to get out and enjoy the 'big field' as much as possible.



Explorers Class

The Explorers have been enjoying the stories, poems

and artwork of Jackie Morris who is most famous for illustrating The Lost Words poetry book. We've been focusing on her story of the White Fox. It has inspired our artwork and is now inspiring our creative writing.



Discoverers Class

The Discoverers have been reunited with their friends from Lindale Primary School with an amazing Leadership Day at Castle Head! The day was filled with lots of opportunities to build their confidence, resilience and teamwork which included crate stacking and raft building.



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Young Voices



The Explorers and Discoverers are going to be taking part in Young Voices on **24 February 2025- Save the Date!** A letter will be coming out shortly explaining how parents can book tickets to come along and the children can practice the songs at home and book tickets for the performance. Here's the highlights from last year! [Young Voices highlights 2024](#)

Attendance

As I mentioned in the last newsletter, the Government has introduced the new absence rule. I have summarised the information at the end of this newsletter. Whilst a slightly gloomy start to a school near year welcome letter, I hope this sets the Central and Local Government stall out and makes the information clear.

<p><u>5 days of unauthorised absence</u></p> <p>Penalty Notice fines may be issued for any term-time absences that are unauthorised (for example, a 5-day term-time holiday) - whether these absences are taken consecutively or cumulatively over a rolling period of 10 school weeks</p> <p><u>10 sessions of unauthorised absence in any 10-week period</u></p> <p>Penalty Notice fines will also be considered when there have been 10 sessions of unauthorised absence in any rolling period of 10 school weeks</p> <p>A school day has 2 sessions: 1 morning and 1 afternoon session per day</p> <p>A school week means any week in which there is at least one school session. The threshold can be met with any combination of unauthorised absence (e.g. 6 sessions of holiday plus 4 sessions of arriving late after the register closes all within 10 school weeks). These sessions can be consecutive (e.g. 10 sessions of holiday in one week) or not (e.g. 6 sessions of unauthorised absence taken in 1 week and 1 per week for the next 4 weeks). The period of 10 school weeks can also span different terms or school years (e.g. 2 sessions of unauthorised absence in the Summer Term and a further 8 within the Autumn Term).</p>	<p><u>First Offence</u></p> <p>The first time a Penalty Notice is issued for a Term-Time Leave of Absence or irregular attendance, the amount will be:</p> <p>£160 per parent, per child (if paid within 28 days) Reduced to: £80 per parent, per child if paid within 21 days</p>
	<p><u>Second Offence (in a 3-year rolling period)</u></p> <p>The second time a Penalty Notice is issued for a Term-Time Leave of Absence or irregular attendance to the same parent for the same child the amount will be:</p> <p>£160 per parent, per child (if paid within 28 days) There is no reduction in the amount.</p>
	<p><u>Third Offence or Any Further Offences (in a 3-year rolling period)</u></p> <p>The third time an offence is committed for a Term-Time Leave of Absence or irregular attendance by the same parent for the same child (including those by other Local Authorities) a Penalty Notice will NOT be issued but will be referred to Bristol City Council's Education Welfare service for Prosecution which may result in fines of upto £2,500 per parent, per child.</p> <p>Cases found guilty in a Magistrate's Court can show on a parent's future DBS certificate.</p>
<p><u>What is a Penalty Notice?</u></p> <p>A penalty notice is an out of court settlement which is intended to change behaviour without the need for criminal prosecution. If repeated penalty notices are being issued and they are not working to change behaviour they are unlikely to be most appropriate tool. Therefore, from August 2024, only 2 penalty notices can be issued to the same parent in respect of the same child within a 3 year rolling period and any second notice within that period is charged at a higher rate. Any further offences will result in criminal prosecution.</p> <p>The law will be clear that where a Penalty Notice threshold met – in each individual case, the school must consider if a Penalty Notice is appropriate</p>	<p><u>Unchanged</u></p> <p>Penalty Notice fines are issued Per Parent, Per child. This means that fines are issued to each parent, for each child who is absent. For example: If 2 siblings are absent for a term-time holiday this will result in each parent receiving 2 separate fines.</p>

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Extreme Reading Challenge

Promoting and sharing the love of reading, we set an Extreme Reading Challenge over the Summer holidays. Thank you for the many photos we received! We have enjoyed seeing the spectacular places you find to read.



We ask that parents read with their child 3 times a week and log it in your child's Reading Record with a signature, and also that you strive for 5 times a week. Children can put pebbles in their house jar for reading at home.

'Children who are good at reading do more of it: they learn more, about all sorts of things, and their expanded vocabulary, gained from their reading, increases their ease of access to more reading. Conversely, those for whom reading is difficult fall behind, not just in their reading but in all subjects and a vicious circle develops. Here's how many words kids would have heard by the time they were 5 years old:

Never read to, 4,662 words;

1-2 times per week, 63,570 words;

3-5 times per week, 169,520 words;

daily, 296,660 words; and five books a day, 1,483,300 words.'

DFE (July 2021)

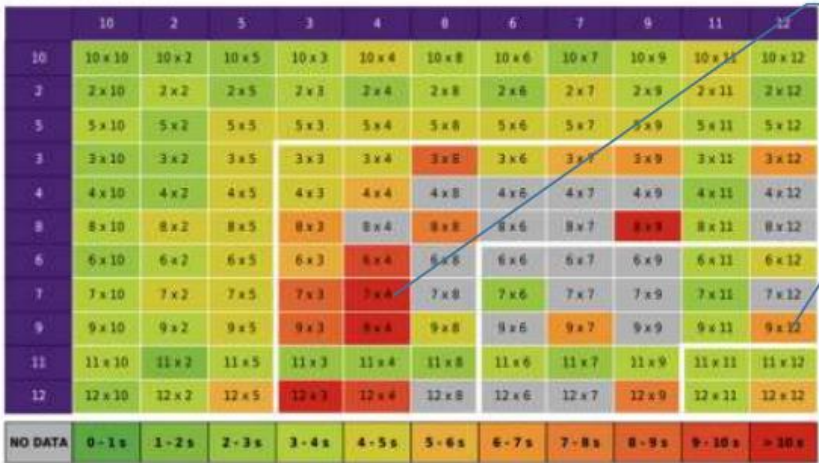


TT Rockstars - Heat Mats

We know that parents are keen to (a) understand their child's needs and gaps in learning and (b) understand how to help. We are encouraging families to look at their child's 'heat map' in TT Rockstars, which many parents already explore. This gives a focus for exactly which times-tables to learn. Shared red are tables children are struggling with (and therefore they are the ones to concentrate on), and grey means they have not learned these yet at all. We suggest families make a game or list of the red times-tables to concentrate on. Children fly with their fluency when they focus on specific times-tables and not a whole series of tables.

Here is an example of a Heat Mat: -

FRI 20 SEP 2024

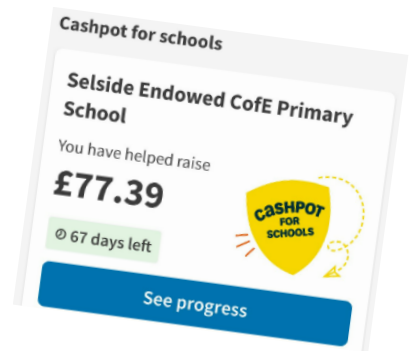


Concentrate on red until half term holidays

Go on to orange/light yellow if there are no red on your child's heat map.

Asda Cashpot for School

Thank you for all your help and support with the 'Cashpot for schools' campaign on your Asda Rewards app. Type in Selside School and you can help us to raise vital funds. We already raised £77.39 so far - well done. It finishes on 30 November so get shopping! Thank you so much. <https://www.asda.com/cashpotforschools>



With very best wishes

J. A. Lowther

June Lowther & all the Selside School Team

DIARY DATES

School Dates

1.10.24	Parents Evening
2.10.24	Nasal Flu vaccinations in school: Reception – Y6
3.10.24	Adventurers (Nursery, Reception & Yr 1) - Trip to Rydal Hall, during school day
11.10.24	Harvest Festival at Church, 930am, parents invited.
25.10.24	SSA Pumpkin Party in school, 320 pm start.
28.10.24	Finish for October Half Term, usual time. Back 4 Nov.
31.10.24	Applications close for secondary school places.
5.11.24	Adventurers – Trip to Judges Lodgings, Lancaster
12.11.24	Deadline for Bag2School bag collection by 9am.
15.11.24	Children in Need Day
22.11.24	AM Provisional: Discoverers at Kendal Mountain Film Festival PM Individual SCHOOL PHOTOS. Individual photos + siblings. Parents are invited to bring younger siblings from home in towards the end of the school day.
5.12.24	Whole School Trip to Peter Pan, Kendal College
w/c 9.12.24	Bikeability - Cyclewise Yr 5 & 6
20.12.24	Finish for Christmas break at 1.30 pm. Back on 7 Jan.
15.1.25	Applications close for children starting Reception in September 2025.

Newsletters are also posted in the News section of our school website:

<https://selside.cumbria.sch.uk/newsletters/>

Paper copy - If you would like a paper copy of this newsletter please contact the school office.

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