



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



St Martin and St Mary Church of England Primary School Newsletter No.1 – Friday 26th September 2025

Welcome Back We are delighted to welcome all our children and families back to school for the new academic year! It is wonderful to see the school buzzing with energy and enthusiasm once again. Whether you are returning or joining us for the first time, we look forward to a year filled with learning, growth, and community spirit.

As always, our commitment remains to nurture every child spiritually, emotionally, physically, and academically in a safe and loving environment. We are excited about the opportunities ahead and the progress we will make together.

This term, we are thinking about our School Vision and our value of **Trust and Courage**.



Attendance Well done to all of those children who received a treat at the end of last term for excellent attendance throughout the Summer term. We look forward to rewarding those children with excellent attendance at the end of Autumn Term too.

Sadly, some of our families are now facing the prospect of being fined for missing days of school for unauthorised absence. We cannot authorise any holiday in term time. If a child is, absent for 5 days (10 sessions) in any 10-week period their parents will have to pay a fine of £80 per child per adult with parental responsibility.



Swimming Pool Thank you to all of our families and members of the local community who have supported our public swimming sessions throughout the summer holidays. They proved very popular! Year 5 and 6 have started their swimming lessons this term and it is great to see the pool continuing to stay open.

Parents' Evenings In the week beginning the 20th October, we will have our first Parents' Evening of the year. This will run over 3 evenings to try to ensure all parents can attend. If you can't attend

please try to make an alternative appointment to speak with your child's class teacher.

House Captains I am pleased to announce the following children have been selected as House Captains for this academic year. Each candidate prepared and presented a speech to their classmates, demonstrating their leadership qualities, confidence, and commitment to our school values.

- Helvellyn Captains: Viera and Archie. Vice Captains: Beau and Tiegan
- Bowfell Captains: Halle and Lewis. Vice Captains: Peaches and Oliver
- Skiddaw Captains: Jack and Daniel. Vice Captains: Bryan and Lilah
- Great Gable Captains: Nellie and Tommy. Vice Captains: Manny and Romy.

We congratulate them on their success and look forward to seeing their positive impact on our school community through their leadership roles.

Thank you to all Year 6 children who stood for election and showed great courage and enthusiasm.

Heating Improvements We will begin heating improvement works in the Key Stage 2 classrooms starting on Monday, 29th September, continuing until half term. Contractors will be on site during this period, and while there may be some disruption to the classrooms, we will do everything possible to keep this to a minimum to ensure the children's learning is affected as little as possible.

Feet First We would like you to be as active as possible on your journeys to and from school during week beginning 13th October. We will be celebrating this in school.



Acceptable Use Agreement – This year we are asking families to complete our Online Safety Acceptable Use Agreement online. This is an important agreement and a good opportunity for you to talk with your children about how to stay safe online and in the digital world.

Our AUAs are full of good advice that you could implement at home to keep your children safe and happy. We also have further information and resources on our school website, and, as you know, our school subscribes to National Online Safety, a helpful resource that all parents can access for free; <https://www.windermere.cumbria.sch.uk/online-safety/>

Please can you click on the relevant link below and discuss the agreement with your child. When you click ‘submit’, we will know that you have shared and understand this agreement. Many thanks.

Link for children in [Reception, Year 1 and Year 2](#)

Link for children in [Year 3, 4, 5 & 6](#)

Advance notice of Christmas performances and Christmas Church Service

The Reception and KS1 Christmas Nativity performances will be taking place Tuesday 9th, Wednesday 10th and Thursday 11th December at 9.30am. These are ticketed events – more details to follow.

We will be holding a whole school Christingle service at St Mary’s Church on Wednesday 17th December – more details to follow.

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](#)

Arbor app Please make sure you have downloaded the Arbor app. All communications/reminders will be through the app; [Getting started - Log into the Parent Portal and the Parent App](#).

Pre-School & Nursery open afternoons We will be offering tours to prospective parents of our Pre-School and Nursery on Thursday 13th November and Thursday 27th November in the afternoon.

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

Date	Theme/Event
Monday 29 th September	NHS Nasal Flu Vaccination
Wednesday 1 st October – Friday 3 rd October	Year 5 Patterdale residential
Friday 3 rd October	Y3/4B Stone Age Trip
Monday 13 th October Tuesday 14 th October Thursday 16 th October	Year 5/6N Outdoor Education Day Year 5/6B Outdoor Education Day Year 5/6F Outdoor Education Day
Thursday 23 rd October	Reception & KS1 Harvest Festival 9.15am KS2 Harvest Festival 1.30pm St Martins
Monday 27 th October – Friday 31 st October	Half –term
Thursday 6 th November	The Lakes School 60 th anniversary celebration
Week beginning 17 th November	Bikeability Year 6
Tuesday 9 th December	Nativity 9.30am
Wednesday 10 th December	Nativity 9.30am
Thursday 11 th December	Nativity 9.30am
Wednesday 17 th December	Whole School Christmas Service St Mary’s 9.30am
Friday 19 th December	Christmas Party
Friday 19 th December	Break up at 2pm