



Silloth Primary School Newsletter 25.10.25

Saturday 25th October

A message from Miss Mounsey...

What a fantastic first half term of the autumn term it has been! It has been a joy to welcome all of our children back into school, ready to learn and eager to engage with new experiences.

Already, we have seen superb progress across every year group, and the enthusiasm and curiosity of our pupils has been truly inspiring.

This half term has been full of wonderful events and memorable moments. A huge thank you to the Friends of Silloth Primary School and Silloth RUFC for hosting a fabulous Halloween Party last night — the children had an absolutely amazing time! Year 3 were also treated to an exciting visit from Steve the 'Rock Man' this week, giving them a hands-on, rock-filled experience that they won't forget. And of course, we all had a brilliant time yesterday celebrating Halloween in style, with pupils and staff alike dressing up in spooky costumes for a fun-filled day.

Yesterday, our Reception children had a fantastic afternoon visiting **The Good Companions Care Home** to explore their amazing Halloween display! The children loved exploring the spooky decorations, taking photographs, and enjoying the Halloween atmosphere. They were even treated to a bag of Halloween goodies — what a lovely surprise!

I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has contributed to making this half term so successful — our wonderful children for their hard work and enthusiasm, our supportive parents and carers for their encouragement, our dedicated staff for their tireless efforts, and our governors for their ongoing guidance.

As we break up for the half term, I hope you all enjoy a well-deserved week off, full of rest, relaxation, and maybe a little more Halloween fun! When we return, we have lots more exciting activities and events to look forward to... and before we know it, it will be time to start thinking about Christmas!

Thank you once again for your continued support. Here's to a fantastic second half of the autumn term!



































Diary Dates

Monday 3rd November - Back to school

Monday 10th November - Thursday 13th November - Book Fair in school

Wednesday 3rd December - Times Table Rock Star Day! (More information to follow)

Thursday 4th December - FOSPS Christmas Bottle Bingo! (More information to follow)

Tuesday 9th December - 'A Hygge Christmas with Early Years' (More information to follow)

Thursday 11th December - FOSPS Christmas Treat 'Winter Wonderland' (More information to follow)







Food Bank Visitor Assembly

This week, we were delighted to welcome Stuart Christian, a representative from the local food bank, who delivered a very interesting assembly about the importance of helping others and supporting our community. The visit encouraged our pupils to think about how small acts of kindness can make a big difference and is a lovely reminder of how their contributions to our harvest collection will help others. Once again, a huge thankyou to everyone who donated to our harvest collection this year. You really have helped make a difference! A special thank you to Miss Banks for organising this wonderful assembly.









Pumpkin Patch Fun in Nursery!

The children explored their very own pumpkin patch in the Nursery garden! They loved working together to find the pumpkins and enjoyed chatting about what they noticed — the different colours, shapes and sizes. They learnt some fun names too, such as munchkin, novelty and ghost pumpkins. The children came up with their own clever ways to transport them — carrying, rolling, or using buckets and the wheelbarrow. They certainly gave their muscles a good workout!











A Special Visit from The Cove Crew!

The Cove Crew came to school this week to collect the amazing Guy Fawkes that our Early Years children made for their big bonfire on Saturday 1st November, and the brilliant pumpkins that KS1 created for their Scare-Fest on Friday 31st October! The best surprise of all — <u>Solway Holiday Park</u> kindly donated extra pumpkins for our KS1 children to take home! A big thank you to The Cove Crew for making our day so special!







































Important Information - "Spy Dog", "Spy Cat" & "Spy Pups" Books

We wanted to make you aware of an important update regarding some children's books by **Andrew Cope**, including the popular **"Spy Dog"**, **"Spy Cat"** and **"Spy Pups"** series.

It has recently been brought to our attention that in the **front and/or back pages of some editions** of these books, there is a web address (URL) that has been **hacked** by an unrelated third
party. The domain is now being used to host **inappropriate adult content**.

While this website is **not part of the story, nor linked to Puffin Books or the author**, we strongly advise that children **do not attempt to visit the website listed in these books**.

What we are doing:

- We are **checking our school copies** of these titles and **removing any affected books** from circulation.
 - Penguin Random House (Puffin Books) has confirmed they have paused sale and distribution of the books while they work to resolve the issue.
 - The publisher is actively pursuing legal action to have the inappropriate site removed, but this process will take some time.

If you have copies of these books at home, we recommend that you **check them carefully** and **remove any pages containing the old website link**, or temporarily remove the books from use until the issue is resolved.

Thank you for your support in helping us keep children safe online.



Parking on School Lane

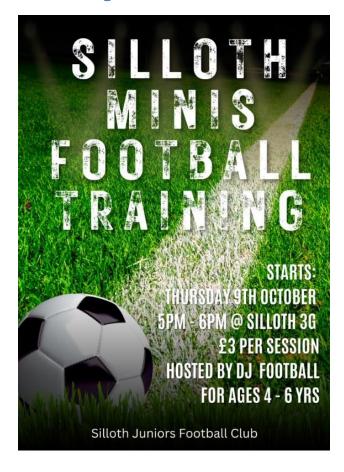
We kindly ask that parents and carers **do not park on School Lane** during drop-off and pick-up times.

To help keep everyone safe, please **park on Skinburness Road, by the tennis courts,** and walk down to school with your child. This keeps the lane clear for residents, delivery drivers, and emergency vehicles, and ensures a safe environment for our children walking and cycling to school.

Thank you for your understanding and support in keeping our school community safe and considerate.



Silloth Minis Football Training



An Invite From Our Friends At Maryport Rescue



Cycling & Scootering to School – A Reminder about Road Safety

As we are encouraging more children are choosing to cycle or scooter to school, we would like to remind families about the importance of **road safety** and being considerate of others. Please take a moment to talk with your child about safe cycling and scootering so that every journey to and from school is as safe as possible.

Key Road Safety Rules for Cyclists

- Always wear a properly fitted helmet.
- Ensure bikes are roadworthy with working brakes and lights.

- Use cycle paths where available and keep to the **left-hand side** of the road.
- Look carefully before turning or crossing a junction and signal clearly with hand signals.
 - Obey traffic lights, road signs, and crossings.
 - Stay visible by wearing **bright or reflective clothing**.
- Never cycle more than two abreast, and ride in single file on narrow or busy roads.
 - Avoid distractions such as headphones or mobile phones.
 - Do not ride on pavements unless a shared cycle path is clearly marked.
- Be cautious around parked cars check carefully before moving out into the road.

On the School Grounds

For the safety of **all children, staff, and visitors**, riding bikes or scooters is **not permitted on school premises**. We kindly ask that children **dismount and walk** with their bikes or scooters once they enter the school gates.

Thank you for your continued support in helping us keep our school community safe.



School Meals

School meals are £2.90p per day (£14.50 per week), which represents very good value for money.

All food is freshly made & prepared each day on site by our own kitchen team.

Please remember to pay your child's dinner money (Nursery & Year 3 – 6 ONLY) using +Pay.

Main Meal Choices W/C 3.11.25

Monday – Meatballs, Pasta & Gravy

Tuesday - Creamy Chicken Korma & Rice

Wednesday - Hot Dog & Chips

Thursday - Cheese & Tomato Pizza with Chips

Friday – Breaded Fish & Chips

Nut & Egg Free School

Please remember that we are a nut & egg free school.

Your child may not bring any eggs or nuts into school as part of their packed lunches or as snacks. Breakfast bars for break time snacks are not permitted as they usually contain nuts or have been made in factories where there are nuts.



Attendance Champions!

A huge well done Year 3 achieved 98.3% attendance this week!

Year 3 also won the overall Attendance Champions and enjoyed this half term's treat of extra Golden Time! We have a clear board now, ready for next half term!

Great attendance means great learning — keep it up everyone!





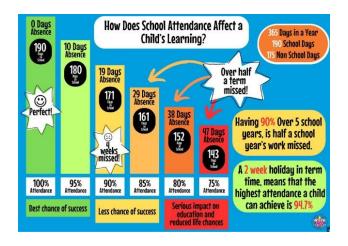


We would like to **thank our parents and children** for making a conscious effort with attendance this half term. Your commitment has made a real difference, and we are pleased to share that our school attendance at 96.2% is now above the national average!

For reference, the national average attendance for primary schools in England for the week of 13–17 October 2025 was 95.1% (FFT Primary national average). Thanks to everyone's efforts, our children are making the most of their learning opportunities.

However, we would also like to remind families that **80 days of learning** have been missed this half term due to unauthorised absence, such as holidays during term time. Every day of school counts, and consistent attendance helps children achieve their best.

Thank you again for your continued support in making sure our children are in school, learning, and thriving!



Spooky Stars of the Week!

A huge well done to all of our Stars of the Week! Each of these children has shone brightly, showing great effort, kindness, and enthusiasm in their learning and around school. We are so proud of the positive attitudes they bring to school every day – keep up the fantastic work!



Names in clothes, please!



Water Bottles & Fruit - PLEASE READ VERY CAREFULLY



Nursery - Just a reminder that all children get fresh water, milk and fruit daily. Therefore children do not need to bring water in their own bottles. **No juice/water should be brought into school.**

Reception & Key Stage 1 - Children are to bring empty water bottles into school each day and fill them up in school from our water dispensers. It is very important that this is followed for safeguarding reasons. No juice or water should be brought into school. If there are medical reasons why your child cannot drink water, please speak to Miss Mounsey regarding this. Also, children get fruit daily and, therefore, there is no need to fetch snack.

Key Stage 2 - Children are to bring empty water bottles into school each day and fill them up in school from our water dispensers. It is very important that this is followed for safeguarding reasons. No juice or water should be brought into school. If there are medical reasons why your child cannot drink water, please speak to Miss Mounsey regarding this. Children can bring a piece of fruit into school for the morning breaktime. Please ensure that grapes are cut in half, lengthways.

Please see below for information about the upcoming Christmas fun at COVE!

In addition, some of our **Early Years and Reception** children are getting creative — helping to make a **Guy Fawkes** and **carving pumpkins** in preparation for **COVE's Halloween and Bonfire Night celebrations**. The Cove characters will be popping into school next week to pick up the creations!

It's a lovely way for our youngest learners to get involved with the community and enjoy the festive spirit!



Packed Lunches

At Silloth Primary School, we promote healthy eating to support children's growth, development, and concentration throughout the school day. To help with this, we kindly ask that all **packed lunches follow our healthy lunchbox guidelines**.

A healthy packed lunch should include:

- A portion of starchy food such as bread, rolls, wraps, pasta, rice, couscous, or potatoes.
- **At least one portion of fruit and/or vegetables** fresh, dried, tinned (in juice), or frozen.
- A source of protein lean meat, fish, eggs, beans, pulses, hummus, or meat alternatives.
 - **A dairy item** like cheese, yogurt, or a milk-based dessert.
 - A healthy drink preferably water, or milk/100% fruit juice in moderation.

Please do not include:

- Chocolate bars or confectionery.
 - Sweets.
 - Fizzy or energy drinks.
- Nuts or nut products (we are a nut-free school).
- Eggs or egg-based products (we are an egg-free school).
- Hot food in flasks (due to health and safety concerns).

To keep all children safe:

- Lunchboxes must be clearly labelled and may include a small ice pack, as we cannot refrigerate them.
 - Children must **not share food** to avoid allergic reactions or cross-contamination.

Special Diets:

We understand that some children may require special diets for medical, religious, or cultural reasons. Please inform school if this applies to your child, and we will support you in providing a healthy, balanced alternative.

Monitoring:

Packed lunches are monitored by staff. Healthy choices are praised, and we will always work sensitively with families to support improvements where needed.

Thank you for helping us keep lunchtime healthy and safe for everyone!



As the weather is becoming increasingly unpredictable, please ensure that children bring a **coat to school every day**. We aim to get outside in the fresh air as much as possible, even if it's a little chilly or damp, so having a suitable coat means your child can enjoy playtimes and outdoor learning comfortably.



Punctuality Matters

It is essential that children are in school on time, every day.

• **Doors open:** 8:30am

• Registration begins: 8:35am

• Registration closes: 8:45am

After this time, children must enter through the **main entrance** and will be marked as **late**.

Persistent lateness not only disrupts your child's learning but also affects the whole class.

Patterns of lateness are carefully monitored and reviewed half-termly alongside attendance.

Please support your child by ensuring they arrive on time and ready to learn. A prompt start helps them settle quickly, feel confident, and make the very best of every school day.

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Poor attendance or frequent lateness can significantly affect life chances. Missing even a few days each term quickly adds up to large gaps in learning, making it harder for your child to keep up. Arriving late has the same impact — children miss vital teaching and the start of the school day, which sets the tone for learning.

Please support your child by ensuring they arrive on time and ready to learn. A prompt start helps them settle quickly, feel confident, and make the very best of every school day.



An invitation from our friends at The Good Companions



Uniform Expectations

- Royal blue sweatshirt with embroidered school logo
 - White polo shirt (school logo optional)
- Black or dark grey trousers, skirts, or smart school shorts for summer
 - Blue and white checked dresses may be worn in the summer
- Plain, low heeled black school shoes must also be worn with socks at all times.
 - No sandals are permitted
 - No tracksuit bottoms are permitted
 - Only black, low heeled boots may be worn in winter
 - No training shoes are permitted (other than for PE)

Jewellery

- A watch may be worn. Smart watches are not permitted.
- ONLY discreet stud earrings can be worn and on the grounds of safety the studs should have no sharp edges. All earrings must be removed (at home) during PE, games and swimming for health and safety reasons.
- The wearing of other jewellery, rings, necklaces, bracelets etc. is not permitted in school for health and safety reasons
 - Pupils will be asked to remove any jewellery.

Other

- Long hair must be well tied back at all times. This applies to girls and boys.
 - Nail varnish and make-up is not permitted.
 - A waterproof coat must be brought to school every day.
- Please ensure that all belongings are clearly labelled with your child's name.



PE Kit Expectations

Please ensure that your child brings their PE kit into school every Monday and then it is in school for the week.

Our PE kit consists of a plain white t-shirt and black/navy shorts or jogging bottoms.

Nike Pro shorts are not permitted.

All earrings must be removed (at home) during PE, games and swimming for health and safety reasons.



Living Streets' WOW - The Walk To School Challenge - Starts on Monday!

Living Streets' WOW – the walk to school challenge is back to help encourage as many children as possible to experience the benefits of walking and wheeling to school.

As you know, WOW is a pupil-led initiative where children self-report how they get to school every day. If they travel actively (walk/wheel, cycle, scoot or Park and Stride) at least twice a week for a month, they get rewarded with a badge. This is for Year 1-Year 6 children... but everyone can get involved! It's that easy!

What are the benefits of walking to school?

- Children feel happier and healthier
- They arrive to school refreshed and ready to learn
- Helps reduce congestion and pollution at the school gates

What if we can't walk to school?

If driving, 'Park and Stride' to help your child earn their WOW badges. Park at least ten minutes away from the school and walk the remaining journey.

If using public transport, hop off at least ten minutes away and walk the rest (recorded as 'other' on the WOW Travel Tracker).

What is a WOW badge?

There are 11 badges to be earned from September 2025 – July 2026. Each badge has been designed by a pupil as part of our annual WOW Badge Design Competition. A new badge can be earned every month if pupils walk/wheel, cycle, scoot or Park and Stride at least twice a week.

WOW 2025/26 encourages pupils to Walk with Joy, with badges depicting everything from jumping in puddles to painting.

The badges are made in Cornwall from material that was otherwise destined for landfill, including fridge trays, plastic plates and yoghurt pot off-cuts. For more information, visit:

livingstreets.org.uk/recycling

Last year, around 2,100 schools and over 540,000 pupils enjoyed the benefits of walking to school with WOW. Will you join us?

If you have any questions about the programme, please find more information and useful videos at: livingstreets.org.uk/wowlaunch



Smoking & Vaping

A gentle reminder to all parents and carers: smoking and vaping are strictly prohibited on school premises at all times. This policy is in place to ensure a safe, healthy environment for all our children, staff, and visitors. Please refrain from smoking or vaping anywhere on school grounds, including car parks and entrances. Your support helps us maintain a clean, respectful space where all children can thrive. Thank you for helping us keep our school a smoke-free zone.



Contact Us

If you have any further questions or queries, please do not hesitate to contact us.

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