

15.12.23

St. Mary's

Church of England Primary School
Kirkby Lonsdale



End of term: Tues 19th December (1:05pm)



Start of term: Wed 3rd January

Honesty



Trust



Responsibility



Perseverance



Respect





Dear Parents and other members of the school community,

As we approach the end of the Michaelmas term, it is with great pleasure that I reflect on the remarkable year we have had at St Mary's. The journey began on a high note with the receipt of an excellent [Ofsted inspection report](#), underscoring the dedication and commitment of our staff, students, and the entire school community.

The stage came alive with numerous performance opportunities throughout the year, showcasing the incredible talents of our students. Two spectacular summer plays and the recent Nativity play and Carol Concert were not only delightful events but also moments that brought our community together in celebration of the creative spirit within our school.

Our commitment to fostering a love for music has been resounding this year. From end-of-term concerts and engaging brass lessons to recorder sessions and a special visit from Brass England, we have sought to provide diverse musical experiences. Additionally, our students had the privilege of participating in Young Voices, visiting a recording studio, and benefiting from peripatetic lessons, creating a harmonious blend of musical education.

Outdoor learning has been a cornerstone of our curriculum, offering invaluable experiences to our students. From challenging day trips for our infants to the adventurous Waddecar Scout Camp for Year 3 and 4, School Leadership days, Hawse End expedition, River Studies trip and team-building activities within the school premises, we have strived to instil a sense of exploration and teamwork.

A highlight of this year has been the rich tapestry of visitors and parents who generously shared their experiences and careers, inspiring our children to dream big. The diverse array of insights provided a unique opportunity for our students to broaden their horizons and consider the myriad of possibilities awaiting them in the future. We all want our children to be inspired to achieve greatly in the future and by putting as many people in the path of our children as possible, we hope to inspire them for the future.

In extending my gratitude, I would like to commend our dedicated staff for their hard work and unwavering commitment. Their tireless efforts, going above and beyond, have undoubtedly contributed to the success and positive atmosphere within our school. We also bid farewell to those who have left us this year, thanking them for their significant contributions to our school community.

As we approach the festive season, I want to wish everyone a peaceful and joyful holiday. May the New Year bring continued growth, success, and happiness to each member of our St Mary's family.

Mr Jones

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Dear Parents, I mentioned in my introductory letter above that we are very sad to see various staff members leave us this year. At Christmas, Mrs Billington will be leaving us, taking Ill Health Retirement. Mrs Billington has been a central figure in our school for over 12 years and many of you will have spoken with her in the course of being part of our school.



Sadly, she will be leaving us at the end of this month. Mrs Billington is deeply loved and respected amongst our staff and I want to say a huge thank you to her as she has helped me in particular over the past 8 years. You may not quite appreciate the depth to which she has been involved with our school; it has been so significant and she has been influential in moving the school forward as part of our Senior Team. We look forward to continuing to bump into her as she walks her dogs around Kirkby Lonsdale and we wish her sincere best wishes for the future.

She has written:

"I have been privileged to work at St Mary's Primary School for the last 12 years, and it is with great sadness that I leave this very special school community.

I have been lucky to work as part of this dedicated, hardworking and truly caring staff team. I will miss my friends, colleagues and the children and families of St Mary's. Thank you to everybody who has supported me and shown me such kindness over this last very difficult year.

I wish you all a Happy and Healthy Christmas. Cath Billington"

The staff and governors wish her and her family, a wonderful Christmas and all of the happiness possible in the future.

Mr Jones

Clubs for January



Football Club is continuing on Mondays. If you would like to book in for **January** please follow the link below:

<https://forms.gle/UCU1eBTq8VtSEkbDA>



We are offering **Basketball Club on Tuesdays** in January and there will be limited places. This is because there will be a change as there is no sports club on Thursdays starting in January. The club is offered **to Year 4-6** to start with and depending on numbers we will open this up to Year 3.

Basket Ball Club Link : <https://forms.gle/XLmNbTA5CtiwZdtcA>

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You may be aware that we are partners with Ripley ITT providing high quality teacher training. Below is a poster promoting the Primary and Secondary Training offered. This is a superb route into teaching and the provision is excellent. If you are considering a career in teaching, please consider getting in touch with Ripley ITT.



RIPLEY ITT



Primary and Secondary Teacher Training

Based at Ripley St.Thomas CofE Academy, Ripley ITT offers Initial Teacher Training courses for both primary and secondary phases of education. If you already work in a school, you may be eligible for our Teacher Apprenticeship or our Assessment Only route. Alternatively, if you are changing or starting a new career, our School-Centred Initial Teacher Training (SCITT) route might be for you.

Following our recent Outstanding OFSTED inspection and with government bursaries available for training in many subjects, there has never been a better time to get into teaching. Find out more by scanning the QR code below or email us at itt@ripley.lancs.sch.uk. Visit our Eventbrite page to see our upcoming information events <https://tinyurl.com/3zy28p2r>.



Need to know:

- Qualifications required: honours degree (typically 2:2 or above); GCSE grade 4/C in English and mathematics (primary also science)
- Duration: September-July
- Funding: SCITT route - funding available through student loans or apprenticeship scheme
- Bursaries: Between £10000 and £28000 available for some secondary subjects (SCITT route)



Scan code to visit our website www.ripleyitt.co.uk
Follow us on Twitter/X: @RipleyITT



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Judo Experience

This week the children have had the opportunity to explore Judo with Danny Harper which has been a fantastic experience. If your child has been inspired to explore Judo further, please get in touch with Danny at Craven Judo Academy. We have lots of children who already take part and it is a great sport to explore.





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WE HOPE YOU ENJOYED YOUR JUDO TASTER SESSION!



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DANNY HARPER
07804819203
DANNY@DNAJUDO.CO.UK

'Craven Judo Academy'
@cravenjudo
@cravenjudo

THE I CENTRE DOJO, BACK GATE, INGLEDON, NORTH YORKSHIRE, LA6 3BT



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	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
KANO KIDZ 4-7 YEAR OLDS	5.30-6.30pm	5.30-6.30pm	4.15-5.15pm
JUNIOR JUDO 7-12 YEAR OLDS	6.30-7.30pm	6.30-7.30pm	5.15-6.15pm
ACADEMY JUDO 12-17 YEAR OLDS	7.30-9.30pm	7.30-9.30pm	7.30-9.30pm
ADULT JUDO 18+ YEAR OLDS	7.30-9.30pm	7.30-9.30pm	7.30-9.30pm

18th and 19th December

Monday 18 th Dec	Elf Run (am)	Music Concert in School – (13:45pm)
Tuesday 19 th Dec	Carol Singing (am) outside Church 9:15-9:25 start.	
	End of Term 13:05pm	

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Christmas Fair

you so much for your generous support. The PTA worked so hard to put the fair together and create an excellent night. The children benefit so much from the donations that the PTA give out including paying for visitors in school, Christmas presents, class funds, Lego technology and so much more.

The Christmas Fair made a fantastic £3636.58 which will all benefit the education of the children in our school. Thank you so much!

THE SANTA SHOW 2023

Santa's Christmas Wish
- the show where every child gets a present from Santa!

What would Santa love for Christmas?
Join the adventure to grant his secret wish, then meet Santa after & receive a special present!

the Old Laundry theatre
Bowness-on-Windermere
Meet Santa theatre show
16-17 & 20-24 December

A fun musical adventure with Santa in the most Christmassy Christmas show ever!
Every child receives a gift from Father Christmas!

Child £9.50
(incl. meet Santa & present)
Adult £12.00

oldlaundrytheatre.co.uk
015394 40872

Forestry

Explore: Christingle

Join us on the 17th December
at Kirkby Lonsdale Methodist
Church 3-4pm.

Family friendly: crafts, story & firepit.

play-explore-together



Safety – School Parking

The children's safety is of paramount importance, and as a Governing body we do all we can to support the School leadership team in ensuring all children have safe and easy access to the school.

It has come to my attention, as the Governor for Health & Safety, that there is currently an increased risk during drop-off and pick-up times. Cars are being left unattended in undesignated areas, or blocking the route for staff members cars, delivery vehicles etc..

The school car-park is for staff only, and should not be used by parents. The school has created a drop-off area in the pull-in area. Simply drop-off or collect your child and please pull-off straightaway, so the space can be used for someone else. Please do not park in this drop-off area or leave your car for any length of time.

If you are needing to pop-into the school with your child or you are planning on meeting up with other parents, we suggest that you use the Booths car park and walk up to the school, as this car park is now free for up to one hour. Parking at Booths is now easier than ever. You do not need a ticket, as the car park simply uses Parking-Eye to determine your entry and exit time.

We do also politely ask that if you are in walking distance to the school, that you consider walking to and from school, as this is beneficial to health and the environment, not to mention a saving in fuel.

Lastly a quick reminder, that due to the volume of traffic surrounding both QES and St Mary's the council, highways and Police do routinely monitor the area for illegal parking etc. Therefore, we do ask all parents to not park on double yellow lines or park in a manner that would block emergency vehicles, neighbours vehicles, etc...

If you have any questions or require any clarification, I can be contacted via the school.

We really do need every parents support in keeping access to the school safe.

Thank you

Graeme Gladwinfield
School Governor for Health & Safety

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Helpful Contacts over Christmas Break

Samaritans

Confidential non-judgmental emotional support, 24 hours a day for people who are experiencing feelings of distress, despair or suicide.

Helpline: 116 123 (24hrs a day, 7 days a week)

Email helpline: jo@samaritans.org (they try their hardest to get back to your email within 24 hours)

Mind

Information and advice about mental health and support services.

Helpline: 0300 123 3393

Drinkline

Free, confidential helpline for anyone who is concerned about their drinking, or someone else's.

Helpline: 0300 123 1110 (weekdays 9am–8pm, weekends 11am–4pm)



PAPYRUS
PREVENTION OF YOUNG SUICIDE

HOPELINEUK 0800 068 41 41

No young person should have to suffer alone with thoughts of suicide

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Organisation	We can help...	Contact details
Westmorland and Furness Council	<p>Prioritising services for those who are most vulnerable in our communities.</p> <p>If you feel that you are at the point of being without basic supplies, and you need help and assistance, please call Westmorland and Furness Council's Ways to Welfare.</p>	<p>General enquiries: 0300 373 3300</p> <p>Housing: 01229 876578</p> <p>Emergency out of hours: 01229 833311</p> <p>Ways to Welfare 0300 373 3300 (Option 2)</p> <p>http://legacy.westmorlandandfurness.gov.uk/costofliving/householdsupportfund.asp</p>

Organisation	We can help with your Health & Wellbeing	Contact details
NHS Care Coordination Team	<p>We can offer you an assessment in your own home to look at your current needs and see how you can be best supported.</p> <p>We can also help you to access local services and resources - to help improve your quality of life and reduce social isolation.</p> <p>Additionally, we can help avoid hospital admissions by arranging for aides or equipment, and we can refer you to other services that can help you stay independent.</p>	<p>01229 402578</p> <p>Mon to Fri 9:00am-5:00pm</p>
Adult Social Care	Assessment and support for adults to maintain and regain independence with a personal support plan.	<p>SPA (Single Point of Access)</p> <p>contact number: 0300 373 3301</p> <p>customerservicesASC@westmorlandandfurness.gov.uk</p>

Age UK Barrow & District	We have a team of dedicated staff and volunteers who are there to call people who live alone or feel isolated. We will provide a friendly, listening ear two to three times each week and will call for a light-hearted chat to help combat loneliness.	<p>01229 831425</p> <p>info@ageukbarrow.org.uk</p> <p>www.ageuk.org.uk/barrow/</p>
Mind In Furness	Support and advice for people who have or are experiencing mental health problems.	<p>01229 827094</p> <p>schoolstreet@mindinfurness.org.uk</p>
Samaritans (Furness & South Lakes)	Offer listening and support to people and communities in times of need without judgement or pressure.	<p>Phone: 116 123 free from any phone</p> <p>0330 0945717 local call charges apply</p> <p>www.samaritans.org/branches/barrow</p>
SAFA Cumbria	Offer a safe environment, help and support to individuals, families and friends affected by the impact self-harm has on their lives.	<p>01229 832269</p> <p>Mon to Thurs 9:00am-5:00pm,</p> <p>Fri 9:00am-12:00pm.</p> <p>Text - 07508035048</p> <p>info@safa-selfharm.com</p>
Organisation	We can help with your Health & Wellbeing	Contact details
Alzheimer's Society	Dementia support, information, and advice by telephone for anyone living with or affected by dementia; and telephone calls from volunteers to help provide more social contact.	<p>01228 819299 (leave message for local team)</p> <p>cumbria@alzheimers.org.uk</p> <p>0333 1503456 National Dementia Connect support line</p> <p>www.alzheimers.org.uk for regularly updated advice and discussion forum.</p>

Coach Gunn (QES Sports Hall, Biggins Road, Kirkby Lonsdale)

Description: Activities include multi sports, ropes, climbing frame, fun games, bouncy castle, UV Sports, supervised free play, archery, NERF, mini golf, Lego, Let's Craft plus lots more fun and creative activities! Hot lunch & snacks included.

Age range: 5-12

Dates: 23 Dec, 2, 5 & 6 Jan

Times: 8am – 5pm

Booking information: Call 07912 178917 or email coachmarkgunn@gmail.com

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