



# Victoria School

Achieve, Believe, Learn together.

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## Newsletter Summer Term 2026

17/04/2026



**We hope you enjoyed the Easter break.  
Welcome back to the summer term!**

We have enjoyed our first week back to the summer term, although the weather is not giving us the Summer feeling just yet! Welcome to our new pupils who have joined the school and nursery groups, they have settled really well and we are looking forward to working with them.

The learning this half term will be sent out through the parent's information pages where you will be able to find out what knowledge and skills your child will be learning across the curriculum.

### **Summer uniform**

The summer uniform policy applies for this term where smart black shorts can be worn, there will be no summer dresses allowed as the pupils can wear their skirts and polo shirt. If in the event that the weather is very hot, we change the pupils into their PE kits and will inform nursery parents/carers that the pupils can wear shorts and t-shirts.

### **Tempest photos**

The school photographer visited the school this week to take individual photos of the new pupils. They will return on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> May for class and nursery group photos along with family and sibling photos from 8am.

### **Leaver's hoodies**

Mrs Hepburn-Fish will present all year two pupils with their leaver's hoodies in assembly today. This is a gift from the school to celebrate their time at Victoria Infant and Nursery School and to keep as a memory. The pupils can wear these every day or wear a cardigan or jumper. These are not to replace a coat.

### **Workington Academy**

We have been invited by Workington Academy to take year two pupils for a sports event next Thursday. Pupils will be taken to the Academy in the morning, have a packed lunch and will continue with sports in the afternoon and, return to school ready for the normal home time.

## **Parking**

PLEASE DO NOT PARK ON ISLAY PLACE.

On Wednesday when we have had a number of afterschool clubs Islay place has been getting very congested to the point where we are concerned about the safety of our pupils and parents/carers. There is not enough space to turn and when cars are parked on both sides it makes it difficult to see when crossing.

## **Pupil Achievements**

We would also like to hear about and share on our newsletter any pupil who is proud of something they have achieved outside of school. We will put this into our newsletter each week. Please send the details to the admin.

Little reminder if you need to contact the Headteacher please ring the office for an appointment or send an email and Mrs Hepburn-Fish will be happy to help.



Cumberland Neurodiversity and  
Emotional Wellbeing Service

Cumberland Council, in partnership with local NHS services, are pleased to announce the launch of a new Neurodiversity and Emotional Wellbeing Service. The service is being piloted for an initial 12 months in the Cumberland area from November 2025, and has been developed with the support of SENDAC, the statutory parent/ carer forum for Cumbria.

The service will focus on early intervention and prevention, offering support at soon as needs are noticed. It will provide support, advice and guidance to families with children who have needs related to neurodivergence or emotional wellbeing.

This includes children from 0-19, or young people up to aged 25 who have a diagnosed special educational need or disability. The Service team is made up of two Social Prescribers, five Support Workers, a Health & Wellbeing Coach, three Emotional Resilience Nurses, a Clinical Psychologist, and an Assistant Psychologist who can provide clinical support and guidance when needed.

The service has:

A Neurodiversity and Emotional Wellbeing section on the Cumberland Family Hubs website which has information, advice, and strategies to support families if they feel they need it.

A single point of contact for parents, carers, young people, and professionals to contact the service to receive further advice and support.

A new strength and needs assessment that can be completed with families to understand each child or young person and plan the right support.

You can find out more on the service webpages, hosted on the Cumberland Family Hubs website: <https://cumberlandfamilyhubs.org.uk/neurodiversity-and...>

Or email the team at [NDandEW@cumberland.gov.uk](mailto:NDandEW@cumberland.gov.uk)

### Pupil Premium Grant

The pupil premium is additional government funding for pupils who are eligible and have applied for Free School Meals (FSM) or at any time in the previous six years, as well as Children Looked After (CLA), adopted children (Ad) and for service families. The funding goes direct to your school and makes a real difference to the opportunities and support available to all our young people

### Free School Meals

All reception, year one and year two pupil receive universal meals but some parents/carers are eligible for free school meals. Please apply now and this will entitle you to food vouchers during the school holidays and additional foodbank vouchers for Christmas. Please apply through Cumberland Council <https://www.cumberland.gov.uk/schools-and-education/free-school-meals-clothing-vouchers-and-activities/free-school-meals-and-clothing-vouchers>



### Behaviour update

The whole school have been working on updating our school rules. The student leaders held an assembly and shared the final ones with the whole school. You can watch the attached video to hear our school rules <https://www.facebook.com/share/v/1PpusEwC8M/>



### Health and safety reminders

All pupils must be brought to their entrance to their class by an adult so that they are handed over to the staff safely. Pupils must not be left at the gates or parts of the playground to walk to the class by themselves. Pupils can only be collected by one of the named adult contacts who has permission to collect. If for some reason your child will not be collected by a named contact please contact the school office so we can ensure that we are handing your child to the correct adult at the end of the day.

No dogs can be brought onto the school premises other than guide dogs.

No smoking, vaping or e cigarettes are permitted on school premises.

The main staff car park cannot be used at any time this includes dropping off for breakfast club or collecting for afterschool club.

Afterschool we request that parents/carers leave the school after collecting your child and not play on the equipment. We have a number of afterschool clubs running and we need access to the playground and the gates locked so the pupils can begin their club. Thank you



A little reminder that we ask for a coat to be worn. The pupils are outside for playtimes and outdoor learning is a key part to our younger pupils.



The Safeguarding Hub has changed their name to Cumberland Children Advice &

### Support Service

As of 1 September 2025, the Cumberland Safeguarding Hub changed their name to **Cumberland Children Advice & Support Service (CCASS)**.

This change of name is to support the 'one front door' model, so any children requiring support from the Local Authority, whether this be extra help via the Family Hubs, or a safeguarding response, will have their needs assessed through the screening and triage services CCASS offer, this will ensure the right level of service at the right time for children.

Consultation on the new name has been undertaken with children from across Cumberland, through the Participation and Outreach Team. We are proud to hear their views and have adopted their preferred name.

### How can a member of the public make a referral?

If a member of the public is concerned about a child, they can make a referral to CCASS. They can do this in a number of ways:

- **Call the Cumberland Children Advice & Support Service** on 0333 240 1727 during office hours (Monday to Thursday, 9am – 5pm, and Friday, 9am – 4.30pm).
- Discuss their concerns with someone who works with children, young people and their families, such as a Health Visitor, Social Worker, School Nurse or School Designated Safeguarding Lead.
- **Submit a Single Contact Form**, selecting 'I am an adult with concerns about a child'.
  - [Cumberland Single Contact Form](#)

If members of the public have a concern outside of office hours, which will not wait until the next working day, they should contact the Children's Emergency Duty Team on 0333 240 1727 and provide them with as much information as possible.

### Lunch Time Menu

Our Lunch time menu is on a two-week rolling rota. Each week we will put a copy of the following weeks menu on the bottom of the newsletter. Please note this can be subject to change depending on supplier's availability.

### Earrings

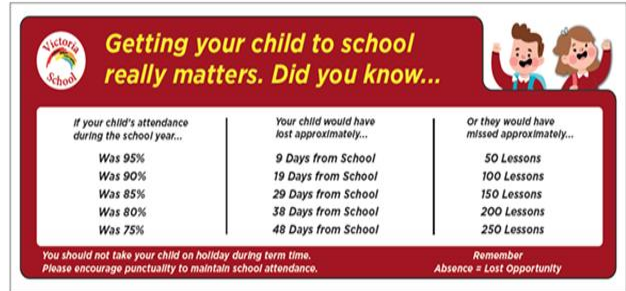
Earrings that have just been newly pierced must be covered each day. After 8 weeks the earrings need to be removed. We have a number of pupils who are wearing hoops/fashion earrings and covering these over. These must be removed. Thank you.

### Baby Rainbows

Baby Rainbows runs every Thursday at 1:30pm – 3:00pm for under Two-year olds. Come and join us for a cake and a cuppa with other parents/carers



## MATTERS- PUNCTUALITY MATTERS



**Getting your child to school really matters. Did you know...**

If your child's attendance during the school year...	Your child would have lost approximately...	Or they would have missed approximately...
Was 95%	9 Days from School	50 Lessons
Was 90%	19 Days from School	100 Lessons
Was 85%	29 Days from School	150 Lessons
Was 80%	38 Days from School	200 Lessons
Was 75%	48 Days from School	250 Lessons

You should not take your child on holiday during term time. Please encourage punctuality to maintain school attendance. Remember Absence = Lost Opportunity

### Absence

It is parents/carers responsibility to report your child as absent, please contact the school before 8.45am and leave a message on the automated service using option 1, Failure to report absences will result in a phone call and a text from the school to explain the absence. If we are not informed about child's attendance our first day contact procedures are followed. This includes a home visit and after this if we cannot make contact to find out the reason for the absence the police will be contacted as the child will be classed as missing.

### Absence due to reported illness / Appointments

If you have reported your child absent due to illness then school will contact you on the 3<sup>rd</sup> consecutive day of absence with a welfare call. On the 3<sup>rd</sup> day of illness we would be advising parents to seek medical advice as a prolonged period of illness would generally require medical attention. Where the illness continues into a 4<sup>th</sup> day and school have no supporting medical evidence such as a GP appointment then a home visit will be carried out to see the child.

If your child has a medical appointment then school are required to ask for evidence of all appointments to authorise the absence. This could be in the form of a letter, appointment card or screenshot of text message etc...

## Wake up Wednesday

Image-altering filters are now embedded across social media platforms, shaping how young people present themselves and interpret the world around them.

While these tools can appear harmless, they can also contribute to unrealistic expectations, social pressure and a blurred sense of reality.

Our latest hashtag#WakeUpWednesday guide supports educators and parents in understanding these challenges and responding effectively.

The guide explores:

- The impact of altered beauty standards and comparison culture
- Risks linked to hidden advertising and sexualised edits
- The influence of filtered content on confidence and identity

It also provides clear, practical strategies to promote media literacy, build resilience and support healthier online behaviours.

Access the guide: <https://vist.ly/4yi47>

hashtag#Safeguarding

hashtag#OnlineSafety hashtag#Education

hashtag#DigitalWellbeing

hashtag#WakeUpWednesday

**What Parents & Educators Need to Know about IMAGE-ALTERING FILTERS**

From playful puppy ears on Snapchat to 'beauty mode' on TikTok, image-altering filters are now a routine part of how young people communicate online. While many are harmless, others subtly reshape people's faces and bodies. This can blur the line between reality and edited content, potentially influencing how children and young people see themselves and others.

**WHAT ARE THE RISKS?**

- ALTERED BEAUTY STANDARDS**  
Many beauty filters smooth skin, enhance facial features, or adjust body proportions. Over time, repeated exposure to these filters can shift a child's idea of what is normal or desirable, creating unrealistic expectations about their own and others' appearance.
- HIDDEN ADVERTISING**  
Some filters are linked to beauty products or services, subtly promoting brands and products. Children and young people may not recognise this as advertising, which means they're more likely to buy into the products being promoted.
- PRESSURE TO LOOK PERFECT**  
Filtered images can often affect more than just physical appearance. This can encourage children and young people to be too self-critical or to feel self-conscious, rather than feeling confident in their natural appearance.
- BLURRED REALITY**  
As these features are so advanced and natural-looking, it can be difficult for children and young people to distinguish between content that has been edited and content that has not. Filters are used on everything from social media to everyday photos.
- LOW SELF-ESTEEM**  
Regularly viewing heavily filtered images can lead to comparisons with unrealistic images. This is linked to body dissatisfaction and lower self-esteem, particularly among children and teenagers.
- SEXUALISED EDITS**  
Certain filters can make users appear older or more sexualised. This can attract unwanted attention, increase the risk of images being shared without consent, and encourage young people to unwise interactions.

**Advice for Parents & Educators**

- START OPEN CONVERSATIONS**  
Talk regularly about filters, such as how they work and why people use them, and encourage and young people to get creative with their own filters. Encourage them to think and encourage honest discussion without judgement.
- CHALLENGE 'PERFECT' POSTS**  
When viewing content together, gently point out the signs of editing, filters, or posing techniques. This helps correct thinking and helps children and young people question unrealistic images.
- REINFORCE WHAT'S REAL**  
Help children and young people understand that filtered images are digitally altered and are not an accurate reflection of reality. Remind them that they don't need to meet these artificial standards.
- PROMOTE OFFLINE CONFIDENCE**  
Encourage activities that build self-worth beyond appearance, such as sports, hobbies, volunteering, and creative pursuits. In that confidence, let them feel lucky to embrace their natural selves.

Meet Our Expert  
Parent-Advise is a digital parenting expert and founder of Kids in Clicks, a platform dedicated to helping parents navigate the online world alongside their children. She has also contributed to several articles, leading practical guidance on emerging online safety issues. Her insights have been featured by the BBC, The Telegraph, Sky TV, and other major media outlets, supporting families across the UK.

Wake Up Wednesday  
The National College

@wake\_up\_weds /www.thenationalcollege @wake.up.wednesday @wake.up.weds

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 10.04.2025

## Well-being

Looking for ways to support your own and your family's wellbeing?

Please take a moment to explore our school Wellbeing Information Resource-it signposts you to useful contacts, and resources that are available to help!

More information and resources are available on the school and Cumberland Council Websites.

<https://www.victoriaschool.org.uk/school>

[Homepage | Cumberland Family Hubs](#)

[Wellbeing support and resources | Cumberland Council](#)

We offer an open-door policy at Victoria School. Please do not hesitate to contact us for further support or guidance.

Victoria School

Life has its ups and downs, and sometimes, a little support can make all the difference.

- YOUNG MINDS**  
You are not alone we are here to help  
[www.youngminds.org.uk](http://www.youngminds.org.uk)
- NSPCC**  
Call if you need help on 0800 600 5000  
[www.nspcc.org.uk](http://www.nspcc.org.uk)
- Every life matters**  
Action against suicide in Cumbria  
[www.every-life-matters.org.uk](http://www.every-life-matters.org.uk)
- kooth**  
Get free, safe, anonymous support  
[www.kooth.com](http://www.kooth.com)
- Child Bereavement UK**  
Get advice on coping with bereavement  
[www.childbereavementuk.org.uk](http://www.childbereavementuk.org.uk)
- Cumbria Family Support**  
Our charity offers support for children and families who are experiencing stress or difficulties  
[www.cumbriafamilysupport.org.uk](http://www.cumbriafamilysupport.org.uk)

## SEND Drop-in sessions



**SEND drop in sessions**  
**The last Friday in the month**

Mrs Humble and Mrs Collins will be hosting SENCO drop in sessions on the last Friday of the month. Cup of tea, Biscuit and a very warm welcome.

Are you and your child on a SEND journey?  
Are you overwhelmed with new jargon?  
Do you need guidance on where to go for help?

For any SEND related issues or questions we will aim to help, signpost you to the right resources and support you with any referral processes you are unaware of.

9 am-10.00 am Located in after school club.

## Week Two Menu

Choice	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Main One	Margherita Pizza Or Pepperoni Pizza	Pork Grills	Roast Gammon Joint	Chicken Goujons	Pork Sausages
Main Two	Meatballs in Gravy	Fish Nibbles	Cottage Pie	Fish fingers	Breaded White Fish
Main Three	Cheese Ham Or Tuna Sandwich	Cheese Ham Or Tuna Sandwich	Cheese Ham Or Tuna Sandwich	Cheese Ham Or Tuna Sandwich	Cheese Ham Or Tuna Sandwich
Sides & Vegetables	Rice, Smilie Faces  AND  Sweetcorn, Baked Beans	Mash Potato, Pasta Spirals  AND  Green Beans, Garden Peas	Mash Potato, Roast Potato  AND  Carrots, Garden Peas Yorkshire Pudding, Gravy	Oven Chips, Pasta Spirals  AND  Green Beans, Sweetcorn	Mash Potato, Oven Chips  AND  Sweetcorn, Baked Beans
Salad Bar	Lettuce, Cherry Tomatoes, Boiled Egg, Cucumber, Peppers, Beetroot, Coleslaw, Carrot Batons, Pasta Salad, Red Onion, Grated Cheese, Fresh bread	Lettuce, Cherry Tomatoes, Boiled Egg, Cucumber, Peppers, Beetroot, Coleslaw, Carrot Batons, Pasta Salad, Red Onion, Grated Cheese, Garlic bread	Lettuce, Cherry Tomatoes, Boiled Egg, Cucumber, Peppers, Beetroot, Coleslaw, Carrot Batons, Pasta Salad, Red Onion, Grated Cheese, Fresh bread	Lettuce, Cherry Tomatoes, Boiled Egg, Cucumber, Peppers, Beetroot, Coleslaw, Carrot Batons, Pasta Salad, Red Onion, Grated Cheese, Fresh bread	Lettuce, Cherry Tomatoes, Boiled Egg, Cucumber, Peppers, Beetroot, Coleslaw, Carrot Batons, Pasta Salad, Red Onion, Grated Cheese, Fresh bread
Dessert	Chocolate Sponge Or Raspberry Buns	Chocolate Brownie Or Sponge  Served with Custard	Australian Crunch Or Grasmere Gingerbread	Chocolate Shortbread Or Flapjack  Served with Custard	Doughnut Or Angel Delight
Daily Options	Fresh Fruit, Yoghurt	Fresh Fruit, Yoghurt	Fresh Fruit, Yoghurt	Fresh Fruit, Yoghurt	Fresh Fruit, Yoghurt

\*Items are subject to change.

\*Dietary options are available each day.



## Whole School Attendance Week Ending 17/04/2026

### School Attendance Matters (SAM)

Class	Last Week	This Week	Trend
Rainbow Nursery	78.6%	79.2%	▲
Piglet AM	97.6%	97.1%	▼
Piglet PM	78.2%	93.9%	▲
Eeyore	98.1%	96.1%	▼
Tigger	92.7%	88.8%	▼
Roos	83.3%	96.6%	▲
Blencathra	97.0%	95.6%	▼
Great Gable	97.2%	97.0%	▼
Helvellyn	99.0%	99.6%	▲
Catbells	92.4%	92.1%	▼
Red Pike	96.8%	99.1%	▲
Scafell Pike	98.3%	97.6%	▼
Skiddaw	99.4%	98.5%	▼
Rainbow Room	82.2%	84.8%	▲
Whole School	95.10%	95.30%	▲

Our attendance target is 96%

If your child has had 100% attendance this week then they will receive a prize draw ticket for the end of term draw. The more weeks they have 100% attendance the more chances they have to win.



## **Victoria School Nursery, Infant and Junior Term Dates 2025/2026**

Autumn Term 2025

Starts: Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2025

Half Term: Monday 27<sup>th</sup> - Friday 31<sup>st</sup> October 2025

Ends: Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December 2025

Spring Term 2026

Starts: Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2026

Half Term: Monday 16<sup>th</sup> - Friday 20<sup>th</sup> February 2026

Ends: Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March 2026

Summer Term 2026

Starts: Monday 13<sup>th</sup> April 2026

Half Term: Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May - Friday 29<sup>th</sup> May 2026

Ends: Friday 17<sup>th</sup> July 2026

Good Friday: 3<sup>rd</sup> April

Easter Sunday: 5<sup>th</sup> April

Easter Monday: 6<sup>th</sup> April

May bank holiday: Monday 4<sup>th</sup> May 2026

### **INSET DAYS FOR ACADEMIC YEAR 2025-2026**

**INSET** are determined locally

Please note these may differ from Cumbria County Council term dates

## **Victoria School Nursery, Infant and Junior Term Dates 2026/2027**

### Autumn Term 2026

Starts: Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2026

Half Term: Monday 26<sup>th</sup> - Friday 30<sup>th</sup> October 2026

Ends: Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December 2026

### Spring Term 2027

Starts: Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2027

Half Term: Monday 15<sup>th</sup> - Friday 19<sup>th</sup> February 2027

Ends: Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> March 2027

### Summer Term 2027

Starts: Monday 12<sup>th</sup> April 2027

Half Term: Friday 28<sup>th</sup> May - Friday 4<sup>th</sup> June 2027

Ends: Friday 16<sup>th</sup> July 2027

Good Friday: 26<sup>th</sup> March

Easter Sunday: 28<sup>th</sup> March

Easter Monday: 29<sup>th</sup> March

May bank holiday: Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2027

## **INSET DAYS FOR ACADEMIC YEAR 2026-2027**

INSET are determined locally

Please note these may differ from Cumberland Council term dates

## Dairy Dates

### Summer term 2026 Victoria School, Infants and Nursery

Please check weekly as they can be updated and dates may change.

Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> April	Year Two Winmarleigh Hall parents meeting at 2:45pm in the school hall.	
Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> April	Gardening Club until 4pm.	
Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> April	Maths number ninja's until 4pm.	
Tuesday 21 <sup>st</sup> April		
Wednesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> April	Year Two wood workshop in school delivered by Sellafield STEM.	
Wednesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> April	Phonics afterschool club 3:45pm.	
Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup> April	Year Two multi-skills day at Workington Academy.	Please ensure all PE kits are in school.
Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup> April	Baby Rainbows at 1:30pm.	
Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> April		
Saturday 25 <sup>th</sup>	Early years open event 10am-12pm at Victoria Infant School.	
Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> April	Nursery fire service visit.	
Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> April	Year Two pupils going to Winmarleigh Hall will arrange their groups together.	
Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> April	Gardening Club until 4pm.	
Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> April	Maths number ninja's until 4pm.	
Tuesday 28 <sup>th</sup> April	History focus Wonderful Workington project for all pupils.	
Wednesday 29 <sup>th</sup> April	Nursery fire service visit.	
Wednesday 29 <sup>th</sup> April	Year Two Great fire of London workshop.	
Wednesday 29 <sup>th</sup> April	Phonics afterschool club 3:45pm.	
Thursday 30 <sup>th</sup> April	Nursery fire service visit.	
Thursday 30 <sup>th</sup> April	Baby Rainbows at 1:30pm.	
Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> May		

Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> May	School closed for May bank holiday.	
Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> May	Year Two Winmarleigh Hall residential.	
Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup> May	Year Two Winmarleigh Hall residential pupils return.	
Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup> May	Year Two trip to Fitz Park Keswick for those not attending Winmarleigh Hall residential.	
Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup> May	Phonics afterschool club 3:45pm.	
Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup> May	Pro-Ride balance bikes.	
Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> May	Pro-Ride balance bikes.	
Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> May	Baby Rainbows at 1:30pm.	
Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> May	Whitehaven music festival at Marchon club for the choir.	
Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> May	School Assembly – Water safety delivered by the fire service.	
Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> May	Pro-Ride balance bikes.	
Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> May	Assessment week.	
Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> May	Gardening Club until 4pm.	
Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> May	Maths number ninja's until 4pm.	
Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> May		
Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> May	PCSO assembly – Anti-bullying.	
Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> May	Phonics afterschool club 3:45pm.	
Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> May	Baby Rainbows at 1:30pm.	
Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> May	Tempest – Class photos and family photos.	Family photo's from 8am, enter via year two entrance.
Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> May	Gardening Club until 4pm.	
Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> May	Maths number ninja's until 4pm.	
Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> May		
Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> May	National numeracy day – Parents open afternoon.	Details to follow.
Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> May	School breaks up at normal time for May half-term.	
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> May	School closed for May half-term.	
<b>SCHOOL CLOSED FOR MAY HALF-TERM</b>		

	FRIDAY 22 <sup>ND</sup> MAY – FRIDAY 29 <sup>TH</sup> MAY	
Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> June	School returns at 8:45am.	