

Dear Parent/Carer,

MAY 2018 NEWSLETTER

Short message from the Head

We are now back into the swing of this extremely busy term. There are lots of exciting trips, clubs, residential and activities that are planned for many year groups, which the children are looking forward to; Expedition Club, Bikeability, Edinburgh residential, Liverpool visit, cricket matches, sports days, Derwentwater, Coniston Waterpark, Grasmere residential, Summer music concert, etc. We will endeavour to keep you informed of all the things going on through letters (please see 'dates' at the end of this newsletter) and our new text service, but if there is any confusion with so much going on, please feel free to contact us by phone for clarification.

Safeguarding children in school

As a school, we are duty bound to keep the children in our care in a safe environment. We have made every effort to do this, (door locks etc.) while still allowing parents access to the school building, (into the reception area outside the office) before the end of the school day, while they wait to collect their children. We realise that this is not a situation that everybody agrees with, but is the only way that we can ensure we safeguard our school environment as we are expected to do. Can we please ask that you all help us with this. If you are in the reception area when the children come out of assembly, please do NOT go down the corridor with them; wait until 3.20pm. Also, please do not open doors to allow other parents onto the corridor or into the Y1 and 2 porch area until 3.20pm. Many thanks for your help.

Head lice

At the moment we appear to be going through an increase in instances of head lice in some year groups. Can I please ask all parents to be extra vigilant about this so we can make sure we are all doing our best to eradicate this problem. Some local chemists may be able to provide the treatment free of charge. Please go to the following link for more information: <https://www.nhs.uk/Livewell/Pharmacy/Pages/Commonconditions.aspx>

Sports News

- Another very busy term of sport at Ghyllside School. We have had numerous football matches against other local schools for boys and girls in Y3, 4, 5 & 6. With over 60 children taking part in inter-school sports games we are certainly doing our best to keep fit and embrace competition. We had a range of results with some teams winning, some losing and some drawing, but all had lots of fun and the enthusiasm to represent our school was fantastic.
- Our Ghyllside Y6 boys were very fortunate to be asked (by invitation only) to take part in a Premier League football tournament at Whitehaven on the last day of Spring Term. The winners had the opportunity to go to the national finals at Leicester City's King Power Stadium. This must have inspired our players as they went all the way to the final and lost on penalties after being 1-0 up with 30 seconds left! There were some very tired bodies and disappointed faces at the end, but the children showed what you can achieve with self- belief and hard work.
- We have a Tag Rugby match against Stramongate School on the 18th May and then a busy period of summer sports days and athletics competitions next half term. Let's hope the sun shines a bit more this summer.

School Council News

- 12 Y5/6 pupils, Dan Duxbury, Michelle Crowley, Paul Giblin, Sophie and Imogen Hansen took part in the Swimathon on Saturday 10th March and raised £540.04! All proceeds will go to the Outdoor Classroom Project. Many thanks to all those who were involved.
- The Squares Fundraiser raised £237. The winning number was 10 and there were 12 winners across the school who each won an Easter egg. Thanks again to all those who took part.
- If anyone has unwanted chess sets and boards, and would like to donate them to school, please bring into school and they will be put to good use during wet break times.
- For March we are asking for contributions of **skipping ropes, small toys and McDonald's toys** for the Rotary Shoe Box Appeal. Please could you bring these in from Tuesday 8th May and place in the box situated in the library.

PTA News

Our next meeting will be on Monday 14th May at 7pm in the staff room and we will be focusing on planning the Summer fair. Please feel free to turn up as we would like as many ideas and volunteers as possible to have a really successful event. The PTA always welcome new members and are keen for anyone to be involved in any way they can. The next uniform sale will be on Monday 4th June.

Abbot Hall playground

Many of you may use Abbot Hall playground with your families. I have been asked to highlight that the committee that is responsible for its upkeep and redevelopment of the playground have been accepted as one of the charities that Tesco are supporting locally (in their Kendal, Bowness and Ambleside shops.) The way the charity is supported is that on shopping in one of the shops you are given a token that you can then drop into the box that represents your chosen charity. The committee have asked that you consider their need to up keep the park, if or when you shop in Tesco locally.

Torchlight Procession September 2018

Following last year's success, Ghyllside will once again be entering a float for the torchlight procession which will be held on Friday 14th September. Chloe Iveson and Rachel Braithwaite will be organising the creation of the float and are asking Y5 pupils to help with the making sessions. Please look out for the letter coming home and if any Y5 pupils are interested, please complete and return the reply slip to Miss Iveson or Mrs Braithwaite.

English Youth Ballet

One of our Y6 pupils, Aria Joyce, has successfully auditioned for a place in the English Youth Ballet company. This means over the summer holidays Aria will receive around 100 hours of ballet training and dance in the ballet Sleeping Beauty in Carlisle in September. We would like to congratulate Aria on this special achievement!

Syrian Appeal

One of our Y3 pupils, Ali Khalil, has been so upset by the present Syrian crisis that he would like to raise money to donate. Ali and his Mum are arranging an auction and raffle to do this so if you wish to donate, or buy a raffle ticket, please go to 'Ali's Fundraising for Syria Page' on Facebook.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Mon 7 May:	May Bank Holiday
Wed 9 – Fri 11 May:	Y5 Residential to Derwentwater
Thurs 10 – Fri 11 May:	Y3 Residential to Grasmere
Mon 14 May:	Y3 Coniston Waterpark trip
Mon 14 – Thurs 17 May:	Y6 SATs
Mon 14 May:	PTA Meeting, 7pm, staffroom
Mon 21 – Wed 23 May:	Y6 Residential to Edinburgh
Mon 28 May – Fri 1 June:	Half Term Holiday
Mon 4 – Friday 8 June:	Y6 Bikeability
Sat 9 - Mon 11 June:	Y6 Expedition Club
Thurs 14 June:	Class Photographs
Mon 18 June:	Y6 KKS Induction Day
Tues 19 June:	Reception Sports 10.00am, KS1 Sports 1.00pm - picnic lunch 12.00 noon
Wed 20 June:	Y4 Trip to Liverpool, 7.45am – 4.30pm
Wed 20 June:	Reception New Starters Evening 6.30 - 8.00pm
Thurs 21 June:	KS2 Sports 1.00pm - picnic lunch 12.00 noon
Mon 25 June:	Y4 PS/LG Rainbow Roundabout at United Reformed Church, pm
Tues 26 June:	Y4 LA Rainbow Roundabout at United Reformed Church, pm
Thurs 28 June:	Y6 QKS Induction Day
Fri 29 Jun:	Y4 Commonwealth Day at KKS tbc.(letters to follow for Y4 trips/events)
Fri 29 Jun:	PTA Summer Fair

Summer Term ends on Friday 20th July at 2.00pm

Autumn Term starts on Wednesday 5th September