

Cumwhinton School

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"Inspired by Cumbria, Ready for the World"

Friday 19th January 2024

Dear Parent(s) & Carers,

Greetings, Cumwhinton School community! As we come to the end on another wholly exciting journey through the corridors of education, I am thrilled to welcome you to the latest edition of our Headteacher Newsletter – your passport to the vibrant happenings within the heart of our beloved school. Picture this: a week filled with laughter, learning, and a dash of delightful chaos as our children embraced the joy of discovery. In this edition, I am overjoyed to share with you the kaleidoscope of highlights that painted the canvas of our school days. From the energetic buzz of classrooms to the melodious hum of collaboration, each moment is a testament to the incredible spirit that defines Cumwhinton School.

As we delve into the newsletter, prepare to be enchanted by tales of curiosity, resilience, and boundless creativity. We'll celebrate the triumphs of our children, applaud the dedication of our teachers, and shine a spotlight on the unsung heroes who keep the gears of Cumwhinton School turning smoothly.

EYFS and the Fire Engine

Excitement roared through the air at our EYFS (Early Years Foundation Stage) as the Fire Service paid us a thrilling visit this week! The highlight of the day was the arrival of a dazzling fire engine right at our school gates, complete with flashing lights and blaring sirens (sights and sounds that made our neighbours very puzzled) that had our little ones' eyes widening with pure amazement. Our budding firefighters-to-be got an up-close look at the impressive fire truck, and the firefighters, with their friendly smiles, turned our schoolyard into a temporary fire safety wonderland. From trying on helmets that were almost as big as their dreams to exploring the various tools of the firefighting trade, our youngsters had a blast while learning valuable lessons about fire safety. A huge thank you to our local heroes from the Fire Service for creating unforgettable memories and sparking the imaginations of our littlest learners!



Headteacher
Assistant Headteacher
Business Manager

Mr J Stewart
Mrs L Barber
Mrs M Harris

EYFS and Stock Wood

Our little explorers from the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) embarked on an enchanting adventure to Stock Wood, and oh, what a magical day it turned out to be! With wide-eyed wonder and giggles that echoed through the trees, our pint-sized adventurers discovered a world teeming with nature's treasures. Tiny hands reached out to touch the textured bark of ancient trees, and little feet danced through sun-dappled clearings. In the heart of Stock Wood, our young nature detectives uncovered hidden nooks where fairies might just reside, and they marvelled at the beauty of fluttering butterflies and buzzing bees. Laughter filled the air as they scampered along meandering paths, their curiosity leading the way. The joy of muddy puddles proved irresistible, and soon our budding naturalists were proudly sporting nature's artwork. With hearts brimming with joy and a newfound love for the great outdoors, our EYFS adventurers returned, sharing tales of their woodland escapade, forever cherishing the memories created amidst the wonders of Stock Wood.

Handwriting

This week, as Headteacher, I had the absolute pleasure of visiting various classrooms, and I must say, the energy and enthusiasm were truly contagious! It was heart-warming to witness our incredible pupils fully immersed in the art of perfecting their handwriting skills, a key priority across the entire school. The classrooms buzzed with creativity and focus as the children diligently practiced their penmanship. From the smallest letters to the most elaborate cursive strokes, each pupil showcased their dedication to mastering the art of handwriting. Their commitment is a testament to the supportive learning environment fostered in our school, where both education and joy go hand in hand. I left each classroom with a big smile, feeling inspired by the hard work and positivity radiating from our amazing children. The future is undoubtedly bright with such dedicated young minds at the helm!

Snow and ice

What a week it has been, navigating the whims of winter with snowflakes and icy surprises! We want to extend our warmest thanks to each and every one of you for your incredible patience and unwavering support during this snowy adventure. Your flexibility and understanding have truly warmed our hearts, making this frosty week a breeze to weather. Together, we've turned snow days into delightful opportunities for snow angels, snowman and icy adventures. Your commitment to the Cumwhinton community shines brightly. Let's continue to embrace the joy of learning, no matter the weather, and create lasting memories that thaw the chilliest of days. Thank you for being the shining stars in our snowy school family!

In the midst of a challenging week marked by icy conditions and snowfall, we would like to take a moment to express our sincere gratitude to someone who has played a pivotal role in ensuring the safety and well-being of our students and staff – our dedicated Caretaker, David.

Throughout this week, as the elements posed challenges to our daily routines, David demonstrated an unwavering commitment to the smooth functioning of our school. Braving the icy conditions, he has been on the front lines, opening and closing our school doors, ensuring that our children and staff can navigate the premises safely. His hard work and dedication have not gone unnoticed, and we are truly grateful for his efforts in making our school a secure and welcoming environment for everyone.

Thank you, David, for your hard work, dedication, and the warm sense of community you bring to Cumwhinton. We are truly fortunate to have you as an integral part of our school family.



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Homework

As we embark on another week of homework, it is crucial to emphasise the significance of homework and its timely completion in the educational journey of our children. Our programme of homework serves as a valuable extension of classroom learning, reinforcing concepts taught and providing children with the opportunity to apply their knowledge independently. Completing homework on time not only fosters a sense of responsibility and time management but also enhances the development of essential skills such as critical thinking, problem-solving, and self-discipline. Furthermore, it strengthens the bridge between school and home, fostering a collaborative partnership between educators and parents in supporting our pupils' academic growth. We encourage parents to actively engage with their children in the homework process, creating a supportive environment that nurtures a love for learning and lays the foundation for academic success. Together, let us prioritise the completion of homework, recognising its pivotal role in shaping well-rounded and academically empowered individuals.

Breakfast Club

I would like to inform you of an upcoming change to our school's Breakfast Club, effective after the half-term break. In order to maintain a safe and enjoyable environment for all participants, we have decided to implement a limit of 20 children for the Breakfast Club, aligning it with the capacity of our After School Club. This adjustment is aimed at ensuring a more personalised and attentive experience for each child in both programs. We appreciate your understanding and cooperation as we work towards providing the best possible care and support for all our pupils. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to reach out to us. Thank you for your ongoing partnership in your child's education.

School Council

The atmosphere was buzzing with excitement as our School Council gathered for its inaugural meeting, marking the beginning of a new era of pupil leadership. In a burst of youthful enthusiasm, the councillors came together to elect their new leaders. Drumroll, please! The charming and dynamic Nicole from Year 4 emerged as the Chair, ready to steer the ship with infectious zeal. Beside her, the energetic Lucy from Year 3 secured the role of Vice Chair, promising to bring a dose of energy and creativity to the team. Meanwhile, the wise and capable Bethany from Year 6 took up the crucial position of Secretary, armed with a notebook and a determination to keep the minutes in shipshape order. Beyond the elections, the School Council delved into brainstorming ideas to reduce our eco footprints as a school. Organizing eco-friendly events, the room was abuzz with eco-warrior spirit. It's clear our School Council is not just about meetings; it's a dynamic force ready to make positive waves in our school's community!

Yours sincerely,



Headteacher