



St Mary's Church of England School, Kirkby Lonsdale



Dear Parents, family members and parishioners,

Franz Ferdinand, who was the nephew of the Austro-Hungarian emperor, was killed by a group called the Black Hand. And because they were a Serbian nationalist society, the empire declared war on Serbia. Then Russia, which was bound by a treaty, was forced to mobilise, which meant that Germany had to declare war on Russia. Then France declared war on Germany. On the 4th August 1914, Britain declared war on Germany and the First World War began in earnest. The consequences of these events on our nation was so significant and devastating at the time and for the future of Europe.

This week I have found and shared with our children, my family photos showing family members who served in World War 1. Many of us will reflect in our own way about those in our family and community affected by World War 1. As a school we are looking to work with the church and local community members running up to November 9th and 11th to mark the WW1 Centenary. We will be participating in the 'There but not There' art installations to provide an opportunity to reflect on World War 1. We will soon be requesting that families collect plastic drinks bottles to help make poppies for an art installation at church and at school. We will begin our preparations immediately after half term.

These next few weeks will be a poignant period of reflection for all of us and indeed a reminder of a very uncertain time in European history. Turn the clock forward to today and once again, but in very different circumstances of course, we find ourselves facing another period of uncertainty in Europe. Such events generate many discussions and opinions which we are encouraging in our school as the children explore what they know, believe and understand about these subjects.

We are coming to the end of half term and it is clear that the children have worked very hard this half term. As we take a break I would like to thank you for your ongoing support in school, the staff for a vibrant and exciting start to term and the children for their energy, imagination and fun this term. On behalf of the staff I would like to wish you and the children a restful half term break.

Yours,

Brian Jones
Headteacher

Please collect water bottles



Please can you collect water bottles so that we can reuse them to make poppies after half term. We are hoping that every child will have an opportunity to make a poppy and contribute to creatively thinking and reflecting at the forthcoming time of Remembrance. Thank you



We are collecting ...



Our Early Years team are asking all families to see if they have any spare rollers and brushes to help our children in Reception and Nursery. If you have any spare items or know someone who does, could you please donate these for play outdoors. Many thanks.

We are collecting ... Trainers and Football Boots



Mr Jones is collecting an spare trainers or football boots. We are making a collection to enable children to access sport in our school. If your child has grown out of their trainers or football boots please consider donating them to school. They will make a real difference. Many thanks in anticipation.



Fit for Sport



Thank you for the responses to our 'Fit for Sport Club' on Tuesdays. We have had a large response to the club. Yesterday we sent out texts to confirm places. Anyone who has not been able to attend this term will have a place next term, should they still want to attend!

The club will start on Tuesdays straight after the half term break.

Fit for Sport

Parent Consultations

Letters are coming out to book your place for our parent consultations. Please can you return these as soon as possible to ensure you meet your child's class teacher.



TRAIDCRAFT
Fighting poverty through trade

During the parent consultations Mrs Neale will be selling Traidcraft items for our termly sale. If you would like to buy any items please bring some money along to the parent consultations.

Parent Questionnaire Response Document

Parent Questionnaire
Responses
Oct 2018



We are distributing our Parent response letter this week via email – there are some copies in the school main entrance. This document looks at the responses we have made to parent comments made in our previous questionnaire. We thought you might appreciate the changes you have helped us make in school. Soon we will be sending out new questionnaires and Governors will take feedback at the Parent Consultations.

School Dinner Menus and Christmas Dinner



Please note the new menus are on for school dinners for next term. Please do not forget to order for next term, especially with the half term holiday, occasionally families forget to order when we have a break.

The Christmas dinner booking is also on our Wisepay booking system for all children who normally have packed lunch but would like a Christmas Dinner. (Thurs 20th Dec)

Teachers in School

We are very pleased to welcome teachers from University of Cumbria in Year 4 and 2 who will be working with us over the next four weeks after half term.



Miss Bellouère – Key and Mr Irving (Y4)



Miss Wilson and Miss McIlwee (Y2)

Jammy Dodgers



Our Christian Club (formally known as Quest Club) will be starting for Year 4 and 5 now known as Jammy Dodgers. This will be on Thursdays in the Shed.

Rugby



Various children from the juniors received some excellent coaching at Sedbergh Prep this week. It was fantastic to see everyone getting stuck in and doing so well. Continued thanks to the staff and students who hosted our children at Sedbergh Prep.

House Netball

We done to all of the Year 5 and 6 children taking part in the inter house High Five competition this Wednesday. Well Done!

Next Half term – Year 6 Debating Club



Mrs Gladwinfield will be running two debating clubs starting after half term for Year 6 pupils.

After half term break...

We look forward to welcoming our children back to school on Monday 29th November.

Parking

We couldn't be more aware of the challenges we face when it comes to parking and keeping the traffic flowing around school. Could we please however ask you not to park over the zebra crossing at the top of the junior yard as this is stopping children crossing.