

# NEWSLETTER

## Furness Vale Primary School

*Friends Proudly Working Together to Achieve Our Best*

The summer holidays are almost upon us!! Once again, they've arrived very quickly – teaching is one of the few jobs where there just aren't enough hours in the day!

It's been an incredibly busy term with many different activities happening and we get to say 'Goodbye' to another Year 6 class. It's been an amazing year; children have had some brilliant opportunities and really enjoyed them – trips, visits, visitors, White Hall, galas, PE coaches, Prince William Award, to name but a few.

The graduation from the Prince William Award took place last Friday, thank you to everyone who took part and came to visit us. It was a lovely ceremony with a video from the Prince of Wales and the children were given their certificates at the end. PWA won't happen again next year because the year five children have already completed it, we will look to do it the following year.

Read, Write, Inc. Phonics has been incredible – the staff have worked very hard to make a success of the programme and they definitely managed it. The children are reading with more fluency and accuracy than I've ever seen before and their confidence and knowledge of the different sounds is brilliant. This will be continuing next year, and beyond!

Our involvement with Derbyshire Music Services will also continue – Class B will be doing Djembe drums from September – lovely and noisy!! This year we had string instruments for Class B and Bamboo Tamboo for Class A. The highlight was when Class B got to perform with the Hallé Orchestra at the Bridgewater Hall – totally mesmerising.

Have a lovely summer, everyone, thank you for all your support.

### Dates for 2019

#### September

3<sup>rd</sup> INSET Day (no children)  
4<sup>th</sup> School opens  
6<sup>th</sup> Cello and Bass lessons start  
9<sup>th</sup> No Little Learners After School Club  
10<sup>th</sup> High Peak Kids Council meeting (HPKC)  
11<sup>th</sup> Meet the teacher:  
EYFS 3pm  
KS1 3:30pm  
KS2 4:00pm

16<sup>th</sup> Little Learners After School Club (every Monday)

23<sup>rd</sup> Lee Baker, PCSO, Online safety talk Y6

#### October

1<sup>st</sup> Online safety talk – parents 6.15-7.15  
4<sup>th</sup> Y6 Bonding Day at New Mills School  
11<sup>th</sup> Day of Dance – Y6 – New Mills School  
15<sup>th</sup> Parents' Evening  
16<sup>th</sup> Parents' Evening  
24<sup>th</sup> School closes  
25<sup>th</sup> INSET Day

#### November

4<sup>th</sup> School reopens  
5<sup>th</sup> Y5 debate at St Luke's  
22<sup>nd</sup> Class A assembly 9:10am

#### December

2<sup>nd</sup> Choir singing at Lyme Hall  
4<sup>th</sup> Full Governing Board meeting 6pm  
6<sup>th</sup> Class B assembly  
12<sup>th</sup> Production – EYFS and KS1  
2:00 – families  
5:30 – Adults only – creche provided  
20<sup>th</sup> School closes

Breakfast and After School Club are as usual.

## Social Media

Social media must be used to celebrate the school, to make positive comments, share the school's achievement and features we are proud of. Complaints should be discussed directly with the school. We are an amazing, small community – keep it that way – applaud all that is good!



## Toddbrook

We had an amazing session at Toddbrook; all 30 children were on the water at the same time! Some were paddle boarding, others sailing, and everyone got wet. Some children got much wetter than others, the weather wasn't brilliant, but the hot chocolate helped warm us back up.

Well done to all the children, you were resilient and determined to succeed – great skills to have. We have every intention of booking this in again next year, a fantastic day.

## Uniform

In September, it's very important that all children are in full school uniform with proper shoes and a PE kit. The school uniform is grey or black skirt or trousers, white polo shirt and green sweatshirt or cardigan. The polo shirt and sweatshirt/cardigan can all have the school logo on. A green and white summer dress can also be worn. Shoes are black or grey – not trainers. PE kit consists of a white top, dark shorts or jogging bottoms (all plain or with the school logo on – not football shirts or fancy tops) and trainers.

Pumps should not be worn as the ground is uneven and children are far more likely to fall over in pumps. If you are in receipt of pupil premium funding, the school can issue vouchers for uniforms, please ask if this applies to you.

## Swimming Galas...

We have had two swimming galas this term – Class B went to New Mills Leisure Centre and Class A went to Buxton Leisure Centre. Both events were superb. All the children participated in either 25m or 10m front freestyle, back stroke and breast stroke, relay races, fun relays and finished with a quick play session. The children had brilliant attitudes – they swam as fast as they could and appeared to thoroughly enjoy themselves. Well done all KS2, you were like fish!!!

## Art Week

The art week was brilliant again this year. Children had a great time being very creative. Thank you to all the artists who worked with us and made it very special. Last year, the children designed vehicles – these have now been put on the railings and look absolutely brilliant. The 'We are Here' campaign is now complete – as well as the artwork, there are planters at the top of Station Road with the 'Kids Cross Here' signs. Jim Medway has been instrumental in seeing the campaign through and we're very grateful for all his hard work. I think you'll all agree that it's made a huge difference and looks fantastic.

## Fitness!



Marc, from Synergy, is going to continue working with us for the Autumn term. He is a fitness and kickboxing specialist and the children have really enjoyed working with him this term.

Luke from Little Learners is moving on to pastures new, but Zoe Shaw will take over from him – she specialises in working with Nursery, Reception and KS1 children.





## Outdoor Adventurous Activities



All being well, the children will be going to White Hall again next year, we use the 'Sugar Tax' funding to pay for it – the brilliant activities are providing our children with lasting memories. White Hall are also meeting us in Sept to discuss STEM (Science, Technology, English and Maths) activities – I'll keep you informed. Class A will be going to Lea Green in May next year, just after SATs. This is always an excellent residential and we're already talking about it and looking forward to it.

## Communication – Class Dojo

Class Dojo is going to be our principle means of communication from September. Please make sure you have a Login and that notifications are turned on – you don't want to miss out on the information we send out.

The website and social media are other ways we communicate with you. We've linked Facebook and Twitter to the website – from September, everything should run simultaneously to keep you informed.



## PEGS – Peak Edge Group of Schools

Furness Vale Primary is part of a cluster of schools within the New Mills area. We do a great deal of work together behind the scenes to benefit the children. Every term, two of our school councilors go to the High Peak Kids Council with children from the new Mills Cluster – they share ideas and have ongoing projects. The current project is about single use plastic. Thank you to Millie, from year 6, for her involvement in the school council over the last two years.

Lily from year 5 will continue next year and we will choose another councilor to join her.



## Swimming

School swimming programmes are designed to get all children swimming. All children should meet the National Curriculum expectations by the time they leave primary schools. Many of our children in y5/6 are excellent swimmers and it would make a greater difference to those who can't swim to go for a longer session. Therefore, in September, it will be the children who lack confidence or haven't mastered all the strokes who will be going swimming. The swimming gala, at the end, will be for everyone, regardless of ability.





Look who's peeking out



Year 6 Date Night!!!



We love Jess – best student ever!



Welcome to our tea party! How cute.



Sugar Tasting Experience – sweet and sour.



And now it's time to sail off into our future – Good luck, year 6, have a wonderful time.

## Visits



The Blue Planet Aquarium left the children with memories they won't forget. They explored many different sea creatures including sting rays, clown fish and turtles! The children were lucky enough to spend time learning about all the different species of shark & were left amazed by some very interesting facts.



The Leavers' Trip to Blackpool Pleasure Beach was a huge success. Loads of rides, sunshine, not much sickness, sounds like a great day to me!!

Class C visited Lyme park to make dens – working closely with nature is so important for children. Another fabulous day out – well done.

## Breakfast and After School Club - Price Increase

Breakfast and after-school clubs are run daily with extended school provision from 7:45am to 5:30pm. Breakfast Club starts at 7:45. The children have cereals, toast and drinks and a range of activities to do. After-school club also has snacks and drinks and has different creative activities to make part in – making ornaments, jewellery, pizzas, dens, etc. If you would like to book a place, simply call the school or let Mrs Daniels know.

Staffing – Tracey Regan and Tracy Jennings run the Breakfast Club together whilst Toni Kania and Kayleigh Gill run the After-School club on different evenings.

Price from September 3<sup>rd</sup> will be:

Breakfast Club:	7:45 onwards	£3:10
	8:00 onwards	£2:60
After-school club:	3:20 to 4:00	£3.10
	3:20 to 4:30	£4.10
	3:20 to 5:00	£5:10
	3:20 to 5:30	£6:75

## Online safety

**This is the time of year when children are expected to have free time, to be self-entertaining and to spend more time on gadgets. Children love being on them; they're fun and compelling – they're also addictive and can be harmful if they are overused. There is a strong link between excessive screen time and mental health issues/concerns. We all enjoy our devices and will continue to do so. Having a good balance is the key!**

**Monitoring children during their free time almost feels intrusive, we want them to grow up with a modicum of privacy and we trust them to be on certain sites. A quick check on their 'history' at the end of each day, will help you see exactly what they've been on. It's well worth those few minutes and can stop children from seeing sights that can't be unseen.**