



26/04/2024

We have enjoyed our second week back after the Easter break. Please continue to ensure that your child brings a coat to school each day as we try to get out as much as possible. Next week the nursery and reception pupils will take part in den building. Information will be shared on class dojo to inform parents/carers about the days your child will take part.

Uniform orders for September 2024

Uniform for September is ordered online through identity. Uniform can be ordered to school free of charge or it can be sent to your home address for a charge. Please order before 21st June to ensure you have this before we finish for summer. The school cannot accept delivery when closed.

Class and nursery group photos

On Thursday 9th May the photographer is in school to take the annual class photo. If you wish to have family/sibling photos taken please arrive for 8.30am at the main office entrance.



Whitehaven music festival

Thursday 9th May
The infant choir will be taking part in the Whitehaven music festival. They will sing at 9:30am at the Marchon club at Whitehaven. Parents/ family members for the choir can attend and pay on the door for a small fee. Details will be sent to the choir.

School Attendance Matters Award

Today our pupils have met with the School Attendance Matters mascot (Sam). Well done to everyone who has achieved 100% attendance this week!



Bikes/ scooters

For the safety of the pupils - no adult bikes or scooters are allowed onto the school premises at any time. If you do bring one please can you ensure that they are left outside the gates.

Free school meal and uniform grant

Your School Needs You! If you are entitled to claim for Free School Meals, please apply so we can access more funding for our School, and help more young people to experience and enjoy, grow and develop, learn and achieve.

My child is eligible for Free School Meals but I don't want to take up the offer - why am I being encouraged to apply?

For every child that is entitled to Free School Meals the school receives **extra funding** to enhance provision and improve progress and outcomes for children. This is called the Pupil Premium Grant; the school can use this in any way they choose but many use it to provide reduced cost trips or help with uniforms and additional support in class time, and after school. Your child can still bring a packed lunch if they prefer but by applying through Cumbria's portal, you ensure their school receives this additional grant.

Free School Meals

Once your child is eligible for Free School Meals, there is no need to reapply each year: they will automatically remain eligible until they have finished their secondary phase of schooling. You only have to apply once; the earlier you apply, the earlier the school will have access to the additional grant. You will also be eligible for any Free School Meal vouchers issued in school holidays [subject to government

funding]. If you are eligible and apply for Free School Meals, you will also be entitled to preferential booking for the council's 'Holiday Activity and Food' programme with free activities and food provided for 5-16 year olds.

More information on applying can be found on the following link:

<https://www.cumberland.gov.uk/schools-and-education/free-school-meals-and-clothing-vouchers>

If you think your child is eligible for Free School Meals, the online application process is quick and simple:

- where possible all parents and guardians should apply online - you will receive an immediate response advising you whether you are eligible or not
- if you are unable to apply online please contact the free school meals team - telephone: 01228 606060

Pupil Premium Grant

The pupil premium is **additional** government funding for pupils who are eligible and have applied for Free School Meals (FSM) or at any time in the previous six years, as well as Children Looked After (CLA), adopted children (Ad) and for service families. The funding goes direct to your school and makes a real difference to the opportunities and support available to all our young people



**Cumberland
Council**

As Cumbria has now split into the counties of Cumberland and Westmorland Safeguarding still remains a top priority for all of us. If you have concerns about a child in Cumberland please be aware that the number has changed for the Cumberland Safeguarding Hub and they can now be contacted on 0333 240 1727.

Do you have concerns about a child in Cumberland?



If you are worried that a child is at risk of immediate harm please contact:

**Cumberland Safeguarding Hub on
0333 240 1727**

Email: safeguarding.hub@cumberland.gov.uk
(PLEASE PASSWORD PROTECT THE EMAIL AND SEND THE PASSWORD IN A FURTHER EMAIL)

**Out of working hours – contact the
Emergency Duty Team on 0300 373 2724**

**To speak to a Local Authority Designated Officer
(LADO) for advice call**

0300 303 3892
or email lado@cumbria.gov.uk

To speak to the Cumberland Early Help Team call

0300 303 3896
Or email early.help@cumberland.gov.uk

Kym Allan Safeguarding, Health and Safety Consultants Ltd.
April 2023



Baby Rainbows

Thursday afternoons 1:30pm-3:00pm



A group for babies and toddlers aged 0-2 years old.

Refreshments Provided

£2 voluntary contribution



For more info contact
Mrs Humble- 01900 601489

Baby Rainbows

Baby Rainbows runs every Thursday at 1:30pm - 3:00pm for under Two-year olds. Come and join us for a cake and a cuppa with other parents/carers.



Rainbow Nursery

This week in Rainbow Nursery we celebrated St George's Day with a range of activities focused on this. The children coloured flags in using red and blue crayons and using good control to hold the crayons, they used glue sticks to glue different coloured tissue paper onto different St George themed pictures again using good control. We also explored shaving foam in the tray with red paint drizzled on the top, the children loved the sensory experience of this and how the colour of the foam changed with the addition of the red paint.



flowers into Dandelion clocks. The pupils talked about what they think has happened and what they have observed. The pupils deepened their knowledge by learning the cycle- if they carefully blew the Dandelion clocks, the seeds would fly and they create new Dandelions! This increased the curiosity of the pupils who also had a closer inspection of the Cherry Blossoms using magnifying lenses. The pupils would like to create art work next week using the Cherry Blossom.



3 Year Olds

This week in the 3-year-old nursery pupils have been exploring the changes in our outdoor learning environment. The learning links to this half term's theme of Ready, Steady, Grow! During our learning in Understanding the World we are learning about life cycles. The pupils have shown an interest in the flowers that have recently bloomed in the area. This led to learning linked to the life cycle of a Dandelion flower.

In the tuff tray outside, the pupils used their noticing skills to identify how the Dandelions had changed from yellow

Reception Pillar

We have had another brilliant week in Pillar class as we continued our learning on this half term's theme 'Ready, Steady, Grow! Our focus in maths this week has been subitising and the children have been looking at

different ways of making '6' using ten frames. We have also been persevering to practice the stem sentence '6 is made of _ and _'. In our Jigsaw session this week, the children enjoyed learning about friendships as they worked collaboratively to think about things that they look for in a friend and what they like best about their friends. We have also thoroughly enjoyed listening to the story 'Elmer' before decorating our own piece of patchwork using a wide variety of materials. Our individual pieces of artwork were then brought together to create a unique elephant.

resources have been kindly donated by St Michael's church and we have used many different materials and mediums to reflect our own artistic talents. Each child will have a special part of our art project that represents themselves and how wonderfully unique we all are.



Great Gable

This week in Great Gable we have continued to take part in our daily phonics lessons in our Phonics groups, the children are all making excellent progress and working really hard to develop their skills and build on their phonic knowledge. In our extra phonics sessions each afternoon we have been practicing word reading using the mantra 'special friends, Fred talk, read the word' which the children are getting increasingly more confident with.

As young Mathematicians the children have been continuing to develop their subitising skills (seeing the quantity without counting) and developing their

Blencathra

In Blencathra this week we have been using our Expressive Arts and Design skills to make our own unique patch for a whole-class Elmer the Patchwork Elephant project. Funds for our art

understanding of doubles to support their subitising skills.

Our talk through stories book this week was 'Click, Clack Moo cows that type' we have been exploring the vocabulary within this book and thinking about the different characters and settings within the story.

As young artists we have all designed an individual patch using a range of materials to make a collaborative piece of art work (a patchwork Elmer elephant) for the St Michael's Church Art competition.

In Jigsaw this week we have been exploring the theme 'Make friends, make friends, never ever break friends' this is part of our work on relationships and the children have enjoyed learning and practicing the 'relationships song'.

We are looking forward to another busy week next week and can't wait for Den Building and planting next week!

discussed ways that we can save water and become H2O Heroes.

As designers, we started our new Design and Technology unit of cooking and nutrition: smoothies. We tasted a range of foods including: apples, bananas, strawberries, carrots, bagels and chocolate. We had to categorise the foods into fruit and not fruit and explain why. Helvellyn enjoyed the tasting part the best.

As musicians, Helvellyn enjoyed spending time using the glockenspiels with Miss Morton. They were learning to follow simple pieces of music.



Year 1

Helvellyn

This week Helvellyn took part in a water workshop ran by Lake District National Park and United Utilities. We looked at all the different ways that we use water in our kitchens, bathrooms and around school. We explored what toilet paper, cotton wool and baby wipes do when we flush them down the toilet. We also

Catbells

This week in Catbells Class we have started to learn about our new geography curriculum question of 'why do we recycle?'. The children have independently written their own prediction as to where they think their rubbish goes when they put it in a bin. The children made sure they were using our writing toolkit and have begun to

think about using our summer writing criteria - which we will look more closely at throughout the term.

As designers, we have begun our new unit of learning on cooking and nutrition. The intent of this lesson was to understand what fruit is and be able to try tasting fruits and identify which different foods are fruits by being like Nigel the Noticing Newt and notice which foods have seeds.

As mathematicians, we have completed our multiplication unit by solving word problems. We had to look at a variety of questions and understand the key vocabulary to discuss how we were going to solve each question. We have been like Marvin the Making Links Monkey and made links between our multiplication learning to solve the different problems. This swiftly moved onto our new learning of division. The children have been able to group equally and share equally.

In our PSHE lesson this week, we have been looking more closely at friendships. We had to identify what being a good friend means and attributes a good friend need.

In our RE lesson this week, we have still been focussing on Islam. The intent of this session was to consider some attributes that Muslims might believe that Allah has.

A great week again for Catbells. Please ensure you are reading at home and practicing your phonics videos at home for the run-up to the year one phonics screening check. Thankyou.



Year 2

Red Pike

This week in Red Pike, we have predicted where all our rubbish goes as a young writer. The children came up with some well thought through sentences. Some of us thought that rubbish was disposed of sensibly and safely, using bins or recycling centres and could be used to make other things such as toys or bottles, whereas others believed rubbish was thrown away and discarded on the ground and may even end up in the ocean, where animals or wildlife could potentially be harmed.

In DT, we have been trying a range of fruits and vegetables and grouping them into two separate piles. We noticed that fruit and vegetables come in all different shapes, sizes and colours and have varied tastes. Some are sweet, whereas some are sour.

After making our initial predictions we then learned where our rubbish ended up, as a Geographer. Rubbish can be taken to a landfill, burned or reused when recycled. We have been keeping an eye out around school, for the different type of bins in our school.

The rainbow room have been continuing the development of the sensory garden, outside of the Year 2 doors. After a trip to B&Q we have a wide variety of trees, flowers and bushes, some of which we have added to our growing forest development. The children have added an addition of the fairy garden and dinosaur island, with much more to come over the coming weeks!



Skiddaw

Skiddaw have had a fantastic week. As Mathematicians this week we have been continuing our learning on Fractions. We have been showing fractions, thirds, and finding parts of a set. As writers this week, we have been writing acrostic poems on woodland animals. On Wednesday everyone enjoyed participating in a water workshop where we learnt about how much water we use every day and what we can do to save water. During our PSHE lesson this week we have been learning about what types of physical contact is acceptable, and during our RE lesson this week we have

been learning about why a synagogue is an important place for Jewish people.



Scafell Pike

What a week in Scafell Pike we have been busy artists, keen environmentalists and lyrical poets with a few entrepreneurs in class too!

The children been creating artwork for book covers using their favourite stories to inspire their creations for a competition at St Michaels. The children have also been experimenting with colours creating colour wheels using only the three primary colours to create secondary and tertiary colours.

We had a special visit from the water workshop this week where we learnt how to save water at home or how there are 9 litres of water in one flush of your toilet!

In English we have been exploring poetry about woodland animals whilst expanding our bank of adjectives.



educational opportunities available to them by law.

We will work with all pupils and discuss their attendance with them. This is to educate our pupils on the importance of attending school and how good attendance benefits their learning and development. Each classroom will have an attendance display to help encourage the pupils to develop good habits. We will work closely with our parents/carers to ensure that all pupils have the opportunity to attend school on time and regularly. We will work closely with our attendance officer and access and inclusion team to ensure that any persistent attendance issues are dealt with quickly and efficiently. Absence from school is a potential safeguarding risk and we have a duty to ensure that we know where the pupil is and the reason for their absence under of role of keeping children safe in education.

Victoria School fully recognises its responsibilities to ensure pupils are in school and on time, therefore having access to learning for the maximum number of days and hours.

Our policy applies to all children registered at this Nursery/ school and this policy is made available to all parents/carers of pupils who are registered at our school on our school website.

This policy has been written to adhere to the relevant Children Acts, Education Acts, Regulations and Guidance from the Department for Education in addition to guidance from the Local Authority. It reflects the changes introduced by the government in relation to COVID 19 changes.

Attendance

Attendance expectations

Attendance is mandatory.

Parents/carers have a duty to ensure that their child attends regularly at Nursery/ school where the child is a registered pupil.

The school expectations for attendance are:

The policies and procedures of Victoria School apply to all pupils aged 2-11 years old.

Regular attendance at school is essential to ensure uninterrupted progress and to enable children to extend their potential. Regular and punctual school attendance is important. Pupils need to attend school regularly if they are to take full advantage of the

Although parents/carers have the legal responsibility for ensuring their child's good attendance, the Headteachers and Governors at our school work together with other professionals and agencies to ensure that all pupils are encouraged and supported to develop good attendance habits. Procedures in this policy are followed to ensure this happens.

Children who are persistently late or absent soon fall behind with their learning, socially, emotionally and academically. Children who are absent from school frequently develop large gaps in their learning which will impact on their progress and their ability to meet age related learning expectations. A child whose attendance drops to 90% each year will, over their time at primary School, have missed two whole terms of learning.

Attendance Policy This Policy explains the details that guide to school as the attempt to ensure that all pupils receive their entitlement in terms of the expected days at school.

Pupils must be at school ready for 8:45am.

First Day Contact: This guidance explains the procedures we follow to ensure that all our pupils are accounted for on any given school day.

Home School Agreement: The agreement sets out the school's responsibilities towards its pupils, the responsibilities of the pupil's parents and what the school expects of its pupils.



Absence

It is parents/carers responsibility to report your child as absent, please contact the school before 8.45am and leave a message on the automated service using option 1. Failure to report absences will result in a phone call and a text from the school to explain the absence. If we are not informed about child's attendance our first day contact procedures are followed. This included a home visit and after this if we cannot make contact to find out the reason for the absence the police will be contacted as the child will be classed as missing.

Islay Day Care

We offer a very popular childcare provision called Islay Day Care. We are open 7:50am until 6pm. Please see the website for information about costs. **DO NOT PARK IN THE CAR PARK WHEN USING BREAKFAST CLUB.**

Afterschool club

Childcare will be available but must be booked into the care the week before so that we know the number of pupils. Please book by telephone 01900 601489 or email admin@victoria-inf-workington.cumbria.sch.uk

Please pay through parent pay when you use the session.

If parents/carers are in debt of up to £20 you will not be able to book your child into breakfast club or afterschool club.



Powerful learner of the week

| Pillar | Blencathra | Great Gable | Helvellyn | Catbells | Skiddaw | Scafell Pike | Red Pike |
|---------------|---------------------|----------------|--------------|-----------------------|--------------------|----------------|--------------|
| Joshua Henney | Grace Finlay-Weaver | Albie Newberry | Grayson Peet | Osten Taylor-Campbell | Maddison Blacklock | Oliver Heskett | Blake Wilson |

Mathlete of the week

| Pillar | Blencathra | Great Gable | Helvellyn | Catbells | Skiddaw | Scafell Pike | Red Pike |
|------------------------|------------------|-----------------|-------------------|-----------|--------------|---------------|-------------|
| Logan Garner-Armstrong | Bethel Mabophiwa | Tawny Kirkbride | Chester Robertson | Roy Odudu | Ellie Brewer | Romi Anderson | David Young |

Victoria School Nursery, Infant and Junior Term Dates 2023/2024

Autumn Term 2023

Starts: Tuesday 5th September 2023

Half Term: Monday 23rd - Friday 27th October 2023

Ends: Tuesday 19th December 2023

Spring Term 2024

Starts: Wednesday 3rd January 2024

Half Term: Monday 12th - Friday 16th February 2024

Ends: Thursday 28th March 2024

Summer Term 2024

Starts: Tuesday 16th April 2024

Half Term: Friday 24th May - Friday 31st May 2024

Ends: Friday 19th July 2024

Good Friday: 29th March
Easter Sunday: 31st March
Easter Monday: 1st April

May bank holiday: Monday 6th May 2024

INSET DAYS FOR ACADEMIC YEAR 2023-2024

INSET are determined locally

Please note these may differ from Cumbria County Council term dates

Diary Dates

Summer term 2024 Victoria School, Infants and Nursery

Please check weekly as they can be updated and dates may change.

| Monday 29 th April | Den building: Tigger AM group, Kanga's AM group, Eeyore's group, Great Gable class | Please bring a spare set of clothes/jacket and trainers. |
|----------------------------------|--|--|
| Tuesday 30 th April | | |
| Wednesday 1 st May | SAT's begin | |
| Wednesday 1 st May | Den building Piglet AM group, Roo's AM group, Winnie's group, Blencathra class | Please bring a spare set of clothes/jacket and trainers. |
| Wednesday 1 st May | Mother's Union – Student Leaders to help. | |
| Thursday 2 nd May | | |
| Friday 3 rd May | Den building: Pillar class Tigger PM group, Kanga PM group, Piglet Pm group | Please bring a spare set of clothes/jacket and trainers. |
| Friday 3 rd May | Art competition ready | |
| | | |
| Monday 6th May | Bank holiday – School closed | |
| Tuesday 7 th May | Year Two Kingswood Residential | |
| Wednesday 8 th May | Year Two Kingswood Residential to return | |
| Wednesday 8 th May | Balance bikes for Nursery & Reception | Details will be shared on class dojo |
| Thursday 9 th May | Balance bikes for Nursery & Reception | Details will be shared on class dojo |
| Thursday 9 th May | Whitehaven music festival for the Choir. The choir will sing at 9:30am | |
| Thursday 9 th May | Tempest class photos & family photos | Family photo's from 8:30am, enter via the main entrance. |
| Friday 10 th May | Balance bikes for Nursery & Reception | Details will be shared on class dojo |

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| Monday 13 th May | | |
| Tuesday 14 th May | | |
| Wednesday 15 th May | Bright Stars – Business project | |
| Thursday 16 th May | | |
| Friday 17 th May | Year Two Marvellous Monarchs show | |
| | | |
| Monday 20 th May | Receptions Audiology screening | |
| Tuesday 21 st May | | |
| Wednesday 22 nd May | | |
| Thursday 23 rd May | School closes for half term at normal time | |
| | | |
| Friday 24 th May – Friday 31 st May | May half term SCHOOL CLOSED FOR A WEEK | |
| | | |
| | | |
| Monday 3 rd June | School Returns | |
| Monday 3 rd June | Swimming all week for Skiddaw class | Please bring swim costumes/shorts, towel, goggles. No Bikinis allowed. |
| Tuesday 4 th June | Swimming all week for Skiddaw class | Please bring swim costumes/shorts, towel, goggles. No Bikinis allowed. |
| Wednesday 5 th June | Swimming all week for Skiddaw class | Please bring swim costumes/shorts, towel, goggles. No Bikinis allowed. |
| Wednesday 5 th June | Bright Stars – Business project | |
| Thursday 6 th June | Swimming all week for Skiddaw class | Please bring swim costumes/shorts, towel, goggles. No Bikinis allowed. |
| Friday 7 th June | Swimming all week for Skiddaw class | Please bring swim costumes/shorts, towel, goggles. No Bikinis allowed. |
| | | |
| Monday 10 th June | Sports week | |
| Monday 10 th June | Swimming all week for Red Pike class | Please bring swim costumes/shorts, towel, goggles. No Bikinis allowed. |
| Tuesday 11 th June | Swimming all week for Red Pike class | Please bring swim costumes/shorts, towel, goggles. |

| | | |
|---------------------------------|--|---|
| | | No Bikinis allowed. |
| Wednesday 12 th June | Swimming all week for Red Pike class | Please bring swim costumes/shorts, towel, goggles. No Bikinis allowed. |
| Wednesday 12 th June | Bright Stars – Business project | |
| Thursday 13 th June | Swimming all week for Red Pike class | Please bring swim costumes/shorts, towel, goggles. No Bikinis allowed. |
| Thursday 13 th June | Excel activity day | |
| Friday 14 th June | Swimming all week for Red Pike class | Please bring swim costumes/shorts, towel, goggles. No Bikinis allowed. |
| | | |
| Monday 17 th June | Swimming all week for Scafell Pike class | Please bring swim costumes/shorts, towel, goggles. No Bikinis allowed. |
| Tuesday 18 th June | Swimming all week for Scafell Pike class | Please bring swim costumes/shorts, towel, goggles. No Bikinis allowed. |
| Wednesday 19 th June | Sports day | Details to follow |
| Wednesday 19 th June | Swimming all week for Scafell Pike class | Please bring swim costumes/shorts, towel, goggles. No Bikinis allowed. |
| Thursday 20 th June | Swimming all week for Scafell Pike class | Please bring swim costumes/shorts, towel, goggles. No Bikinis allowed. |
| Friday 21 st June | Swimming all week for Scafell Pike class | Please bring swim costumes/shorts, towel, goggles. No Bikinis allowed. |
| | | |
| Monday 24 th June | St. Joseph's work experience | |
| Tuesday 25 th June | Year Two mini medics workshop | |
| Wednesday 26 th June | Year Two mini medics workshop | |
| Thursday 27 th June | | |
| Friday 28 th June | Year Two mini medics workshop | |
| | | |
| Monday 1 st July | Workington Academy work experience | |
| Monday 1 st July | Nursery to Reception parents meeting in the School hall: 10:15am & 2:30pm | New Reception 2024 starters |

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|---------------------------------|---|--|
| Tuesday 2 nd July | Year One to Year Two parents meeting in the School hall: 10:15am & 2:30pm | New Year Two 2024 starters |
| Wednesday 3 rd July | Reception to Year One parents meeting in the School hall: 10:15am & 2:30pm | New Year One 2024 starters |
| Wednesday 3 rd July | Year Two transition day at Victoria Junior School. | Pupils to come into the Infant School in the morning at normal time. Please collect your child from the Junior school at 3pm. |
| Thursday 4 th July | | |
| Friday 5 th July | Summer fayre 1:30pm | Details to follow |
| | | |
| Monday 8 th July | | |
| Tuesday 9 th July | Year Two leavers disco | Details to follow |
| Wednesday 10 th July | New Reception 2024 starters for lunch | Details to follow |
| Wednesday 10 th July | Year Two leavers assembly for Red Pike parents in the School hall at 2pm | |
| Thursday 11 th July | Year Two leavers assembly for Skiddaw parents in the School hall at 2pm | |
| Thursday 11 th July | Change class day at 10:30am | Pupils will go into their new class for September 2024 |
| Thursday 11 th July | Reports to parents/carers | |
| Friday 12 th July | Year Two leavers assembly for Scafell Pike parents in the School hall at 2pm | |
| | | |
| Monday 15 th July | | |
| Tuesday 16 th July | | |
| Wednesday 17 th July | | |
| Thursday 18 th July | | |
| Friday 19 th July | School closes for Summer Holidays at 12:30pm | |
| | | |
| | | |

Are you connected to Victoria School?

Alongside telephone and text messages, Victoria School communicate with all our parents/carers through a number of channels to ensure all essential communication is received on a regular basis. To ensure you don't miss out on anything that your child may be taking part in, or key information from the school, it is vital that you connect with us using as many of the following platforms as possible.



Email



It is essential that we have an up to date email address for all parents and for you to inform us if it changes. We use emails regularly to communicate with parents.

TEXT messages: Messages are sometimes sent out by text message, especially if your child is in a group as this system allows us to group pupils easily. Text messages usually are sent to the scholar pack app so please ensure you have this downloaded.

Victoria School website / Newsletter

Our website provides you with key documentation, dates and information you need to know about the school. You can subscribe to, and download, the weekly Newsletter to gain a good insight into our school life, and view day-to-day activities that we take part in. Newsletters are published for both schools sites every Friday.

www.victoriaschool.org.uk

School App



Victoria School has an app linked to the school website which is available to download on iOS or Android. The app will keep you up to date with school events and the latest newsletter. You will receive notifications from school when any new information is published to the App.

To download, visit your App store and search for 'School Jotter'. Once downloaded, open App and search for the school postcode (Junior site CA14 2RE and nursery/infant site CA14 3XB). You will see our logo appear, click on this and this should link to us.

Class Dojo The class teacher will use Class Dojo to set work for pupils and communicate to parents about events in the child's class. The teacher and parents can chat directly via the messaging feature or on posts that have been put on the class pages. We do request that this communication via Dojo is relating to your child's learning/activities. Any other issues must be communicated via the school office. **Please do not use this to communicate with the Headteacher or admin.**



Facebook



School uses the Facebook page to post about activities and events that are taking place on a daily basis. We may also use Facebook messenger to communicate directly with a parent should we be unable to make contact via telephone.

To find us on Facebook, please search for Victoria Junior or Victoria Infants, you will see our logo appear, just send us a friend request! Our posts are restricted so they can only be viewed by our 'friends'.

ScholarPack App

We also have the ScholarPack App live, where you can send us instant messages and ensure your details are correct for all emergency contacts. This app is available to download on iOS or Android. Once downloaded you will be asked for a 'link up code'. Please contact the school for this information and we will get you set up!



If you are struggling to get connected to the school, please do not hesitate to contact the school office

Junior site: 01900 606053

Nursery and infant site: 01900 601489

and we will be happy to assist you, we do not want anyone to miss out!

FREE SCHOOL MEALS and PUPIL PREMIUM

Your School Needs You! If you are entitled to claim for Free School Meals, please apply so we can access more funding for our school, and help more children to learn and achieve, experience and enjoy, grow and develop.

My child is eligible for Free School Meals but I don't want to take up the offer – why am I being encouraged to apply?

For every child that is entitled to Free School Meals the school receives **extra funding** to enhance provision and improve progress and outcomes for children. This is called the Pupil Premium Grant, the school can use this in any way they choose but many uses it to provide free milk, reduced cost trips or help with uniforms etc. Your child can still bring a packed lunch if they prefer but by applying through Cumbria's portal you ensure their school receives this additional grant.

Universal Free School Meals

All children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 are entitled to a free lunch every day at school. You don't have to qualify or apply for this. If your child is in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 and you do **qualify** for Free School Meals but don't apply for this entitlement, the school will not receive the additional funding that comes when you make a successful Free School Meal application. Once your child is eligible for Free School Meals, there is no need to reapply each year; they will automatically remain eligible until they have finished their current phase of schooling (e.g. Primary). You only have to apply once; the earlier you apply, the earlier the school will have access to the additional grant. You will also be eligible for any Free School Meal vouchers issued in school holidays [subject to government funding].

In addition, many children in all year groups are eligible for Free School Meals, either because parents are entitled to certain benefits or because household income falls below a certain level. If you are eligible and apply for Free School Meals, you will also be entitled to preferential booking for the council's 'Holiday Activity and Food' programme with free activities and food provided for 5-16-year olds during Easter, summer and Xmas holidays [subject to government funding].

More information on applying can be found on the following link:

<https://www.cumberland.gov.uk/schools-and-education/free-school-meals-and-clothing-vouchers>

If you think your child is eligible for Free School Meals, the online application process is quick and simple:

- where possible all parents and guardians should **apply online** - you will receive an immediate response advising you whether you are eligible or not
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When a child is eligible for Free School Meals, the school receives additional funding known as 'Pupil Premium'

Pupil Premium Grant

The pupil premium is **additional** government funding for pupils who are eligible and have applied for Free School Meals (FSM) or at any time in the previous six years, as well as Children Looked After (CLA), adopted children (Ad) and for service families. The funding goes direct to your child's school, and makes a real difference to the opportunities and support available.]