



# NEWSLETTER

## Great start to the term and open afternoons

It has been fantastic to see the children so keen to learn. Our new class arrangements are working really well and the children are already making progress from the beginning of the year. We will be having a week of open afternoons after half-term. The main focus of this is to raise the profile of the school and to attract more children to Reception next year. Parents of children already in school are very welcome to also come and have a look at all the things going on. The dates are Monday-Wednesday, 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> November.

## Comic Arts

Year 1 and 2 have their art work on display in the window of Armistead Barnett, 19 Kirkland in Kendal. This is very near to the Parish Church and Abbot Hall Park. There are lots of other great window displays to have a look at throughout the shopping area as well.



Year 1 and 2 with their wonderful Comic Art inspired by 'Owly' by Andy Runton.

## **IMPORTANT – Meeting about our school to incorporate postponed Reading meeting, now on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> October at 6.30pm**

Please support this important meeting. We will be looking at what a difference reading to your child every day makes, how we teach the early stages of reading including changes that we are making in school, and at how our new Reading Pro. Scheme works. This is for all parents, Nursery to Year 6. We will also share school performance data with you, update you on changes to year group expectations and tests at Year 1, 2 and 6. Helen Churchill, our chair of governors will talk about priorities for governors.

## **Harvest celebration**

We will be holding our Harvest celebration at 9am next Friday 6<sup>th</sup> October. Parents are very welcome to join us. We would like to make a river of silver coins for the Bishop's Harvest appeal. This focuses on some of the poorest places in the world and works with organisations that help people to help themselves through teaching better farming techniques or helps them to set up income generating projects. We are

**PTO**

also collecting tinned and dried food for local food banks. We are always delighted by everyone's response and it is a fantastic example to the children that they can make a difference to people less fortunate than themselves.

### **Free School Meals**

If your personal or work circumstances change so that you become eligible to receive certain benefits (even for a short time), please apply for free school meals. Even if you don't wish your child to take the meal up, part of our overall school funding is based upon the numbers of children who are eligible for free school meals. This is entirely confidential and the application can be done on line. There is a link on our school website.

We are delighted to welcome Miss Bailey (Key Stage 2) and Mr Knowles (Key stage 1) this term as part of their teacher training. They are with us from Monday – Wednesday each week.

### **Holidays in term-time**

All the local schools have been informed that Cumbria are going to be taking a tougher approach to parents taking their children out of school to go on holiday. Unlike other authorities, Cumbria previously have not issued fines. May I remind you that I can only authorise absence for very exceptional circumstances. This does not include holidays or long weekends for whatever reason. I will also be notifying you if by half-term your child's attendance is below 95%, so that we can work together to improve it. Most children in our school have excellent attendance however. Please come and speak to me if you would like this clarified.

### **We still need a lunchtime supervisor for Tuesday lunchtime**

We have managed to cover lunchtimes most days but are still needing someone for Tuesday. Full training will be given. Our children are extremely well behaved and staff are always on hand if there is an issue that needs sorting. Any appointment is subject to references and DBS check. Please speak to Wendy or me if you would like further details. If you can think of anyone else who might enjoy this role, please would you let them know about the opportunity.

**Please see the website calendar for dates.**

Best wishes,

*Sarah Coleman*