

# Newsletter

Nurturing creative thinkers

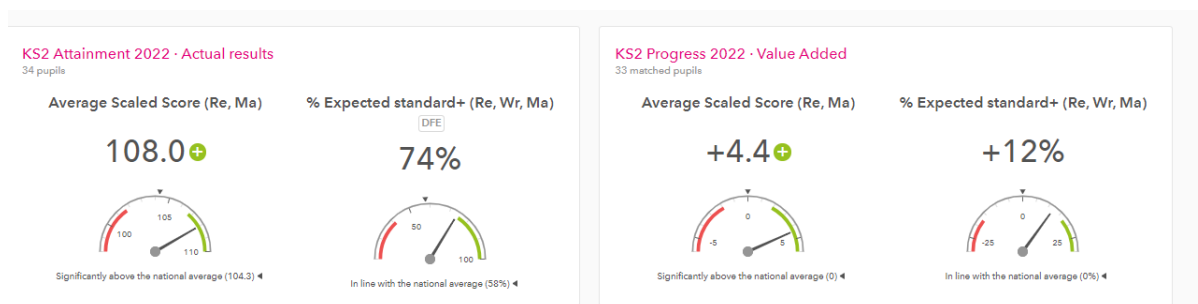
#012  
09/12/2022

St. Mary's  
Church of England Primary School  
Kirkby Lonsdale



Dear Parents,

At this time, we reflect on the term and look back at what a very busy and exciting time that our children have had. I would also like to share our end of Key Stage 2 results with you from last summer which are very positive and highlight the excellent achievement all of our children make. The information below shows the good progress our children make in school. Our curriculum is much broader than academic success, but it is essential to ensure our children achieve well as they begin their secondary school journey and beyond.



It has been lovely to see the growth in our children who have arrived in Nursery and Reception and watch them mature as a class together. It is also lovely to see our new children settle well and establish good friendships. A lovely testament of the Kirkby Lonsdale community.

Your support as parents in supporting visits, reading with your children and supporting home learning contributes significantly to your child's progress. We really appreciate the juggling families have to do to put their children's start in life first and do what they can for them in a busy world. I have also been inspired by the volunteers who help in school, supporting in class, hearing the children read and working with the children. Thank you to all of the staff who I feel, go the extra mile for the children.

For so many families, Christmas is an amazing and very special time and it is really magical for our children. I am also mindful that there are families grieving, struggling financially, facing illness or it can just be a quite stressful if not, challenging time. Our thoughts are with all of our families and we hope our children have a Happy Christmas.

We look forward to a new term in January (4<sup>th</sup> Jan start for the children) and we are already planning some very exciting learning opportunities.

Best wishes to you all.

Mr Jones

Honesty    Trust    Responsibility    Perseverance    Respect



## PTA

I just want to thank everyone for supporting the PTA Christmas Fair on the evening and before hand in the background preparing for the fair. So many parents and friends of the school gave their time to get everything ready. Thank you to all of our parents and families who donated, provided prizes and purchased tickets and spent your hard-earned money at the fair. We know that for many families, there are many financial pressures and we value your support. Thank you to everyone photographed and not, who made this an excellent event.



## Illness – scarlet fever/strep A and chicken pox.

This week we have sent various letters an information out regarding scarlet fever and chicken pox. I hope that this provides you valuable details as you navigate decisions about your child's health this winter. All schools have valued the support of Public Health advice recently as we did during the covid-19 pandemic. The recent letters sent out to you this week have come from Public Health. Apologies for the flurry of letters but I know how appreciative families are of the health information which has alleviated some of their fears and concerns.

We have been informed that any parent whose child has a fever/high temperature should seek advice from their GP.

## Christmas Events

Christmas is a very special time of the year and especially for primary children. We make every effort to make this a wonderful time. I have attached below a more detailed diary of events for next week to help you plan.

## Winter Book Challenge



Many of our families like to sign up for the reading challenges over the holidays. This winter, there is a reading challenge which extends from 1<sup>st</sup> Dec to February. A great chance to delve into books and motivate the children during the winter months.

Please click on the image to link to the website.

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## Cost of Living

Cost of Living - Support for Parent/Carers and their families

Cumbria County Council has committed 'Household Support Grant' funds to support families experiencing Food and Utility hardship. Families can access the information on the support available through the councils 'Ways to Welfare' website. Please do follow this link to see if you can get some additional support this winter.

<https://www.cumbria.gov.uk/costofliving/default.asp>

## Year 6

Well done to our wonderful Year 6 children who were exceptionally well behaved and embraced a very busy schedule of events on their visit to Liverpool. We have already received various letters and emails saying how polite and thoughtful they were. We are very proud of them! These trips provide the children with so much socially as well as academically and we can already see this class are well on their journey to becoming Year 7 ready.



THE CHURCH  
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STANDING







This week has seen the Bikeability Team come into school to support and ensure our children are safe on the roads. Cycling is such an essential skill to learn and whether new to a bike or proficient, the team respond well to challenge the children.

We hope that this week will be a catalyst for the children to ride more, be safer on the road and build their resilience and physical strength.



Thank you to our Year 2 children for singing in Kirkby Lonsdale as part of the Christmas Weekend events. With so much going on over the weekend, it was lovely to see you giving of your time to do this.



### **Bonnie Club**

What a super time Bonnie Club have had this week, celebrating Bonnie's birthday. Cake was eaten and a present was opened!



### **Visit - Kate Turner**

A huge thank you to Dr Kate Turner who came into school to inspire our children about life as a scientist. The children learned so much – especially the importance of the Zebra Fish and brain function. It is always good to hear about how scientists are trying to answer questions – just like our children do, which means we are doing the right thing at St Mary's!



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We are happy for children to wear Christmas Jumpers/outfits this week.



### Monday 12<sup>th</sup> December



#### **Hanukkah (am)**

We will be celebrating Hanukkah on Monday morning as a school. This will involve children receiving a donut. If your child is unable to eat a donut due to an intolerance or an allergy, please feel free to send an alternative for them.



#### **Music Concert (pm)**

For pupils learning an instrument with our peripatetic teachers, we are hosting our termly concert in the school hall. For parents and family who are able to attend – please arrive for 2pm. Children have spoken to Mrs Hackett if they are performing.

### Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> December



#### **Nativity – Reception Class (am) 9:30am start to allow children to walk down from school.**

Please see the information provided by the class teacher about dropping off your child and the Nativity performance at church.



#### **KS1 and Reception Class Party. (pm)**

You will have already had information about food for the party. Children in Year 1 and 2 can wear their party clothes all day. Children however should have decent footwear to walk to church and back and wear warm clothes due to the cold weather.

### Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> December



#### **Annual St John's Hospice – Sponsored Elf Run (am)**

Children will be running in the morning as part of our annual cross-country run in aid of St John's Hospice. For many years this has been a very popular event and charity as it means so many members of the community. Please come in outdoor running gear and with a spare pair of footwear and socks and a carrier/bin bag as the ground can be very muddy and wet at this time of year. The children are provided with Elf Hats on the day.



**School Christmas Dinner (pm)** – Please order by Friday 9<sup>th</sup> Dec as the chef orders the food before the weekend.



**Year 3 and 4 Party (pm)** – There is no food at this party but children can wear party clothes after the fun run in the morning.



### Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> December

**Year 5 and 6 Party (pm)** - There is no food at this party but children can wear party clothes all day.

### Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December

We will be singing carols in Kirkby Lonsdale in the morning (Y1-6) - please wrap up warmly. We don't have a confirmed time yet – but we will let you know when and where we will be singing. End of term after lunch for all children.

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*Muddy Church  
presents*

# Christingle

*You are invited to join us on 10th December  
3-4pm at Kirkby Lonsdale Methodist Church*

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**Ofsted**  
Good School

2017

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