Newsletter

Friday, 10th October 2025

Term 1 Week 6

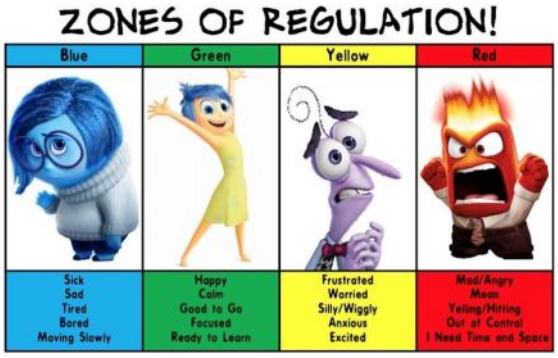
Mental Health Day—10th October

This morning, in recognition of World Mental Health Day, our school assembly took a thoughtful approach to exploring emotions and wellbeing. Using clips from the animated film *Inside Out*, children were encouraged to reflect on their feelings and understand the importance of mental health alongside physical health. The assembly highlighted how recognising our emotions and identifying which "zone" we're in can help us develop strategies to regulate our feelings. By becoming more aware of our mental state, we can take positive steps to support our overall wellbeing. It was a meaningful reminder that looking after our minds is just as important as looking after our bodies.

Nature Quest to the Rescue!

During this week's Nature Quest adventure, our explorers enjoyed hot chocolate and peaceful bird listening in the forest. While surrounded by birdsong, they spotted a mummy pigeon feeding her chicks—but the nest had fallen, likely due to Storm Amy.

Quick-thinking students contacted TLC Animal Rescue in Maryport, who advised that the chicks wouldn't survive the cold night. Thanks to Rowan and his nana, the baby pigeons were safely transported to the rescue centre, where they'll be cared for and eventually re-wilded. The birds, now nicknamed Sleepy and Grumpy, are in safe hands—and we'll be getting updates on their progress. Well done, Nature Quest heroes!



Car Parking

If you need to use a car to drop off or pick up, please be mindful of the neighbours. Please do not block driveways or park on pavements. Police will be circulating to check that normal parking rules are being adhered to. A reminder that we have now opened up extra spaces on the school grounds for parking at the end of the day.

Travelling to school

As part of our Sustainability and Climate Action plan, we are proud to be part of the WOW—Walk to School Challenge. This initiative encourages families to travel actively—by walking, wheeling, cycling, scooting, or using 'Park and Stride'—at least once a week. Each morning, every child records how they have come to school. All who participate will earn a WOW badge, each month.

WRAP AROUND AFTER SCHOOL

Book via ScoPay

AVAILABLE UNTIL 4.30PM OR 5.30PM

Week beginning 13th October

Monday - Mini dance party
Tuesday - Outdoor fun
Wednesday - Autumn Crafts
Thursday - Scavenger hunt
Friday - Free Play

Snacks & refreshments included

Cups

This week our **Courtesy Cup** winners are:

Early Years— **Ena Cox**

Key Stage 1— **Kodi Graham**

Lower Key Stage 2— **Grace Farmer**

Upper Key Stage 2— **Ivy Hodgson**

Community Cup

Congratulations to **Isabella Fulton** who has been awarded the Community Cup this week. She held a bake sale last weekend for Macmillan Cancer Trust and raised £354!

Parent Teacher Meetings

We are looking forward to giving you the opportunity to meet your child's class teacher on Wednesday 19th or Thursday 20th October. 10 minute appointments will be available to book, via ScoPay, from Monday 13th October.

School Photos

Please remember to order your school photos online as soon as possible. Any orders being sent into school need to be received by Friday, 17th October.

Houses

Our newly appointed House Captains were delighted to collect up the House Points this week. Harold, the House Bear, is now proudly wearing a blue ribbon, as it was the Bassenthwaite Bees who had the most points this time.

Bassenthwaite Bees	Grasmere Gorillas	Whinlatter Wolves
983	816	927

PUMPKIN PICKING
25TH OCTOBER 2025 10AM-2PM
CHILDREN'S TICKETS £7.50 - FREE ENTRY FOR ADULTS
ALL WELCOME - FANCY DRESS OPTIONAL
TICKETS TO INCLUDE:
PICK YOUR OWN PUMPKIN - SPOOKY TRAIL
CRAFT ACTIVITIES - SWEET TREAT AND DRINK
SLIME WORKSHOP - COLOURING COMPETITION
REFRESHMENTS & FACE PAINTING ALSO AVAILABLE ON THE DAY
Friends Of Dearham School
ORDER TICKETS BY 20TH OCT BY EMAIL:
FODSTEAM@OUTLOOK.COM

NURSERY

The Nursery children have all enjoyed another action packed and fun filled week. One of the highlights has been starting the Little Wandle phonics programme which marks the beginning of the journey to independent reading and writing. We started with the initial sound "s" and learned the picture card "snake." We also started the "Wiggle me into Squiggle" prewriting programme to strengthen key muscles needed for control in everyday movement, play and writing. The children loved making marks throughout provision and in the sand tray we practised this week's focus movement which was "up."

During Circle Time we discussed our likes and dislikes. Lots of children brought in a selection of their favourite story books from home and we have enjoyed reading the stories and admiring the illustrations. we have talked about the different authors and found other stories written by them in our classroom Book Corner.

This week's Headteacher's Awards go to:

Elliott Litt and **Noelle Tyson**

Reception

This week in Reception, we've been continuing our exciting journey through phonics. The children have been learning the sounds i, n, m, and d. They're trying really hard, and we're so proud of their efforts! Some of these sounds can be a little tricky, so any extra practice you can do at home would be a big help.

In Maths, we've been focusing on 1:1 counting. We've been learning how important it is to count slowly and carefully, moving one object at a time to make sure we don't miss or double-count anything.

Our topic for the next few weeks is "People Who Help Us." The children have really enjoyed:

- Counting people who help us
- Cutting out police cars
- Colouring pictures of helpful community members
- Drawing what they want to be when they grow up
- Making Numberblock Number 1

One of the highlights this week was looking at baby photos! The children had so much fun guessing who was who — some of them haven't changed a bit!

Well done, Reception! You've had a fantastic week. Have a lovely weekend!

This week's Headteacher's Awards in Reception go to

Mason Robertson and **Nellie Williams**

Year 1

In English we've been finishing off our re-writing of *Alan's Big Scary Teeth* — and wow, the children have really persevered! They've worked hard to add more detail to their stories, and we're seeing some fantastic improvements in their use of capital letters and full stops. This week in Maths we've been diving into part-whole models and starting to write simple addition number sentences. We even explored fact families.

In History we've been thinking about our own childhoods and wondering what life might have been like for our grandparents when they were little. The children have written some thoughtful questions to take home and ask their special grown-ups — we can't wait to hear what they find out!

Our budding scientists have been making observations about the weather. Next week, we'll be turning those observations into weather reports. In Computing mouse skills are improving every week! The children are getting quicker at logging in and navigating around — we're so proud of their progress. We've been talking about our emotions and learning how to track how we're feeling using our emotion jars. It's been a lovely way to start each day and support each other.

This week's Headteacher's Awards in Year 1 go to:

Alfie Burns and **Archie Blacklock**

Year 2

This week children completed their stories on Shell Woman, they focused on writing an adventurous middle of the story and a heartwarming conclusion when she was returned safely to her family.

In Maths, we have focused on counting up in 2s, 3s, 5s and 10s. The children have explored various ways to help them do this such as using counters, base 10 and number lines.

In Science, the children focused on rainforest and ocean habitats and naming animals and plants that live there. They also learned how plants and animals depend on each other to survive. In Geography, the children went outdoors and completed some fieldwork; measuring our weather and climate conditions.

The children enjoyed bringing in their soft toys this week. We used these to create observational drawings in art. The children combined all of their sketching skills they have learned over the recent weeks, practicing shading, tone and using a variation of art materials.

This week's Headteacher's Awards in Year 2 go to:

Violet Morgan and **Harlan Walker**

Year 3

This week, we began our new addition and subtraction unit. The children have been using practical equipment to help them understand number relationships and different calculation strategies. In English, we have been learning all about prepositions. The children have enjoyed spotting prepositions in sentences and using them to make their own sentences more descriptive and precise.

Wednesday afternoon was a highlight of our week! We had a brilliant time on the school field for our mini expedition, inspired by our learning about Ernest Shackleton's journey to Antarctica. The children used their compass knowledge to write and follow directions carefully. Once everyone had successfully navigated their routes, they enjoyed exploring and observing the environment around them — just like real explorers!

In Science, we identified the main nutrient groups and discussed their functions in the body. The children were able to explain why each nutrient is important and why a balanced diet is essential to stay healthy and full of energy.

This week's Headteacher's Awards in Year 3 go to:

Oakley Robertson and **Bailey White**

Year 4

This week, the children have been exploring non-chronological reports. Building on their imaginative dragon creations from last week, they have written detailed reports describing their dragons' diet, appearance, and habitat. From fire-breathing cave dwellers to shimmering sky gliders, the variety and creativity have been fantastic! .

In Maths, we've been sharpening our skills with column addition. It's been great to see their confidence grow as they tackle increasingly challenging sums.

This week in Science, the children have been busy exploring the fascinating world of electricity! Our focus has been on investigating how the number of bulbs in a circuit affects their brightness. Through hands-on experiments and collaborative discussions, the children discovered that adding more bulbs to a circuit makes each one shine dimmer.

In D&T, our torch-making project is really starting to shine! This week, the children focused on creating a working switch mechanism. They learned how a simple circuit can be controlled by a switch, allowing the torch to turn on and off when needed. It was fantastic to see their problem-solving skills in action as they experimented with different materials.

This week's Headteacher's Awards in Year 4 go to:

Isabella Fulton and **Polly Weir**

Year 5

This week, we added our portraits to the waterproof backdrop we created last week, bringing even more colour and personality to our collaborative artwork. In Maths, we moved on to adding whole numbers with more than four digits, sharpening our calculation skills. In French, we built on our topic "As-tu un animal?" by learning new vocabulary and phrases to talk about our pets in French.

Wednesday was particularly exciting as we joined a live session to meet a real-life engineer! Colonel Shaun Lamb MBE, Deputy Head Capability & Force Development at UK Space Command engineer shared fascinating insights into his role, including how he solves problems, designs innovative solutions, and works as part of a team to build and improve technology. The session inspired lots of questions.

We also took part in Our Moon Landing Coding Adventure, which was designed to help pupils develop practical coding skills. During the activity, they learned how to design, write, test, and debug algorithms to guide AL the Robot on her mission to safely board a Saturn V rocket bound for the moon.

This week's Headteacher's Awards in Year 5 go to:

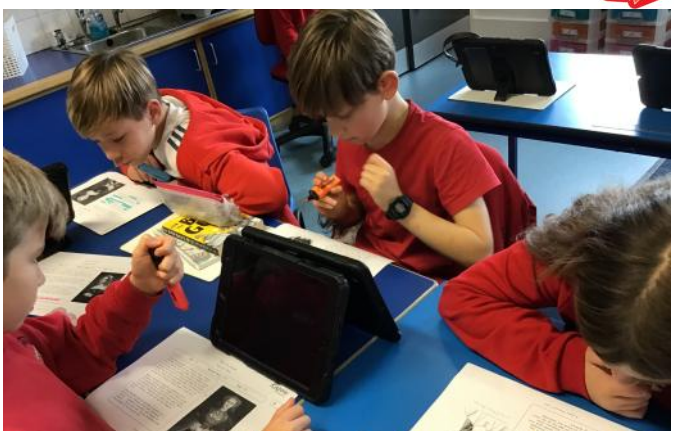
Tommy Cosgrove and **Lucy Penn**

YEAR 6

This week, our focus has been on mastering multiplication involving up to 4-digit numbers by 2-digit numbers. We have been developing their reasoning skills by tackling challenging problems and learning to identify and correct their own mistakes. We've also explored special number types including prime, square, and cubed numbers, deepening our understanding of number properties.

In English, we've stepped into the world of Macbeth, writing our own quotes to help tell the dramatic story of King Duncan's death. Pupils have taken on the role of reporters, identifying key characters who might help them uncover the truth and report on the events. This has helped us build empathy, inference skills, and a strong narrative voice.

Our historical investigations have taken us into the Tudor court, where we've been helping Henry VIII find his "perfect wife." By examining what Henry wanted in a partner and comparing this with what each of his wives had to offer, pupils used secondary sources to make informed decisions about who they believed was the most suitable match.



This week's Headteacher's Awards in Year 6 go to:

Finley Gillmore and **Grace Parker**

EVERY DAY
School Harvest Appeal 2025

Help transform people's lives EVERY DAY, with a donation to your local FOODBANK

Food items we would like you to donate:

Dried Pasta 500g, Rice 500g, Jam, Sponge Pudding, UHT Milk, UHT Orange Juice, Tea/Coffee, Cereals 350g-500g, Baked Beans, Tinned Soup, Tinned Meat, Tinned Veg, Tinned Tuna, Tinned Spaghetti, Tinned Fruit, Tinned Custard or Tinned Rice Pudding.

For more information
Contact: Stuart Christian, North Lakes Foodbank, Schools Worker
Email: Stuart@thefoodbank.org.uk Mob: 07733338352

foodbank

Trussell
Ending hunger together

Key Dates

October

17th—House Afternoon

22nd/23rd—Parent Teacher Meetings 2pm—5:30pm

24th—3:15pm Half Term

25th—FODS Pumpkin Picking

November

3rd—5th and 7th—Y4 Swimming

6th—Finish 1:30pm (Professional Development Afternoon)

10th—14th—Y5 Swimming

11th—Odd Socks Day

17th—21st—Y6 Swimming

21st—Children in Need Day—wear pyjamas!

24th—27th—Y3 Swimming

26th—Y1/2 Dodgeball competition

27th—Non uniform—Bring a Bottle Day

28th—INSET Day

December

3rd—Puppet Assemblies

3rd—Maryport Church Carol Service

5th—Y2 and Y4 STEAM event at Netherhall

6th— Dearham Winter Fair and Santa's Grotto

11th—Early Years' Nativity

11th—KS1 Christmas Show

17th—KS2 Christmas Carol Concert

18th—Christmas Parties

19th—Break up at **1:30pm**

Attendance

Attendance for week ending **10/10/25**

(Please note that Nursery is not included as this is non-statutory education)

Whole School Attendance = 95.4%

Reception	96%
Year 1	96%
Year 2	96%
Year 3	91%
Year 4	99%
Year 5	93%
Year 6	95%

Safeguarding

Cumberland Safeguarding Children Partnership

If you suspect that a child or young person is being, or is at risk of being significantly harmed as a result of abuse or neglect, you must report this immediately by calling the Cumberland Safeguarding Hub on:

0333 240 1727

Safeguarding is everybody's responsibility. Our designated Safeguarding team are:

Headteacher — Mrs. Samantha Busigny

DSL — Mrs. Samantha Busigny

DDSL—Miss Grima and Mrs. Clayton

Safeguarding Governor— Mr. Rob Barton