



LEVENS CE SCHOOL

Loving to Learn, Growing Together, Caring for All

Headteacher: Mrs Jane Farraday

Church Road, Levens, Kendal LA8 8PU 015395 60694 office@levens.cumbria.sch.uk www.levens.cumbria.sch.uk

Friday 22nd November 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

Yesterday, our pupils, staff and volunteers enjoyed a wonderful morning at the theatre to watch the Jungle Book; I am sure you have heard all about it! As always, the children were impeccably behaved both on the coach and in the theatre. It's such a wonderful treat towards the end of each autumn term and we are so grateful to everyone who supports the work of FOLS for paying for both coaches to and from Keswick again this year.



On Wednesday of this week, our very well prepared and determined runners set off to take part in the first X-country event of the season at Dallam Secondary School. The energy, enthusiasm and excitement was palpable as they left our site to board the coach.

Conditions were admittedly cold, but a beautiful sun, blue skies and crisp course were perfect for running and the team of 31 acquitted themselves so very well with individual medals, team placings and super personal bests. Parents and wider family members supported in abundance cheering on every member of our amazing team.

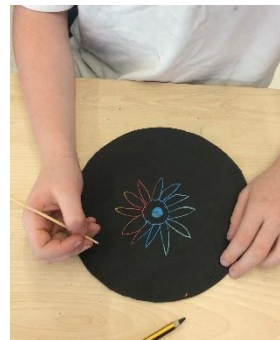
Huge thanks to Mrs Coker, Mrs Mason and Ms Chapman for making this all possible and to Jake's grandpa for some incredible photographs, now published on our website blog.

Last week, we spent some time understanding the impact of bullying as well as showing our solidarity to stand up to bullying by taking part in 'Odd Socks Day'.

By the end of the week we were showing our support for Children in Need through so many generous donations of cakes and cash. I am pleased to announce that we have raised £316, which will be forwarded to this amazing charity in the next few days.



Earlier this month, all the pupils enjoyed an afternoon learning about the art of other world faiths with a different teacher. Their work has already made a very beautiful and colourful display in our school hall.



Staff News:

Mrs Craggs has decided to hang up her hockey stick and boots at the end of this term as she finishes her role here at Levens. Mrs Craggs is one of the only remaining members of staff who was here when I joined in September 2015. Following 13 years here, as both a class teacher and sports coach, Julie has decided to leave us to concentrate on her swimming coaching and have more time to be with her family. I am sure you will want to join me in saying an enormous thank you to her – she has supported the staff with her expertise in such a varied range of sports and led our pupils to success at many cluster sporting competitions over many years.

You may have noticed that Mrs Court is back in school as she started her phased return to work last week. We are so very pleased to have her back supporting our pupils and staff who have missed her dearly over the last few months.

Online Payments:

We are so pleased that so many parents and carers have signed up for our new online payment system – just over 85% so far. This is the most efficient way to ensure you can make prompt payments, but also the way to give consent for your child/children to attend trips offsite. If you haven't already, please sign up when you can.

We plan to extend this service to paying for school meals at the start of the spring term 2025.

Christmas Film Night:

This is the last call to sign up for our Christmas Film night hosted by all the Levens staff who are giving up their evening to host a fabulous night of fun for all our pupils. Please use Parentpay to complete payment and don't forget to select your film using the reply slips! Children can return to school in pjs or onesies and please also bring a pillow, cushion or blanket. Teddies are also welcome at no extra cost.

Christmas Shopping

Did you know that school has an account with Easy fundraising? This is a great way to make money for our school fund, just by making your online purchases via their website. A link can be found [here](#) and on our website!

Christmas Fair:

The FOLS Christmas Fair is taking place on Friday 6th December between 5-7.30pm. If you can support the running of a stall at the fair or help with setting up/tidying up at the end, please get in touch with a member of the committee.

On the day before the fair, we will be having a non-uniform day in return for donations of small prizes, cakes for our cake stall, tombola prizes or chocolates and sweets. Friday will be PE kit as usual.

Parking at School:

Unfortunately, I have been receiving some complaints from our neighbours regarding people's lack of consideration when parking near our school at the start and end of the day.

Please may I politely remind everyone driving their children to and from school to:

- Avoid parking on grass verges, pavements or driveways;

- Do not turn around in the drives of the two houses opposite school on Church Road as this is private land.
- Do not park opposite 'School House' on Church Road, as this makes it very difficult for the residents to get in or out of their drive.
- Please do not park on pavements or across the drives of people living on the estate just across from our main entrance, Green Gate Gardens.

On occasions, parents/carers have also parked very close, if not across, the large wooden gates into our staff carpark. Please park well away from these gates as staff leave and enter this carpark at various times in the school day to go to meetings, training etc. Recently, staff have been unable to leave due to cars being parked partly or entirely in front of these gates.

Thank you in anticipation of your cooperation and understanding.

Snow and Ice:

As we approach the colder months, please be careful on your journeys to and from school. Today has been particularly treacherous for those coming on foot as well as by car. We are very lucky that Michael is able to grit pathways in and out of school, but it is important that everyone takes great care – staying to the gritted areas and avoiding using any of the fixed playtime gym equipment.

If snow is forecast, please be aware that many of our staff travel considerable distances from all over Cumbria and Lancashire. Regardless of the weather conditions in Levens, it may be that staff are unable to get to school safely due to adverse weather either at home or along their journeys. In the unlikely event that we would have to close the school due to dangerous weather conditions, parents/carers would be notified via text as early in the morning as possible.

Christmas Dates and Events:

The online calendar is getting busy so please keep checking back to make sure you don't miss a thing! As well as the fair and special film night, we have a craft evening with Sophie Martin; the infant nativity; our Christmas service at St. John's and our class parties.

Our Year 5 + 6 pupils are busy designing and organising fun games for our younger pupils to play at the Christmas Fair. This is a fabulous way for our older children to learn some valuable life skills and do something wonderful for our pupils to enjoy.

We look forward to seeing you at some of our events in the lead up to the festive period.

With my very best wishes

J Farraday

Jane Farraday



Wednesday Dec 4th 6-8pm
 Join FOLS for a relaxed evening of festive craft
 In the School dining hall run by Sophie Martin
 ★ making origami Christmas decorations ★
 All proceeds going to Friends of Levens School!
 £20 pp includes a tippie and a mince pie
 Spaces limited please ★ contact FOLS team to book
 Jan Mason 07795236626 Fiona Bond 07787514809