Newsletter

Friday, 9th January 2026

Term 2 Week 1

Happy New Year!

It was lovely to welcome the children back to school on Tuesday for the new term. They were delighted to see their friends again and to catch up on their festivities. In our assembly this morning we joined together to sing Auld Lang Syne and talked about New Year Resolutions. In the story we read, Squirrel resolved to do something helpful for somebody every day—what a lovely resolution.

Unconditional Positive Regard

During Monday's INSET Day, staff explored whole school strategies to strengthen classroom and behaviour management. We focused on a consistent approach centred on noticing, naming, and reinforcing positive behaviour. Our shared language—*Ready, Safe, Kind*—will guide expectations in every classroom. Children are already beginning to reflect on these values in their daily actions, and we look forward to seeing this approach continue to grow across the school.

Ready

Safe

Kind

Thank You

Over the past two years, our Friends of Dearham School group has organised wonderful events and raised valuable funds. As Chairperson, Mrs. Rachael Oultram has been central to this success — her creativity, organisation and enthusiasm were evident in highlights such as Santa's grotto and as the unforgettable dinosaur skeleton. She has now stepped down, and a new chair will be elected at the EGM on Wednesday, 21st January. We sincerely thank Mrs. Oultram for all she has done for the school.

Dance Success

Well done to our Year 3 pupil who was invited to a special recognition awards evening by her dance teacher, where she was presented with trophies for 'Most Improved in Musical Theatre', 'Most Promising Junior', and the 'Teaching Assistant's Choice Award'. Last weekend at the dance Christmas party, she was also presented with the 'Pupil's Pupil award'. Well done!

WRAP AROUND AFTER SCHOOL

Book via ScoPay

AVAILABLE UNTIL 4.30PM OR 5.30PM

Week beginning 12th January

Monday - Free Play

Tuesday - Rubber Ducky Day

Wednesday - Playdoh Making

Thursday - Music Room

Friday - Crafts

Snacks & refreshments included

After School Activities

12/01/26 – 13/02/26

3:15pm – 4:15pm

5 weeks

TERM 2	Mondays	Tuesdays	Thursdays
Years 1 and 2	**Film Club** Mrs. Cresswell 	**Talent Show Club** Miss Aun and Miss L Scott 	
Years 3 and 4	**Music and Dance** Miss Lloyd 		
Years 5 and 6	**Cookery Club** Mrs Bell 	**Tag Rugby** Carl (Sports Coach) Mrs. Clayton 	**SATS Club** Mrs Hitchen Miss Grima

Please sign up for After School Activities via ScoPay - £3 per session

Sign up will open mid morning on Monday 12th January

NURSERY

It has been lovely welcoming our old and new friends back into Nursery this week. As we step into the chilly winter months, our classroom is buzzing with exciting activities to keep our little ones engaged, happy, and learning.

Our role play area has been transformed into a magical "Winter Wonderland" including our amazing ice palace, giant snowman and a selection of winter clothing ensuring the children can dress up in their play.

The book corner has been revamped with snuggly blankets, cushions and a selection of winter-themed books. We cannot wait to read these stories together which explore snow, animals in winter, and friendship.

Outside we have been observing seasonal changes in nature and weather now Winter has firmly arrived. We are looking forward to crisp winter walks around the wider school grounds and we have our fingers crossed for an opportunity to enjoy snow exploration. Please ensure your child brings a **warm coat, hat, and gloves** every day.

Reception

Welcome back! We hope you all had a wonderful Christmas break. It has been lovely to see the children return to school full of excitement and eager to share stories about their holidays.

This week in Reception, we have been focusing on Maths, with a special emphasis on the number **5**. The children have been practicing showing 5 quickly, as well as making 5 using both the same objects and different objects.

- Number exploration
- Quick-show activities
- Using varied objects

In Understanding the World, we have been learning about the seasons, looking closely at Autumn and Winter and discussing the differences between them.

For our challenges this week, the children have been busy:

- Reading words and matching them to pictures.
- Writing words to match pictures and colouring them in.
- Practising number formation
- Working on tricky words.

Please **label** all clothing items, water bottles and packed lunch containers to avoid any mix-ups.

This week's Headteacher's Awards go to:

All New Starters

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

Brody Ostle and **Tobi Sproat**

Year 1

We've had a wonderful start to the term, and the children have settled quickly into our routines. It's been lovely hearing all their holiday stories!

In English, we explored different types of sentences and practised using full stops, exclamation marks and question marks. The children also wrote brilliant dialogues inspired by *The Storm Whale*.

In Maths, we have been counting to 20 and focusing on teen numbers, learning how each one is made from 1 ten and some 1s. The children are becoming confident in explaining how these numbers are composed.

Our new History topic is Toys from the Past. The children enjoyed sharing their favourite toys and talking about whether their grandparents might have played with similar ones. In Science, we began learning about the human body, drawing around our friends and labelling body parts before comparing them with a dog's.

In PSHE, we explored the Zones of Regulation, discussing feelings and strategies for managing each zone.

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

Raghav Harrison and **Hannah Farmer**

Year 2

We have had a lovely first week back in Year 2! The children began their new story 'The Colour Monster' in English. We discussed what the word monster means to them and the children focused on one emotion and picked their favourite words and phrases out of the book. They then used these to write a piece of descriptive writing including adjectives, verbs and our most recent challenge - similes.

In Maths we started working on 'Shape'. The children recognised and counted the sides of 2D shapes. They also learned the meaning of vertices and had a go at drawing some 2D shapes of their own. In Geography, we used atlases and Google Earth to locate amazing landmarks across the United Kingdom. They started by locating the capital cities on the map and then focusing on landmarks such as the Tower of London and Giants Causeway. The children enjoyed getting paint out in our new Art topic and experimenting by mixing primary and secondary colours to see what colours they could create.

We finished off the week by learning a traditional British folk song in Music. Well done Year 2 you have all worked really hard this week.

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

Zania Adams and **Violet Morgan**

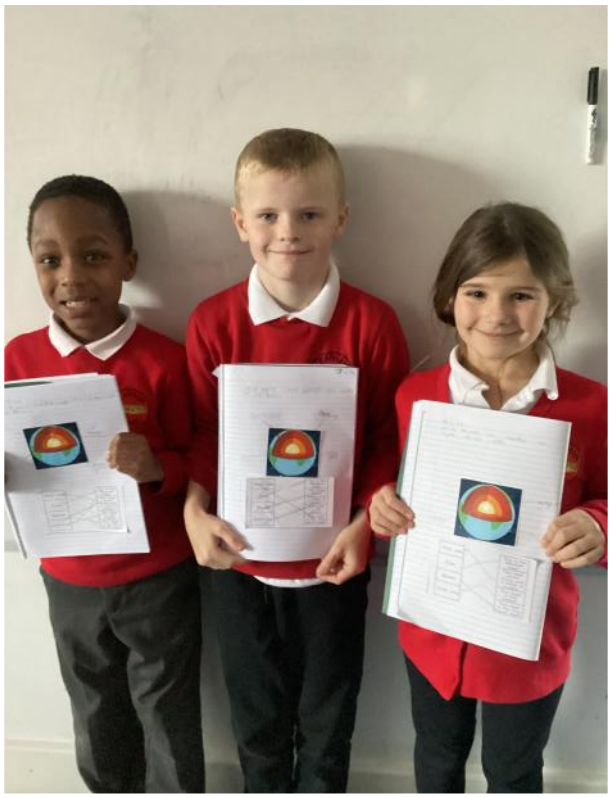
Year 3

We have had a very busy and positive start back at school this week, and the children have settled back into their learning routines extremely well. It has been lovely to see their enthusiasm and engagement across all subjects.

In Geography, we began our exciting new topic on volcanoes. As part of this, the children learned about the structure of the Earth, including the names and correct order of its four layers: the inner core, outer core, mantle, and crust.

In Maths, we revisited key skills from before the holidays to reinforce a strong foundation for learning. The children practised their column addition and column subtraction method, including calculations that involved exchanging. We then introduced our new topic of multiplication and division, with pupils beginning to explore arrays and grouping.

In RE, we explored the concept of spirituality. The children had thoughtful discussions about what spirituality means and how it can look different for different people. This helped them to develop respect and understanding for a range of beliefs and perspectives.



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

Isaac Smith and **Alex Chinyama**

Year 4

This week in maths, we explored two key areas. First, we looked at factors and how they help us tackle more challenging multiplication questions. The children enjoyed breaking numbers into factor pairs and using this to work more efficiently. Second, we worked on multiplying by 10, learning how digits shift one place to the left and how zero acts as a crucial placeholder.

In English, we began studying holiday brochures. The children learned how these adverts are structured and what key information they include. We examined examples and discussed features that make them appealing, such as exciting activities, descriptions of the weather, and information about local food. The class enjoyed identifying persuasive language and thinking about what attracts visitors. Soon, we'll be creating our own brochures.

In Science, we started our new unit on States of Matter. The children explored solids and the properties that distinguish them from liquids and gases. We discussed how solids keep their shape unless a force is applied, cannot be compressed, and do not take the shape of a container. The children enjoyed examining different solids and using scientific vocabulary to describe them.

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

Paddy Pattinson and **Mila Hetherington**

Year 5

Welcome back and Happy New Year! We hope everyone had a fantastic break. This week, Year 5 jumped straight back into learning!

The children have been working on converting mixed numbers into improper fractions in Maths, showing excellent problem-solving skills. In English, we have worked on diary entries from the perspective of a lighthouse keeper. We added vivid descriptions and emotions to make our writing really engaging. French was fun as we looked at story of goldilocks and the 3 bears- I was so impressed by the children's translation skills!

In Geography and Science, we have started two super-interesting new topics: Space, and what life is like in the Alps. We've already learnt so much, including how tectonic plates shape the Earth, the difference between heliocentric and geocentric models of the universe, and how our perspective affects what we see. We've also been learning about the number of continents around the world and where they are located. The children have shown great curiosity and enthusiasm as they explore these fascinating topics.

We are looking forward to week 2 of 2026!

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

Ivy Hodgson and **Lucy Penn**

YEAR 6

This week's Headteacher's Awards in Year 6 go to: **Mitchell Nicol** and **Henry Smith**

It's been great to welcome everyone back to school, and Year 6 have made a fantastic start to what will be a busy and important term. Over the next few months, we'll be consolidating all the learning the children have developed throughout their primary years, preparing them with confidence for the next stage of their education.

In PSHE, we began looking at the *Zones of Regulation*, helping children recognise their emotions and understand how different feelings can affect their learning and behaviour. In the coming weeks, we will look more closely at practical strategies to help them regulate their emotions, stay focused and feel ready for the challenges ahead.

Key Dates

January

12th—After School Activities begin

15th—Spring Census Day

20th—Professional Development afternoon—finish 1:30pm

21st—Y1/2 Multiskills at Netherhall

21st—FODS EGM—6pm in school hall

23rd—National Handwriting Day

28th —Y5 trip to Forth Engineering

February

11th—Y3/4 Dodgeball at Netherhall

12th—Year 6 First Aid

13th Break up for Half Term at 3:15pm

Cups

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

Early Years— **Grace Akitt**

Key Stage 1— **Millie-Joe Lancaster**

Lower Key Stage 2— **Samuel Birkett-Batey**

Upper Key Stage 2—**Esther Blackburn**

Safeguarding

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

Cumberland Safeguarding Children Partnership

Attendance

Attendance for week ending **09/01/26**

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

Whole School Attendance = 95.6%

Reception	**87%**
Year 1	**98%**
Year 2	**97%**
Year 3	**99%**
Year 4	**94%**
Year 5	**99%**
Year 6	**95%**

House Points

Bassenthwaite Boys | Grasmere Gorillas | Whinlatter Wolves

115 **146** **143**

Useful Information

Dearham Primary School
Dearham
Maryport
Cumbria
CA15 7HR

01900 812 518

admin.dearham@changinglives.education

Happy New Year!

As we welcome 2026, we would like to thank all our parents and families for your continued support throughout 2025.

Your involvement, generosity and encouragement have played a vital role in the many successes and memorable moments of the past year.

We look forward to working together again in 2026 to support our lovely school, creating even more opportunities for our children and our community!

Friends Of Dearham School

2026 Events

Wednesday 18th March
-Chocolate Bingo

Saturday 16th May
- Summer Fayre

Saturday 24th October
- Pumpkin Picking

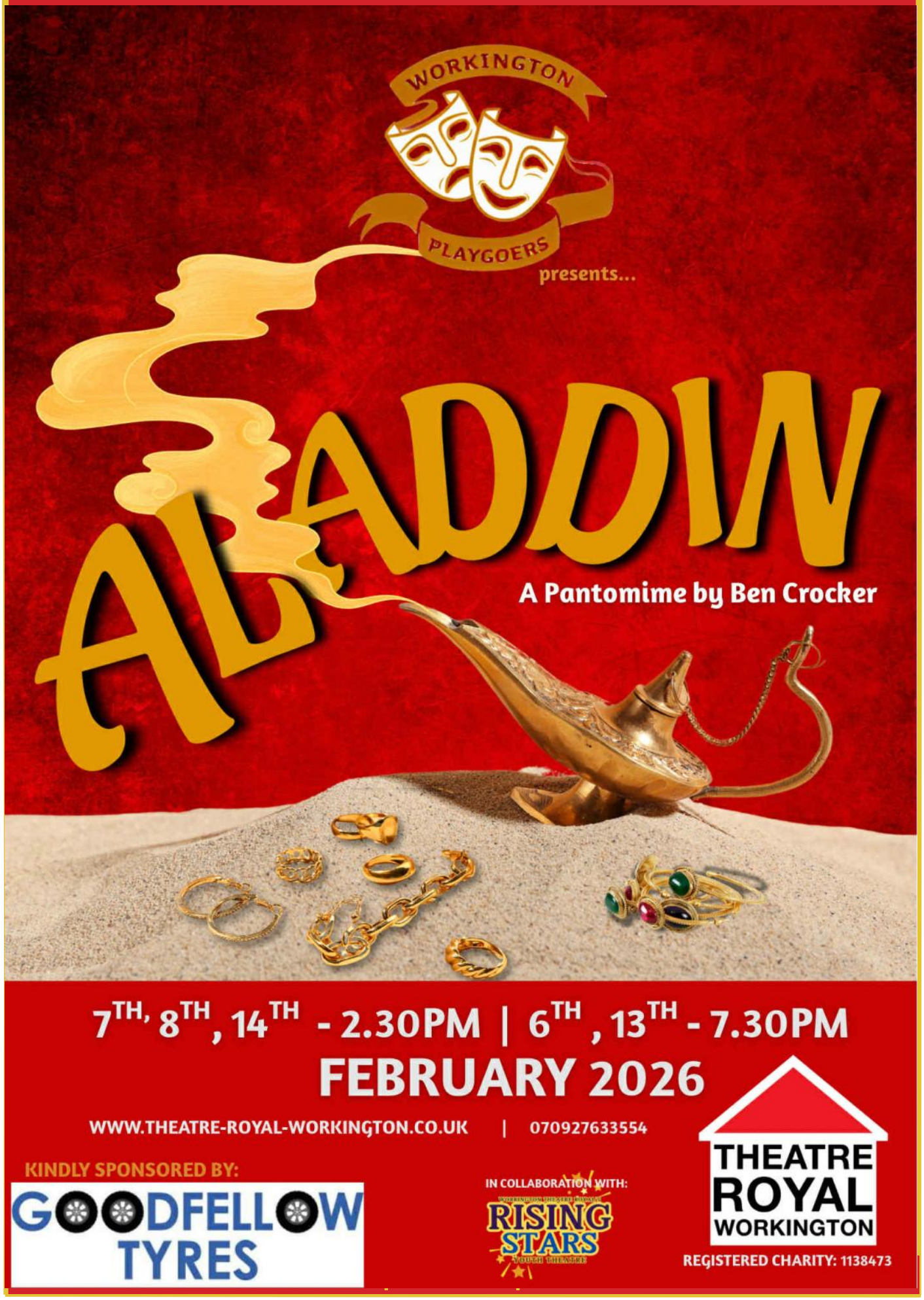
Saturday 5th December
- Santa's Grotto & Winter Market

EGM
Wednesday 21st Jan
6pm School Hall

Friends Of Dearham School

We need you!

Cumbria Fostering
Become part of Cumbria's biggest Family
Find out about
Fostering
...and how you can change children's lives in 2026
Come along to our information drop in at Costa Coffee on Steelman's Way in Workington on Friday 6 February from 12pm to 1pm and speak to our friendly team and foster carers.
0300 019 0200
Cumberland Council
Westmorland & Furness Council


WORKINGTON
PLAYGOERS
presents...
ALADDIN
A Pantomime by Ben Crocker
7TH, 8TH, 14TH - 2.30PM | 6TH, 13TH - 7.30PM
FEBRUARY 2026
WWW.THEATRE-ROYAL-WORKINGTON.CO.UK | 070927633554
KINDLY SPONSORED BY:
GOODFELLOW TYRES
IN COLLABORATION WITH:
RISING STARS
THEATRE ROYAL WORKINGTON
REGISTERED CHARITY: 1138473