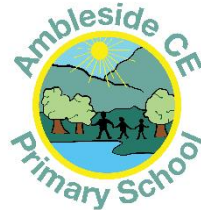


# April



# Newsletter

*And just like that we have arrived at the summer term! These past few months have been very busy in school and there are many more exciting events being planned for the term ahead. Year 3 and 4 started the term off with a 'Stone Age to Iron Age Day' over at Windermere where they took part in a range of hands-on activities including making stone-age axes and mixing their own paints from natural pigments to re-create cave paintings.*

*One of the highlights of the spring term was our residential trip to London with the year 5 and 6 children. We packed so much into the three days and the children all had a wonderful time; fond memories of which I'm sure they'll have for many years to come. During the three-day visit, the staff lost count of the number of times that we received compliments on the behaviour and attitudes of the children. They were all fantastic ambassadors for our school and were a real pleasure to spend time with exploring the capital.*

*After our return from London, our Key Stage 2 Dance Club represented the school at the Brewery Arts Dance Platform in Kendal. This was our first time as a school entering this event. The children worked with a choreographer to put together a dance about travel and holidays and performed their finished piece on stage in the Brewery Arts Centre with confidence and maturity in front of a sell-out audience. Performing in a venue used by professional performers was such a great opportunity for the children involved and it gave them the chance to see different professionals at work in the theatre such as the sound engineers and the lighting technicians who worked with the children during their technical rehearsals. We have shared a few clips on our Facebook page of their performance if you are interested in seeing how well they did.*

*Mrs Broom, Headteacher*



Our Year 5 and 6 children at the start of their busy London schedule of: the London Eye, River Thames cruise, Buckingham Palace, the Natural History Museum, St Paul's Cathedral, a trip to the West End to see Matilda and a guided tour of the Houses of Parliament.

### Dates for the Summer Term 2024

Tues 23<sup>rd</sup> April – Year 3 swimming starts

Thurs 24<sup>th</sup> April – Year 4 swimming continues

Thurs 24<sup>th</sup> April – Guitar lessons begin for year 1/2

Fri 25<sup>th</sup> April – Guitar lessons begin for years 3-6

Thurs 2<sup>nd</sup> May – Key Stage 2 Art Club starts

Fri 17<sup>th</sup> May – EYFS Stay and Play

Wed 22<sup>nd</sup> May – SPORTS DAY, 1:30pm

Tues 4<sup>th</sup> June – Reserve date for Sports Day, 1:30pm

Thurs 6<sup>th</sup> June – D-Day Remembrance Service, St. Mary's Church, pm (some school involvement TBC)

Mon 10<sup>th</sup> June – Year 5/6 Creative Writing Workshop, Brockhole

Tues 11<sup>th</sup> June – Year 5/6 swimming starts

Thurs 11<sup>th</sup> July – KS2 production of 'The Jungle Book', 6pm, (provisional date, confirming venue)

Thurs 18<sup>th</sup> July – Year 6 Leavers' Service, 2:30pm

Fri 19<sup>th</sup> July – Last day of term

### Robotics Club

Thank you to the parents who returned slips showing an expression of interest in this club. Unfortunately, the numbers of replies received were too low for the tutor to go ahead with it on this occasion.



KS2 Dance Club performing at the Brewery Arts Centre, Kendal.

### Extra-curricular activities and clubs.

#### Art Club

We are pleased to be working with local illustrator and artist, Sophie Martin, who will run a club with our Key Stage 2 children initially. We hope to open this club up to the younger children later in the year.

If your child is attending this club, please be aware that it is running until 5pm and not 4:20pm. The club starts on the 2<sup>nd</sup> May and will then run on Thursdays on the following dates: 9<sup>th</sup> May, 16<sup>th</sup> May, 23<sup>rd</sup> May, 6<sup>th</sup> June and 13<sup>th</sup> June. We have posted these dates on the calendar of the school website in case you need to look back at them at a later date.

#### Music tuition

We also have a new guitar teacher and now offer both piano and guitar lessons in school. The timetable for our guitar teacher is now full but we can put children on a waiting list for when a space becomes available or when the teacher has extra availability. However, we do have some spaces available for piano lessons. Please note that the music tutors are not employed directly by the school and payment for the lessons has to be made in advance.

#### Musical Theatre Club

We are in the process of setting up a musical theatre club which we hope will be available for most year groups across the school. We are aiming to start this during the summer term. Further details will follow soon once we have completed our safeguarding checks.





## School Attendance – when 90% is not good!

Usually, a score of 90% in school is a very good thing but you may not be aware that it is **not** a good number when it comes to school attendance.

When a child's attendance score begins to fall towards 90% this is a warning sign that a child is missing a lot of lessons and is **persistently absent** from school.

We are working hard to make all parents aware when their child's attendance is becoming a cause for concern. Poor attendance has a negative impact on children, not only in their academic progress but also with their ability to maintain close friendships with their peers and to feel a part of school life.



### But what if my child is unwell?

Since the pandemic there is a noticeable increase in the frequency of illnesses, such as respiratory infections, and the length of time that it is taking for children to shake them off and guidance on absence from school due to illness has recently been changed. You can find this information online on the NHS page under 'Is my child too ill for school?' In the guidance, parents and schools are being advised not to keep children off school for common ailments such as sore throats, cough and colds.

If your child is taking medication for any infection (such as antibiotics) we are happy to administer them at school for you. You will need to give your consent by completing a form at the school office.

All of the staff team here in school are committed to giving your child the best possible education and care and want them to grow and thrive. Please support us in our work by ensuring that your child is attending school.



Our Early Years class enjoyed a visit to the Rock Shop as part of their topic on dinosaurs.

## PE Kit

A big thank you to parents for sending in PE kits for their children to keep in school during the week. The children have adapted quickly to getting changed into their kits and are getting better at keeping track of their own belongings. However, in trying to keep the costs down on uniform, the decision to use a red t-shirt for PE has caused a bit of confusion for some children so, from September 2024, the decision has been made to swap the PE t-shirt colour to a plain white t-shirt to go with the black shorts, leggings or jogging bottoms. The t-shirt does not need to have the school logo on and just needs to be a plain one. Should you want to send one in before September because you think your child will find it easier to organise themselves, please feel free to send one in earlier. We will send another reminder about this change at the end of the summer term.





Year 3 and 4 Stone Age to Iron Age Day



Cinema visit as part of the 'Into Film Festival'.



**World Book Day**  
The children enjoyed a visit from local storyteller Taffy Thomas and a visit to Fred's Bookshop in Ambleside.

