

Shine Together ☆☆☆

Issue 55

Our School Motto: Work Together, Aim High, Shine Bright



Attendance this week: 96.2% 😊

16th January '26

LEVELS Opening event – This week Dion and Luca had the honour of attending the opening event of LEVELS in Whitehaven, a new digital and gaming hub featuring three floors of immersive technology: esports and VR zones, recording studios, fully immersive education and learning suite and café.



<https://levelswitehaven.co.uk/>

The boys tested Rocket League on the PCs and on VR headsets, they explored space visiting different planets and in geography they travelled to Egypt to see the pyramids and to Paris to see the Eiffel Tower. They spent time in a virtual science lab with animals on their desks. Coding can also be used to allow pupils to have conversations with historical figures or characters, for example speaking to Ancient Egyptians or even Henry VIII. There is a podcast filming room, with equipment described as just one level below Netflix standard. The top floor focuses on Art, using VR headsets that allow children to paint while seated at a virtual easel.

It sounds like the boys had a very special day, but you can see for yourselves how they got on iPlayer from Friday 9th Jan at 6:30pm.



Golden Certificates...

Golden jumper were awarded this week for a variety of reasons including trying hard when things get tough. Congratulations to Alice in Reception, Oliver in Yr1, Elodie in Yr2, Cora in Yr3, Junior in Yr4, Alex in Yr5 and Gabriella in Yr6.

All our latest information is on our website here: [Latest News | Bridekirk Dovenby CE Primary School](#)

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Mon 19th – After school choir until 4pm

Tues 20th – Ukulele lessons for year 3's

Tues 20th – Guitar lessons

Tues 20th – Yr1&2 Multi Skills after school club for those signed up on Arbor

Tues 20th Jan – Yrs4/5/6s Archbishop's Young Leader's Award after school club for those signed up on Arbor.

Tues 20th – Yr5&6 Dodgeball Festival at Cockermouth School

Fri 23rd - Woodwind lessons

Looking ahead...

Wed 4th Feb – Yr5 go to watch the Wizard of Oz at Cockermouth School

9th – 12th February – Book Fayre in school

9th – 13th February – P5 swimming lessons

Latest News

Positive Thinking – This morning in assembly we heard this poem about Positive Thinking by Donna Ashworth and thought we would share it here.

Positive thinking
is not pretending
bad things don't happen
it is deciding to imagine
the good things happening instead
and using hope
like a magic wand
to make that good come true.
positive thinking
is deciding not to waste
your brilliant imagination
on worrying
but using it instead
to create all the most
glitteringly fabulously positive things
you can find
within your
spectacularly, mightily mighty
magic-making mind.

New Parent Governor – We would like to extend a warm welcome to Samantha Varty who has kindly volunteered to be a Parent Governor. Welcome to the team.

Cross Country – Martha, Chloe and Harriet ran well at Cockermouth School before Christmas and were selected to run in the Yr 4,5 & 6 Cumbria Schools Athletics Association, Cross Country event at Netherhall School this week. The girls all had fantastic runs and have qualified for the next round at Sedbergh School. In the Yr5 category, Martha was 1st and Chloe 2nd and in the Yr6 category, Harriet 3rd.

Fidget Toys – Please can we kindly remind you not to send in fidget toys as they can get lost or broken. If your child needs a fidget toy, staff will allocate one.

Arbor – Notifications, Consents and OOSC – We hope you are all getting to grips with Arbor. We know it's not as user friendly as School Money but hopefully all the additional functions make it a better overall App. We have started using the In-App messages and are going to switch to this method as much as possible going forward and stop using text messages as frequently. Please can we ask you turn on Notifications, if you haven't already, so you can receive In-App messages. This will be different depending on Android or iOS, but if you navigate to your Apps, find Arbor, go to Settings, Notifications and Allow Notifications.

Consents – There is a consents section which we would like you to complete. A lot of you have already done this so thank you to you. Some sections have a description within them which provide more detail. You only have to do this once for each of your children. Hopefully, it's self-explanatory but if you have any questions, please let us know.

OOSC – Just a reminder that you cannot book OOSC on Arbor. Please continue to use the existing methods (contracts, monthly forms, email, phone) and use Arbor to check the bookings and make payment, just as you used to do on School Money.

FOBDS Corner – Welcome back! We hope you had a lovely break. We will be having a meeting soon to start planning for the 10km race on 16th May. If you would like to get involved, please get in touch.

Our Christian Vision:

At Bridekirk Dovenby School, we nourish the uniqueness of our community. Rooted in love, a rich and diverse curriculum enables all to flourish and grow. Confident and secure, our children reach out, ready to embrace the seasons of life in all its fullness.

Psalm 1 *"They are like trees, planted by streams of water, which yield their fruit in its season, and their leaves do not wither. In all they do, they prosper."*



SUPPORT GROUP



10AM-12PM
MONDAYS IN
TERM TIME

SHARE &
ENCOURAGE



MEET OTHER
PARENTS

HIGHFIELD ROAD
COCKERMOUTH



WINDMILLS

AUTISM & NEURODIVERSITY SUPPORT COCKERMOUTH





Field Studies
Council
Blencathra

Holiday club

17th to the 20th February 2026



This winter we are
inviting 8 -11 year olds to
join us here at the
Blencathra centre for a
fun packed week of
activities!



Run by our experienced
field tutors you can
expect nature
exploration, adventure
activities and lots of fun!



For more information and to
visit our website scan the QR
code above



discover, explore, imagine

Beakid

Fun, imaginative monthly workshops connecting
kids to science, heritage and creativity.

RECYCLE

Sat 24 & Sun 25 January | 11am, 1pm, 3pm
£5 per person

CHINESE NEW YEAR includes Pet Encounters

Sat 14, Sun 15, Tues 17 February | 10am, 12pm, 2pm
£15 per person

- Suitable for 4-10 year olds
- Places are limited, therefore booking is essential via The Beacon Museum's website.

Join us!

WWW.THEBEACON-WHITEHAVEN.CO.UK

