



# Newsletter

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## WELCOME!

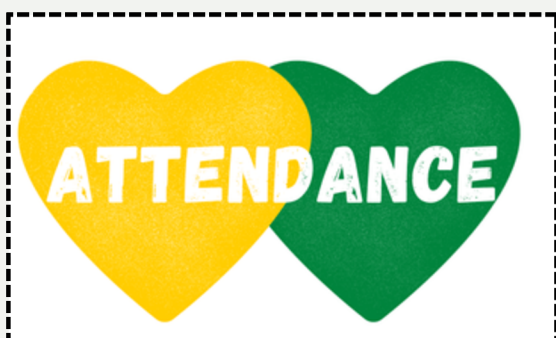
What a pleasure it is to start a new school year! We were delighted to meet our new pupils and to welcome back our existing children after what feels like a long time. I know I always say this but... I'm amazed by how much they have grown!

Some of them are moving up to new classes and will have new teachers - including Miss Johnson to whom we all extend a very warm welcome.

We have got an exciting term - and, indeed, an exciting year - planned for you. There will be lots of special visitors and educational visits, performances and learning opportunities. Please have a read of this newsletter to find out more.

## NELSON THOMLINSON OPEN EVENING

Secondary education will seem like a long way off for many, but these things soon catch up on you! NTS are holding an open evening which may be of particular interest to parents of Year 6 pupils, from 5pm this coming Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> September. These events can be very informative and are worth attending.



## ATTENDANCE

I have no doubt that we will maintain our school's outstanding record for excellent attendance this year! Thanks for your support.

Week beginning Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> September:

Owls: 100%      Ospreys: 94%      Kestrels: 100%

# More Happenings...

## UNIFORM AND PE KIT

A reminder to ensure that pupils are in correct school uniform and PE kit. This can be found on our school website here:

[www.bowness-on-solway.cumbria.sch.uk/parents-and-children/school-uniform/](http://www.bowness-on-solway.cumbria.sch.uk/parents-and-children/school-uniform/)

## AROUND THE ISLAND ART TRAIL

For the first time, Bowness School will be taking part in the *Around The Island* art trail, taking place during September on the theme of 'The Local Area.'

Children will take part in producing works of art, also with a poetry link. We will open up The Cottage (at the back of school, accessible via the red gate on the right) on the weekends of 20<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup>, and 27<sup>th</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup> between 11am and 4pm.

We hope you are able to drop in! We are also looking for volunteers to be present to welcome visitors. If you can spare a couple of hours or so, please let us know as soon as possible.

In the meantime, children and families are invited to take a photograph of anything that interests you in the local area. These can be submitted to [Nicola.Moore@bowness-on-solway.cumbria.sch.uk](mailto:Nicola.Moore@bowness-on-solway.cumbria.sch.uk) by the end of this weekend and they can also be used as part of the exhibition!

# More Happenings...

## PE & SPORT

Here are the PE days for this term. Children will need to arrive in PE kit.  
Owls: Thu & Fri;      Ospreys: Mon & Fri;      Kestrels: Mon & Fri

Please note some extra sporting opportunities:

- Owls (preschool to Y1) will have 6 weeks of cricket from Mon 8<sup>th</sup> Sep
- Kestrels (Y5&6) will have four weeks of rugby on Wednesdays from 10<sup>th</sup> Sep

## PUPIL PREMIUM, FREE SCHOOL MEALS AND CLOTHING GRANTS

All schools receive extra funding from the government to support the learning of children from lower-income families. This vital 'Pupil Premium' funding really makes a difference to your child's education as it can be used for additional staffing for 1:1 and small group work, educational visits, breakfast and after school clubs, classroom technology, school meals and lots more. However, we only get this if you apply.

If your child is in reception, year 1 or year 2 and therefore receives free school meals anyway, please still apply if you qualify as this means we will receive additional funding at school which will benefit your child.

Parents and carers in receipt of income support, universal credit, child tax credit or other benefits can apply via the Cumberland Citizen Portal: [www.cumberland.gov.uk/schools-and-education/free-school-meals-clothing-vouchers-and-activities/free-school-meals-and-clothing-vouchers](http://www.cumberland.gov.uk/schools-and-education/free-school-meals-clothing-vouchers-and-activities/free-school-meals-and-clothing-vouchers)

Alternatively, Google *Cumberland Free School Meals* or call 0300 373 3730 to receive a paper application form. Please let us know if you require any assistance with making an application.

# Charity Work

## HARVEST FESTIVAL

To raise funds for our new school charity for 2025-26, we will hold the traditional harvest festival with our popular auctioneer Ian Grainger on **Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> September at 1:30pm.**

We are now accepting donations of food and drink to be auctioned off at this event, taking place in the school hall on the above date.

Each class will carry out a short performance before the auction. Don't forget to bring your purse / wallet!

## MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING

Many - if not all - of us will have been affected by cancer, be it a family member or an acquaintance. MacMillan is a vital charity that supports so many at the most challenging of times.

Every year around this time, we hold a MacMillan Coffee Morning. This year, it will be on Friday 26<sup>th</sup> September between 9:00 and 10:15.

We are accepting donations of baked good (with a full ingredients list for allergies please). Please send them in or bring them on the day.

## SCHOOL CHARITY

Pupils have elected the new student council members for the year. They have already selected our new school charity. In the meantime, we are wrapping up our fundraising for Special Effect and will reveal the final figure very soon.

For one final push, I will take part in this Sunday's Great North Run on behalf of our school charity. If you would like to donate a couple of quid, the link is below:

[www.justgiving.com/page/stuart-walsh-1](http://www.justgiving.com/page/stuart-walsh-1)

# Wait... There's More!



## DIARY DATES

Mon 8<sup>th</sup> Sep - Helen Haroldson author visit  
Fri 12<sup>th</sup> Sep - Cartoon workshop (Kestrels)  
Mon 15<sup>th</sup> Sep - Artist visit  
20<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup> Sep - Art Trail  
Tue 23<sup>rd</sup> Sep - Garden Party  
Fri 26<sup>th</sup> Sep - MacMillan Coffee Morning  
Wed 1<sup>st</sup> Oct - Rugby Tournament (Kestrels)  
Fri 3<sup>rd</sup> Oct - Individual & family photos  
Thu 23<sup>rd</sup> Oct - Nasal flu vaccine (Rec-Y6)

## 1875 GARDEN PARTY

As our 150<sup>th</sup> birthday celebrations continue, we will be holding a garden party on Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> September. We are seeking to make contact with former staff, pupils, governors or anyone who has been involved with our school at any point over the last 150 years(!). Please put us in touch with anyone you know.

School governor Charlotte Cox is leading a working committee on organising this event. If you would like to get involved, please email her on:  
[charlottecox@bowness-on-solway.cumbria.sch.uk](mailto:charlottecox@bowness-on-solway.cumbria.sch.uk)

The garden party will feature a Maypole, live music and the burial of a time capsule containing lots of information and other things produced by the children.

Please spread the word and join us between 11:30am and 1:30pm on the day.

FOR MORE ABOUT  
OUR SCHOOL:

- [bowness-on-solway.cumbria.sch.uk](http://bowness-on-solway.cumbria.sch.uk)
- [facebook.com/BownessSchool](https://facebook.com/BownessSchool)
- [instagram.com/owls\\_class](https://instagram.com/owls_class)