



# 'Be Smart... Be the best that you can be...'



**St Martin and St Mary Church of England Primary School Newsletter No.7 – Friday 28<sup>th</sup> March 2025**

**Easter** – I know that everybody is ready for the Easter break after such a busy term. From Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> April, Louise Swindlehurst will take over as headteacher of St Martin and St Mary C of E Primary School. I really hope that all members of our school community will look after her and support her as she begins her new role. As I move on, I would like to say thank you to everyone who has supported me and the school through a difficult period of time. I wish the very best to all the children, all the staff and all of you in the years to come.



**Active Cumbria Award** – It was such a privilege to be part of the group of staff representatives who travelled to Workington on 28<sup>th</sup> February to attend the Active Cumbria Awards. You will know that we were nominated in the Active School category and the panel of experts selected our school as a worthy winner. I am delighted for Carole Quill and the staff in school who go above and beyond each week to create something really special and unique for your children. The award proves that no other school in Cumbria provides this level of sport and activity for the children in the school. This is all down to the dedication and hard work of Carole and the people who support her. Thank you so much to everyone involved.

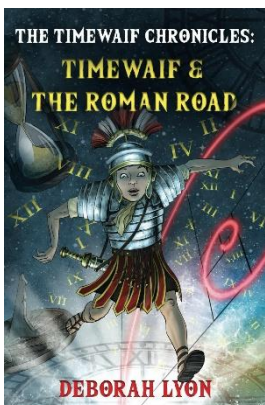
**Gymnastics** – well done to every child who participated in the Key Steps Gymnastic event at Cartmel School. We are so proud of all of you and the effort you put into your movement and performances. And what an amazing set off results, winners in every category! Further proof that we are such an 'active' school!



**Easter Competitions** - Please remember to bring your entries for the Easter competition into school on Monday. Children from Pre-School to Year 2 are invited to make an Easter Bonnet or Hat. Children from Year 3 to Year 6 are invited to decorate a real blown egg at home.



The entries will be judged next week and a winner will be chosen from each class, every entry will receive a prize. All entries must be received by Monday 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025 by 3.15pm.



**World Book Day** – Thank you so much to everyone who supported school on World Book Day. We had a brilliant time celebrating reading and imagination. We were so pleased to welcome Deborah Lyons, author of Timewaif into school again, to read a section of her book and talk about being an author.

Well done to Bobbi in Year 4 for winning the book design competition. Bobbi won a £25 voucher to spend on Scholastic books – her design was brilliant.

**School Council Charities** – Thank you to everyone who supported our School Council funding day and quiz. The team have raised an amazing amount of money and raised awareness for their chosen local charities, the RSPCA and the Wainwright Rescue Shelter.

**Curriculum Information** – Some parents have been in touch to request more information about our school curriculum. Our Curriculum Booklets for each term and class can be found on our school website under the 'Class Pages' tab here; <https://www.windermere.cumbria.sch.uk/class-pages/> For more information about each individual subject and the topics being taught please select the 'Curriculum' tab under the Key Information banner; <https://www.windermere.cumbria.sch.uk/curriculum/>

Our Curriculum is constantly under review and still being updated as we continue to develop learning for mixed aged classes so please revisit these pages as the year unfolds and the information is updated.

**Parent and Family Questionnaire** – every year, we ask parents and families to help us understand what we are doing well and how we might look to improve through our Parent and Family questionnaire. Here is the link to this years' questionnaire. Please can I ask that families complete one of these for each of their children and submit before Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2025 when the survey will close. Thank you.

<https://forms.office.com/e/nn8CM0ingQ>



**Swimming Pool Update** – We were so excited to announce the launch of our dedicated swimming pool website. Thank you so much to our pool committee for getting this 'off the ground' and, in particular, to Nicola Pickup for doing all the technical, creative work in the background. You can access the website from our school website under the 'About Us' menu or by clicking this link; <https://windermereswimmingpool.co.uk/>

On the website, interested parties can learn more about the work we are doing as a voluntary group to raise money, maintain the pool and protect its future. Individuals and businesses can also learn about ways in which you can support us through volunteering, donations and advertising.

This year we are offering local businesses the opportunity to buy an advertising board to be displayed on the interior walls of our pool for participants to see. The A2 sized boards will be fully printed and displayed on the wall with your company logo on. The cost will be £250 for the swimming season. If your company wanted to continue to support our pool the following season a charge of £200 would be payable (as long as artwork remains the same). If this is something you would like to be involved in please email [swimming@windermere.cumbria.sch.uk](mailto:swimming@windermere.cumbria.sch.uk)

In the near future, we hope to promote some open swimming sessions where individuals and families can book swimming sessions in the pool outside of school hours. You will soon be able to do this through the website.

Thank you to everyone who supported us in getting the pool ready for the season on our Pool Maintenance Day on Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> March. I am delighted to say that our Air Source Heat Pump is finally fully commissioned and already switched on warming up the water ahead of our opening later in April.

On Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> May, the PTA are planning a huge Fundraising event, involving all our local schools and pool users. There will be a Car Boot Sale, events on the school field and a Sponsored Swim to raise money towards our Fundraising Target of £10,000. This amount will support pool running costs and upkeep through this season. You can still donate money using our GoFundMe page or directly to the school office. Thank you so much in anticipation of your support. <https://gofund.me/951808ba>



**Uma Kunda – Family Video Competition** – thank you to everyone who entered this video competition (entries closed today). Next month, we will announce the winners and send our edited highlights video to our friends in Uma Kunda.

**Northern Rail Project** – Simone Backhouse from the Bowness and Windermere Community Care Trust is planning an event with Northern Rail in the summer holidays. This free project is linked to the Windermere Children who came to Windermere for safety during the war. This will take place on 14<sup>th</sup> August and will involve a walk to Orrest Head and a visit to the LDHP at the library. It is hoped that some famous authors will be involved. Simone is hoping to involve around 30 children so if you would some more information, please contact Simone at [www.bwcct.co.uk](http://www.bwcct.co.uk)

**Cygnets – Playgroup** – Our school is still open each Wednesday to welcome younger children and their parents for a morning of play, craft, baking and much needed conversation. More details can be found on our website or by following this link; [Cygnets Playgroup](#)

**Cygnets Swimming Group** – We are very excited to announce that after Easter we will be running our first Cygnets Swimming Group. These sessions will run on a Tuesday from 1.00 – 2.00pm from Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> April to Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> May. Further information can be found on our website or by following this link: <https://www.windermere.cumbria.sch.uk/school-events-1/> Places are limited so please [click here](#) to book your place.

*Some additional reminders...*

**Illness** – It's that time of year where there are lots of viruses going around and we have had a number of children off/sent home with sickness bugs recently. Please can we remind you that if your child has been sick or had diarrhoea, then they can only return to school 48 hours after symptoms have stopped. We realise that it is frustrating if your child seems well enough to be back in school, however, it is important that we try and avoid it spreading to other children and staff.

**Parking** - Please can I remind all parents and carers not to drop off and/or collect your child from the school drive or the delivery bay alongside Pre-School. Instead, please park on the road and walk up the footpath. Can I also remind you not to use the disabled bay opposite the school office unless you are a blue badge holder. We have a number of families that need to use this space and it needs to be kept clear for those that genuinely need it.

**Important Diary Dates - All dates are in the school calendar on our website for easy reference**

- Monday 31<sup>st</sup> March – 3.30pm – Year 4 Parent's meeting re: Liverpool Trip in Mrs Greenall's classroom
- Monday 31<sup>st</sup> March – All Easter competition entries due in by 3.15pm today
- Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> April – 1.30pm – KS2 Easter Service at St Martin's Church – parents welcome
- Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> April – Year 5 trip to School Knott and Brantfell
- Friday 4<sup>th</sup> April (AM) – EYFS/KS1 Easter Bonnet Parade
- Friday 4<sup>th</sup> April – **Terms ends at 12noon today for Pre-School & Nursery children**
- Friday 4<sup>th</sup> April – **Term ends at 2pm today for Reception to Year 6 children**
- Monday 7<sup>th</sup> April to Monday 21<sup>st</sup> April – Easter Holidays
- Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> April – Summer Term begins
- Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> April (AM) – Year 5 weekly swimming lessons start today
- Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> April (AM) – Year 3 weekly swimming lessons start today
- Friday 25<sup>th</sup> April (AM) – Year 4 weekly swimming lessons start today
- Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> May – Year 3 visit to Manjushri Kadampa Meditation Centre, Conishead Priory, Ulverston
- Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> to Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> May – Year 4 Residential to Liverpool
- Monday 5<sup>th</sup> May – Bank Holiday
- Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> May – Class photographs
- Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> May – 4pm onwards – PTA School Disco – further details to follow
- Monday 12<sup>th</sup> May to Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> May – Year 6 SATs week
- W/c 12<sup>th</sup> May & w/c 19<sup>th</sup> May – Queen Katherine Year 5 Information Evenings (12, 13, 19, 20 & 22 May)
- Friday 16<sup>th</sup> May – Reception trip to Lakeland Maze Farm Park
- Friday 16<sup>th</sup> May – Year 3 & 4 WWII Evacuation Day to Staveley Village Hall (**parents to collect from Staveley Village Hall between 2.30 & 2.45pm**)
- Friday 16<sup>th</sup> May – Year 6 trip to Lancashire Cricket at Old Trafford (**coach leaving at 8am**)
- Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> May – 10am to 3pm – Save our Swimming Pool Fundraising Day – family games, car boot sale, sponsored swim
- Monday 19<sup>th</sup> May – Year 6N trip to Easedale Tarn
- Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> May – Year 6W trip to Easedale Tarn
- Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> May – Year 1 & 2 trip to Brockhole
- Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> May – Year 5B trip to Tilberthwaite
- Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> May – Year 5F trip to Tilberthwaite
- Monday 26<sup>th</sup> May to Friday 06<sup>th</sup> June – Half Term

**Friendship Love Forgiveness Trust Honesty Faith**