

November Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers,

It was lovely to end the last half-term in St Mary's Church celebrating our Harvest Festival with so many of our families. The children did such a great job presenting all of their work and singing the Harvest songs and your donations of food were gratefully received by Ambleside's Community Cupboard. I hope that you and your families enjoyed the half-term week together.

We're now heading into what is, most probably, our busiest time of the year as we head towards Christmas with lots of events planned, both in school and in the local community. I have put together a few dates for everyone on this month's newsletter—a few are ones that you already have along with some extra ones such as our Open Evening which is coming up towards the end of the month.

Mrs Broom



Our Harvest Service

Dates for your diary

Friday 10th November, 2pm – Remembrance Service

Monday 13th November, 2pm – Early Years Stay and Play

Tuesday 14th/Thursday 16th November – Year 3/4 rescheduled parent consultations.

Friday 17th November – Children in Need fundraiser

Saturday 18th November – Ambleside Lights

Thursday 23rd November, 3:30pm – 6pm – Open Evening

2nd/3rd December – Junior choir at Rydal Mount (time to be confirmed)

Tuesday 12th December – EYFS and KS1 Christmas Nativity, 2pm

Wednesday 13th December – Christmas dinner in school and Christmas jumper day

Monday 18th December – Carol Service, 2:30pm

Tuesday 19th December – Last day of term.

Wednesday 3rd January – Start of the Spring Term.

Whole School Open Evening

Thursday 23rd November 2023 (3:30pm to 6pm)

Instead of a subject exhibition this term, we are opening up the whole school for a Community Open Evening to anyone who would like to look around the school to see the different work that we have going on. There will be displays of children's work, an exhibition in the hall and resources and work set out in all of the classrooms so that you can see how learning progresses throughout the school. This is an opportunity to look not only in the part of the school where your child works everyday but to explore the building as a whole. I have put a notice about our open evening in the parish council newsletter for this month to welcome as many people as possible from the Ambleside community into the building. If you know of anyone that would be interested in seeing what we do here, or would like to meet the team, please encourage them to come along.

It is hoped that the 'Ambleside Mural' will also be on display once again for the Open Evening. 25 years ago (around the time when the infant and junior schools merged to create Ambleside Primary) an artist was commissioned to work with the children to create a large-scale mural of Ambleside made from ceramic tiles. Many people from the local community were also involved in making it. If you know of anyone who knows anything about the mural, or who made a piece of it, please let them know that the school will be open to view it during the Open Evening. They are very welcome to come into school and look around.

Remembrance Service

On Friday 10th November at 2pm, we will be having a short service of remembrance. This will take place at the old school war memorial on Vicarage Road, Ambleside.

Reverend Jane will be leading the service and a member of the British Legion will also be attending.



Key Stage 1,
busy building
sukkahs in R.E.

Golden Time

Golden Time has taken place in school on Fridays for some time now and formed part of the school's last behaviour policy. However, the staff and I have decided to make some amendments to it.

Previously, children lost minutes of Golden Time if something negative happened during any part of the week and there was no opportunity to earn the time back. (For example, a child who lost time on a Monday would be reminded of that all week via the class Golden Time display and then lose the time at the end of the week.)

Since the end of last half-term, we have stopped using the 'losing Golden Time' system and incidents are dealt with in the moment. We feel that this gives children the opportunity to move on from a negative part of their week, wipe the slate clean and have the chance to turn their week around. We feel that this approach fits in well with our school values.



Our Early Years children learning about how to stay safe around the campfire, in preparation for bonfire night celebrations.

Reporting Pupil Illness

Just a reminder that any time your child is off school ill, please telephone the school office to let us know. Call at any time before 8:50am on the day. If no-one is able to take your call, please leave a message on the school answerphone.

Class Dojo and email should not be used for reporting pupil absence.

Holiday in term time

We discourage holidays during term time but, if you are planning on taking your child out of school (even just for one day), please complete a holiday form. Paper copies are available on the wall in the entrance lobby and a copy is also on the school website.

School Dinners

Thank you for your patience in adapting to our new school meals ordering system. It is very early days but we're pretty much there with making it all run smoothly. Please remember not to order sandwiches or jacket potatoes as they are not available.

If you have not ordered lunches for the following week by 9:30am on Friday you will need to send your child with a packed lunch.

On a positive note, the quality of food that Windermere School have been preparing has been exceptionally good and the children have been really enjoying their lunches. They are great value of money and I would highly recommend them!