

Newsletter - Easter 2025

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We've had a very busy half term with lots of events and trips taking place as follows:

Y3, Y4 & Y5 were offered the chance to go to the Theatre Royal in Newcastle to see The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe. We are always keen to take the children to experience performances at the theatre whenever possible. The C. S. Lewis story, that is now 75 years old was brought to life for the children to enjoy.

Y5 spent a week at Howtown Outward Bound Centre where they experienced a wealth of outdoor pursuits. They also learned the important lessons of looking after themselves and believing in themselves. The children tested themselves with activities such as fell-walking, tunneling, ghyll-scrambling, rowing and jog and dip. They also had a go at rowing and night-line (which is being guided blind-folded around an obstacle course). They also enjoyed an exciting trip on a speed boat.

Y5 took part in a **workshop at Carlisle United called Show Racism the Red Card.** At this fantastic event, footballers from Carlisle United join in with discussions on racism and its detrimental impact. The children looked at different scenarios and discussed how it can be distressing for those affected by it. Children were asked to think of questions to ask on this subject. There was a prize for the best question.

Years 2, 3, 4 & 5 visited the church to take part in an Easter workshop. The church was set up to tell the story from Palm Sunday until Easter Sunday in an interactive way.

Y5 went to **RRCA to take part in a geography day** where they enjoyed using compasses, maps and looked at routes in the local area.

On a warm, sunny spring day, **Y6 enjoyed a trip to a local farm** where they saw new lambs in the field.



Celebrating Success

The Mr Potter Award for Resilience was awarded to Alexandra M Y3 and Adelina Rec.



The Avril Barker Award for Good Citizenship was awarded to Teddy Rec, Alessia Y1, Dominic Y2, Jabub Y3, Tiwa Y4, Franklin Y5, Harvey Y6.

The **most improved readers**, who will visit Waterstones book shop to choose a book to keep, were Deepti Rec, Jenson Y1, Malvin Y2, Morgan Y3, Kevin Y4, Skye Y5, Isaac Y6.

Well done to all of you - you have done yourselves and Brook Street School proud.



Events have included:

Celebrations for World Book Day. The children were asked to come to school dressed as an adjective. We saw some fantastic costumes and a prize for the best costume in each class was given. The winners were Maksymilian Y1, Minsas Y2, Pravitha Y3, Mina Y4, Matilda Y5, Jesse Y6.



Fundraising for Red Nose Day. The children came to school dressed in red, some in red clothing, some with red noses and even some with red hair! Donations were taken and we raised £95 which has been forwarded to this appeal.

Class photographs were taken. Samples of these will be forwarded to parents once we have them along with details of how to purchase them should parents wish to do so. Individual photographs will be taken next October.

The NHS came in to school to weigh and measure children in reception class and Y6. This is a national programme that is set up to help parents. Research shows that if your child is above a healthy weight now, they're more likely to be above a healthy weight as an adult, which can lead to health problems in later life. This measurement is an important way of checking how your child is growing. If your child was highlighted as being above a healthy weight for their height and you would like help, please contact school.



School Reports were available for parents to read and make comment on. They were then copied and a copy given to parents. If you would like to discuss your child's school report with their teacher or the headteacher, please contact school to make an appointment to see them.



Sporting activities have included:

A Y3 & 4 girls' football competition and a **Y3 & 4 boys' football competition** took place separately at Pennine Way where each of the teams had a mention for their tremendous effort. Thanks to Mark and Adam who supported school in both preparing for, and whilst at, these competitions.

Y5 & 6 Girls' football festival took place at RRCA.

Y3 took part in a 10 week programme of tennis at Chatsworth Tennis Club. There will be a tennis festival next term where they can show off their newly acquired skills.

Staff are currently being trained in **T1 Rugby** via Carlisle Rugby Club and they donated free equipment to school. This sport will be taught to the children next term.

Our **free after-school activities this half term** have included:

drawing, football with Mark, football with Adam, Easter crafts, hama-beads, knitting and maths with Mrs Nugent and maths with Miss Mellor.



To help celebrate Easter, Each child was given the gift of an **Easter egg**. We hope your children all enjoy this chocolate gift.

We also held an **Easter Card competition** and the following children won a prize:

Kaja Y6, Nadia Y5, Cindy Y4, Candice Y3, Isabelle Y2, Tamana Y1, Seb Rec, Eve Nursery, Special Recognition Award Skylar Y4.



We had some wonderful entries and all children who entered received a small chocolate treat. Well done to you all.

We finish for the Easter holiday on **FRIDAY 4TH APRIL** **AT 1.30pm** and return on **TUESDAY 22ND APRIL**

We wish you all a happy Easter and an enjoyable holiday.

After School Childcare Club continues to run each night from when we finish school until 5.45pm at a low cost of £5 per session. Places must be booked before 2.30pm on the day that you need the place. Look out for special events such as Movie Night or Disco night as your child may enjoy attending these sessions.



We would like to say a huge 'THANK YOU' to **GREGGS THE BAKERS** who have helped to support our Breakfast Club for many years. The Government

have now placed our school on an Early Adopters Programme where they will help with some of the costs of running this club. We will continue to offer the club **FREE OF CHARGE**.

As well as providing free bread and funding for our Breakfast Club, Greggs have supported our school in so many ways over the years - by helping families in need by providing white goods, beds etc. as well as vouchers for food. They have donated Pudsey Bear biscuits on Children in Need day and various cookies for other fundraising events. Their support has been invaluable. Although their support of our Breakfast Club has come to an end, we hope to continue to work with them in the future. **ONCE AGAIN - VERY MANY THANKS TO THIS WONDERFUL COMPANY.**

Attendance

Please remember that the Government guidelines regarding taking **holidays in term time** is being enforced now. This means that if you take your child out of school, including to take them abroad (unauthorised), or to have a holiday during school time, a fixed penalty notice will be issued. **The penalty is £160 per parent/per child if paid within 28 days** - reduced to £80 if paid within 21 days (on the first occasion only). If a fine is issued and you do not pay within the agreed time limit, you will be prosecuted and could be fined up to £2,500. Fines per parent, will be capped at 2 fines within any 3-year period. Once this limit has been reached, other action like a parenting order or prosecution will be considered (possible fine of up to £2,500). Please therefore do not take holidays or unauthorised time off school during term time.

Good school attendance is imperative. We can only teach your child if they are in school, and on time, every possible day. We understand that children are ill from time to time and if that is the case, please call and speak to someone in school by 9.30am to let us know the reason. If your child has vomited or has diarrhoea, they will need to be absent for 48 hours from the last episode.

Please ensure that your child attends school on time, every day. Being late has a detrimental impact on them. It means that they miss the important start of the school day when instructions are given. They also may miss interventions that are taking place to boost their education. It can also upset your child when they are late.

Attendance Matters



NURSERY - If you know of anyone who has a child, who will be **3 years old before 31st August 2025**, who would like a free place in our nursery, please ask them to contact our school office for further details. We offer 30 hour sessions to those eligible for this and 15 hour sessions (every morning 8.20 - 12 noon) for anyone else). If you have no recourse to public funds, you will only be eligible for 15 free hours (every morning Monday - Friday). However, there is also the option to pay for the afternoon session at a cost of £10 per afternoon (12 noon - 3.00pm) if you want to.



REMINDERS - Please remember to **monitor your children's access to technology** and ensure that it is **age appropriate**.

Uniform - please ensure that your child is wearing full school uniform each day including sensible black shoes or trainers (no logos). Girls can wear sensible white sandals with a strap across the foot and blue gingham dresses if they want to when the weather gets better and navy blue, black or shorts can be worn, by boys and girls, if parents prefer. If you prefer your child to wear their normal uniform for summer that is fine too. At the end of term, if you are buying new uniform and so clearing out old uniform, please consider donating the old uniform to school so that others can make use of this. Many thanks.



Parking - Please do not park on the zig-zags outside of school or stop in the middle of the road to let anyone in and out of the car. This is very dangerous and could result in a serious accident.

Please be respectful of others at the school gate. Parents are asked to line up and wait their turn. Teachers will bring children to the gate and allow children to leave in order.

Fruit and Veg - You can still purchase a fresh bag of fruit, vegetables or salad from school for £3.50. Orders are taken at the school office on a Monday and delivered to school on Thursday.

Fare Share - We continue to offer a bag of mixed groceries at a cost of £1 each Wednesday from around 2.50pm, on a first-come-first-served basis. Thank you to the Cumberland Building Society who donate towards the cost of us purchasing Fare Share.

Mrs Park, our Pastoral Support Worker continues to offer help to families. If you feel that you need help with your child's health, behaviour, sleep etc. or if you need support with housing, mental health issues, finding a doctor or financial difficulties, please ask to see her.

Dental problems - accessing free dental care can be very difficult. If you or your child ever have toothache and need access to a dentist, please ask in school where we may be able to help with arranging this.

Free School Meals - if you think that you are entitled to Free School Meals, a clothing grant and holiday food grant and you need help with registering, please ask at the school office where we will be happy to help.

Details of free **Holiday Activity Fund places** were sent to parents recently. If you need more information regarding this, please ask at the school office.

Please do not struggle financially unnecessarily. If you have no recourse to public funds and find that you are too ill to work some time and therefore have no income to buy food, please ask in school as we may be able to arrange access to a local **food bank**.