



Review of the year

Dear Parents,

I am writing to thank you all for your support of school this year, to look back at our highlights and to thank all the people who have made many of our events and achievements possible. One of the strengths of our small school is how we can all be involved together.



This year we have strengthened our transition onto school from Lindale Pre-school Nursery, with both Claire Dawson and Fliss Ward now working in our Foundation Stage/Year 1 class and Rachel Simpson now running 'Fun Club'. This makes for a very seamless move between the two settings, with the flexibility for parents to move their child to Nursery in school when they are ready.

We started the Year in September with Years 2-6 visiting the County Show. This is just one event that highlights the value of parental support for trips and visits. The parents who came with us enabled the children to go round in small groups; meaning that they got far more out of the day. Thank you for all those parents who have helped us out with trips, swimming and sports events this year! We also had a stand in the schools tent for the first time; receiving lots of positive comments about our displays. We will be repeating this again this year.



Also in September, we introduced school dinners. Thank you to Nick Kirkpatrick and his staff from Windermere school who provide such delicious lunches each day, and to Mrs Lishman who keeps the kitchen under control!

All classes have had some really exciting topics throughout the year. Our teachers are very dedicated and put in a lot of thought, often spending many hours out of school time, to make these interesting, challenging and fun. We have seen some fantastic home-learning projects from all these topics; thank you again parents!

13th July 2015

We have had some fantastic residential visits again this year. Thank you to Becki from Castle Head- this is the second year that she has worked with us and all the experiences have been exceptional! At Lindale we try to learn from first- hand experience wherever possible and make the most of every opportunity. This year we have taken Year 2&3 and 4,5&6 to Coniston waterpark, year 5&6 have visited Solway Aviation Museum, year 6 have visited London, Reception and Year 1 have been to the Wildlife Oasis and are visiting Grange Prom as part of their seaside topic. We have also been involved in Makatano Junction, a global learning project and dance, music and arts projects.



We have maintained our status as a lead school for Computing. Congratulations to Liane O'Kane our computing teacher on being shortlisted for another prestigious 'Bett' award again this year. Our children are very lucky to have her expertise.



Our children and families have again been very generous supporting various charities during the year. We had an excellent number of shoe boxes which were sent to give deprived children in parts of Eastern Europe a good Christmas. Our 'Children in Need' fundraiser and our 'Red Nose day' appeals were both well supported and a lot of fun! Our children are brilliant at coming up with their own ideas for these events. We also value our links with St Paul's church and especially thank Jenny Leahy for all that she does for our school.

As well as 'Fun Club' we have managed to also run a whole range of other clubs throughout the year. Thank you to teachers for doing these on top of all their other work. Thank you also to Rose Bridson who helps with craft club and Lisa Jefferson with J-team.

At the beginning of the year Mrs Morris warned me that we might have to give back some of the trophies in the entrance hall! However as the year went on, we actually kept many of them and gained some others. Most recently, despite being the smallest school in our cluster, we came second in the Cartmel Cluster Schools Athletics last week.





We are continuing to develop our buildings and grounds. It was only February when we moved the carpark and installed our lovely new play equipment, thanks to a generous donation. We have improved the facilities in our Foundation stage classroom, and over the summer will be improving some of our outdoor learning spaces.



On a personal note, I want to thank all the staff who picked up the pieces whilst I was hobbling around before and after my knee operation. Everyone, teachers, teaching assistants and especially Wendy Wood in the office did a great job! I managed to miss Christmas entirely, which seemed very strange and was I was particularly sad to missed our production of Aladdin which was described by one parent as 'The best ever!' Our governors also work quietly behind the scenes, doing a very valuable job, monitoring standards in all areas of school and providing support and challenge. This year we appointed Helen Churchill as Chair of Governors. Thank you to Paul Bond, who has been an excellent chair for a number of years. We welcomed Heather Keating, our new clerk who is already playing a very valuable role in helping us market our school. Please do play your part in promoting our school to other local parents; we believe that we offer an excellent education here, achieve outstanding results with happy confident children.

In February we were pleased to see Mrs Law back after her Maternity leave, but also grateful to Miss Bland for giving reception and Year 1 a great start to the year. We are now sad to see Mrs Wells and her family move on to their new life in Sedbergh, and thank them for all that they have contributed to our school.

Finally, thank you to your wonderful children who make coming to school every day a delight. I was so impressed when they chose 'perseverance' and 'kindness' as their most important values along with trust and peace. Their care, encouragement and understanding of each other are outstanding.

I hope that you all have a really restful and fun summer!

Sarah Coleman

13th July 2015

