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Successful learning in a happy environment

Executive Headteacher: Mr Mark Ashton

Newsletter 13th June 2022

We are now in the final half-term of the school year. It seems incredible to think that the academic year is coming to an end and September seems to be such a long time ago now. We have a very busy few weeks ahead of us with trips, visits and activities for all children. We look forward to another productive time for everyone at school.

Work on the School Roof

Visitors to school will have noticed that the roofing work has been operating in full swing since the half-term break. The work is quite extensive and will be going on into the summer holiday. The whole of the flat roof has been designated by the Local Authority for replacement so it is quite a large-scale operation. The roofing contractors have notified school that the preliminary work has been completed and they are now moving on to the second part of the roof. The tiles over the school hall have been replaced and we are hoping that the children will be allowed to use this area once again from this week.

Pool Update

The swimming pool is now open for the season!! A big thank you to the pool committee for their hard work. If you would like to become a member, please complete a membership form and return to school along with payment.

The PFA are holding a raffle in aid of the pool, we have some fabulous prizes which includes a £50 Argos voucher. Thank you to everybody who has donated so far, we are very grateful for this. Tickets can be purchased from school at a cost of a £1 per strip. We will draw the raffle at sports day (more information to follow with regards to sports day).

The PFA are also selling lucky squares on behalf of the pool. Squares cost £2 per square and the prize is a pool membership. Don't worry if you win and you already have a membership, you will be refunded the cost of your membership.

Swimming lessons

Swimming lessons will take place on a Monday and Wednesday afternoon. Please can all children bring in their swimming kits and flip flops/crocs to school on these days.

Do I qualify for free school meals and school clothing vouchers?

Free school meals and clothing vouchers are available for your child(ren) if you receive one of the following qualifying benefits:

- Income Support (IS)
- Income Based Jobseekers Allowance (IBJSA)
- An income related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999

- Child Tax Credit, provided you are not entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual income (as assessed by Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs) that as of April 2012 does not exceed £16,190. Note: From 1st May 2009 where you are entitled to Working Tax Credit during the four week period immediately after your employment ceases, or after you start to work less than 16 hours per week, your children are entitled to Free School Meals, this may be extended
- The Guarantee element of State Pension Credit
- Universal Credit

If you receive working tax credits you may not be eligible for free school meals or clothing grants.

Children who receive Income Support or Income Based Jobseekers Allowance in their own right are also entitled to receive free school meals.

Free schools meals are available to statutory school aged children attending full time education (full days only 9am to 3pm), excluding private nurseries and further education colleges.

How do I apply?

Please Note: All children who currently receive free school meals and clothing grants do not need to apply each year.

- where possible all parents and guardians should [apply online](#) - you will receive an immediate response advising you whether you are eligible or not
- if you are unable to apply online please contact the free school meals team - telephone: **01228 606060**

Healthy Start Scheme

Eligible families in Cumbria are being encouraged to apply for free vitamins and help with the cost of food and milk as part of the Healthy Start scheme.

The Healthy Start scheme has two elements to it. The first element is a prepaid card worth up to £8.50 per week to spend on fresh produce such as cow's milk, fresh, frozen, or tinned fruit and vegetables, infant formula milk and fresh, dried, and tinned pulses. To be eligible for the prepaid card you need to be in receipt of certain state benefits or pregnant and under 18. Check out the full eligibility criteria on the [Cumbria Healthy Start scheme webpage](#).

The second element of the scheme offers free vitamins to pregnant women and mothers for up to six months after birth (if breastfeeding or dual feeding) as well as vitamin drops for children up until the age of four. Vitamins for pregnant women will initially be distributed by Midwives and Health Visitors during their early visits.

To find out more about Cumbria's Healthy Start Scheme, how to apply for a Healthy Start pre-paid card and which community venues you can collect vitamins from, visit the Cumbria County Council website:

<https://cumbria.gov.uk/publichealth/cumbriahealthystartscheme.asp>

With best wishes for the week ahead

Mark Ashton