

# Newsletter

## January 2019



Shankhill C of E Primary School  
Hethersgill  
Carlisle CA6 6JA  
[office@shankhill.cumbria.sch.uk](mailto:office@shankhill.cumbria.sch.uk)  
01228 577264

Dear Parents and Community,

## Happy New Year!

Attached is a 'Calendar of Events' which have been booked so far this year. It looks like another fun-packed busy term.

### Ofsted Inspection report

We are very proud to share with you the findings of our recent Ofsted inspection in December 2018. The report comes in the form of a letter to the headteacher. We hope that when you read it, you will recognise the many wonderful and highly effective features of this school, and how these are supporting your children to become the best people they can be, both through personal development and their academic learning progress. Please do share this among family and friends too, as it may encourage one or two more children to join our school too. A copy can be found on our website.

### Class 1 Teacher

Unfortunately, Miss Smith is going to be absent from school for a little longer. We are pleased to have Mrs Sparke, our regular supply teacher, in to cover Miss Smith's teaching on a Wednesday morning, Thursday and Friday.

### Gymnastics Festival - Tuesday, 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2019

Following on from the letter that was sent home earlier this week, here are the final details of the gymnastics festival. Year 1 to Year 6 are competing in the annual local gymnastic festival at William Howard School on Tuesday. Our slot to perform is at 9:15am; therefore we will be leaving school, on a coach from Irving's of Carlisle, at 08:30am. Therefore, we ask for all Y1 to Y6 children to be in school by 8:20am. Younger siblings can be brought in at this time too.

Please arrive at school wearing your full PE kit and bring your normal school uniform in your PE bag to change into on our return. Please make sure you have your clean **full PE kit: blue school t-shirt and royal blue shorts in school. Long hair must be tied back, preferably in a plait or low pony tail for safety when performing rolls.** (Kirby grips are less painful than fancy clips!) **Please remove all jewellery and earrings.**

Parents are not permitted to watch the festival this year, unfortunately.

### Earrings in School

Please remember that we recommend that earrings are NOT worn to school for safety reasons. If earrings are worn, they should be small and discrete for safety reasons. They are not allowed to be worn during PE and so should be removed or not worn on a PE day (Monday, Thursday and Friday). Although some children are able to remove and replace their own earrings at PE time; this is taking time away from learning and breaks and so we recommend not wearing them on a PE day. Please note that adults cannot help with earring removal or replacement.

### Absence during term time.

Unfortunately, there has been a string of colds and sickness moving through school which has meant that some children have had time off school. Any time away from school means that your child has missed learning and lessons that may not be repeated. This often leads to gaps in your child's learning, leaving them working behind the rest of the group and lacking in confidence.

96% attendance is acceptable but this only allows for a few days of absence over the year. Unfortunately, some children have slipped to well below this and are now being monitored and supported by school and their family to ensure that their learning is caught up. Meetings will be arranged with families where attendance is below 90%.

To help reduce gaps in learning, and to maintain skills, knowledge and build understanding, we have online learning tools which children from Y1 upwards can access from home. These include: LEXIA, My Maths, SPAG.com and other given tasks like learning key-rings and reading books from your book-bags. If your child is absent from school, please contact school before

*"This is a good school ... Activities capture pupils' interests and inspire confidence and enjoyment ...*

*Excellent relationships between adults and pupils create a positive climate where pupils want to learn and do well." Ofsted 2015*



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9:30am. Your child's teacher will prepare online learning for them to access at home. The teacher will send details home, via email or text, and will monitor the work to ensure tasks are completed either if the child is well enough to do them while they are absent or during the days following their absence. The teacher can provide additional work, should this be required, either through their monitoring or by communication with parents.

#### Absence due to sickness or diarrhoea

Children and staff **MUST** be absent from school for at least 48 hours after the last episode of sickness or diarrhoea. This does not necessarily mean two school days; 48 hours clear of these bugs may mean three school days.

In school we are working to reduce absence from school as best we can by teaching our children to wash their hands using a thorough routine under warm water. We are encouraging the children to learn good basic hygiene by washing their hands after going to the toilet and following any activity which precedes eating food. Please ask them to show you and encourage these good practises at home too.

#### Other absences

Please note that all medical appointments should be made for after school or during school holidays. Any other time off is not permitted unless under exceptional circumstances. Please read the letter from Cumbria County Council concerning this matter and the penalties that absences can cause, which is available on our website.

#### Homework

Every child gets regular homework each week:

Y2-6 - given on a Friday to return the following Thursday

Rec-Y1 - given on a Tuesday to return the following Monday. Look for the new folder from Mrs Beattie with everything in.

Homework is a key part of the learning journey, allowing children to practise key skills and providing teachers with another opportunity to see your child use these skills independently. Completed homework is kept in school along with daily work as it shows your child's complete learning journey. **Please ensure that your child completes their homework every week, neatly in pencil** as it does get glued into English and Maths books. Every child is expected to:

- Learn their new spellings, phonic sounds and/or spelling rules activity sheet;
- Complete a short literacy or maths task and learn maths facts until they know them off by heart (e.g. times tables)
- Learn new phonic sounds or grammar facts from their key-rings;
- Read for at least 10 minutes, at least 4 times a week (this should be at least 4 pages a night building to 30 minutes by Year 6); Please sign your child's reading diary each day that they read. **4+ parent signatures = Golden Time in KS2.**
- Years 3 - 6 will also receive a mini project about their topic every term.

#### Bubble Wrap

We have a large quantity of re-usable bubble wrap in school, which is free to anyone who can make use of it. Please just ask!

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Batey, Head Teacher

<u>Date/Day</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Who is involved?</u>
19 <sup>th</sup> Jan - Sat	AM	Small Schools 5 aside Football @ Sands Centre	Selected Team
22 <sup>nd</sup> Jan - Tue	AM	Key Steps Gymnastics @ WHS	Y1 - Y6
30 <sup>th</sup> Jan - Wed	PM	Key Steps Gymnastics @ Uni of Cumbria (Fusehill St) NO MOTHER & TODDLER SESSION THIS AFTERNOON	Selected Team
2 <sup>nd</sup> Feb - Sat	AM	Girls Football @ Sands Centre	Selected Team
Half Term Break: Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> Feb to Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> Feb			
28 <sup>th</sup> Feb - Thu	AM	Dental Survey - 5 year olds only	
7 <sup>th</sup> Mar - Thu	AM	Small Schools 5 aside Football @ Sands Centre	Y5/6
22 <sup>nd</sup> Mar - Fri		U-Dance Performance @ Sands Centre - Tickets available direct from the Sands Centre - Limited availability - act quickly!	Y3-6
Term Break Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> April to Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> April			
19 <sup>th</sup> April - Fri		<b>Good Friday - School Closed</b>	
22 <sup>nd</sup> April - Mon		<b>Easter Monday - School Closed</b>	
24 <sup>th</sup> Apr - Wed	9:30	PTA - Air Ambulance Clothing Collection	
27 <sup>th</sup> Apr - Sat	10:30 pm	Lanercost Cross Country Carlisle United V Crawley Town - Football match	N-Y6 invited Y2 - Y6