



Silloth Primary School Newsletter 6.12.25

## **Saturday 6th December**

#### A message from Miss Mounsey...

Tinsel Time is well and truly upon us! The school is full of excitement as we enjoy a wonderful start to the festive season. This week has reminded us what makes our school community so special. Our Nursery and Reception children melted hearts during their visit to The Good Companions Care Home, spreading Christmas cheer through festive songs, big smiles and plenty of joy. It was lovely to see our youngest pupils connecting so beautifully with residents, and we are already looking forward to future visits.

Bottle Bingo was another brilliant success, bringing families together for an evening of fun and celebration. My sincere thanks go to FoSPS for organising such a fantastic event, and to everyone who donated bottles, bought tickets and supported the evening.

We've also enjoyed a fabulous Times Table Rock Stars **Battle of the Bands**, with children showing off impressive maths skills—alongside some fantastic fancy-dress outfits! It has been wonderful to see their enthusiasm and teamwork. Our Year 3/4 benchball teams also made us very proud with their great performances in this week's competition—well done to all involved.

KS2 enjoyed their Christmas treat of visiting the cinema to watch Zootropolis 2 with popcorn, sweets and drinks, which was a brilliant festive outing and hugely enjoyed by all.

Looking ahead, Key Stage 1 are excited for their Christmassy afternoon at Stanwix next week, and we are preparing for Christmas Dinner Day on Wednesday 17th December, made possible by a generous anonymous donation allowing every child to enjoy a festive lunch together at no cost.

I hope you're all having a lovely weekend!



# **Diary Dates**

**Tuesday 9th December -** 'A Hygge Christmas with Early Years' (9am - 10.30am)

Wednesday 10th December - KS1 (Year 1 & Year 2) Christmas Treat @ Stanwix

**Thursday 11th December -** FOSPS Christmas Treat 'Winter Wonderland'

**Tuesday 16th December -** KS1 Christmas Nativity - 9am start

Tuesday 16th December - KS2 Christmas Carols at Christ Church - 1:30pm

Wednesday 17th December - Christmas Dinner Day!

**Thursday 18th December -** Christmas Party Day!

**Friday 19th December -** Finish school for Christmas - 1pm!



# Bench Ball Success!

On Friday, some of our Year 3 and Year 4 pupils had an amazing afternoon taking part in the bench ball competition, with our two teams finishing 1st and 3rd!

They showed fantastic respect, teamwork and resilience throughout the tournament and have been a real credit to the school.

A special thank you to Miss Braniff and Mrs Robinson for accompanying and supporting the children.

Well done to everyone who took part!



















# A 'Hygge' Christmas with The Early Years

Parents and Carers of Nursery & Reception children, please join us on Tuesday 9th December at 9am-10:30am for our Hygge Christmas with families. We warmly welcome you to the school hall to listen to our Nursery and Reception children perform Christmas songs.

Following this, we invite you back to the classrooms to enjoy a Christmas themed stay and play with activities for you and your child to enjoy together.

This will be a morning of enjoying the moment, being present and celebrating our wonderful children. We hope you can make it! Please note- parents can wait outside the main entrance after drop off and we will open the doors in plenty of time for seating before the children join at 9 am. Please can children wear Christmas jumpers/outfit.



#### KS2 Christmas Treat at The Ritz Cinema

This week, our KS2 children enjoyed a fantastic Christmas treat with a trip to The Ritz Cinema.

The excitement was high as everyone settled in to watch Zootropolis 2, complete with popcorn, sweets and drinks. It was a wonderful experience and a great way to celebrate the festive season together.

The children had a brilliant time, and their behaviour and enthusiasm made the visit even more special. A big thank you to Mrs Smart for organising the treat — it created a memorable Christmas outing for our KS2 pupils.







A huge thank you to all our incredible pupils (and staff!) for making Times Table Rockstar Day and our Battle of the Bands 2025 such a fantastic success! The school was absolutely buzzing with music, maths and Rockstar energy from start to finish. From awesome outfits to electric

times table performances in our special assembly, everyone truly embraced the spirit of the day.

A special well-done to all the Year 2–Year 6 pupils who went head-to-head in the Times Table Rockstars battle — your confidence, skill and teamwork were brilliant to see. Congratulations to our 2025 Champions!

Thank you to Mrs Ainsworth for organising the event!

*Until next time... keep rocking those times tables!* 

















# Spreading Christmas Cheer!

This week, our Nursery and Reception children visited our friends at The Good Companions
Care Home to spread some Christmas cheer. The children performed a selection of festive
songs, shared big smiles, and brought lots of joy to the residents.

It was a wonderful opportunity for our youngest pupils to connect with the community, and the smiles on everyone's faces truly captured the spirit of the season. Thank you to our Nursery parent helpers for accompanying the children.

We'd like to also thank The Good Companions Care Home for welcoming us so warmly — we look forward to visiting again soon!















## Christmas Dinner Day – Wednesday 17th December

We are delighted to share that this year's Christmas Dinner Day will take place on

Wednesday 17th December. Thanks to a very generous anonymous donation, all children

will be able to enjoy a Christmas lunch free of charge!

A ParentMail will be sent out next week for parents and carers to let us know if their child would like a Christmas dinner on the day — including children who usually have a packed lunch.

We would like to express our sincere thanks to the anonymous donor for this wonderful gift
— it will make Christmas Dinner Day extra special for all of our children.

We are looking forward to a festive celebration together!



# Chance Camp!



# Christmas Bottle Bingo!

We are delighted to share that this year's Bottle Bingo was another fantastic festive event on our school calendar! It was wonderful to see so many families joining in the fun and celebrating together.

A huge thank you to **FoSPS** for organising the event, coordinating the bottle donations, and helping to run such an enjoyable evening. Your hard work and enthusiasm make events like this possible, and we are very grateful for your continued support.

Thank you also to everyone who donated bottles, bought tickets, and joined us on the night.

Your support helps to make our school community events so special.

We're already looking forward to next year!



# Parking on School Lane

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



## 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.
- Look carefully before turning or crossing a junction and signal clearly with hand signals.

  - 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 8.12.25

Monday – Meatballs, Pasta & Gravy

Tuesday - Sweet & Sour Chicken with Rice

Wednesday - Roast Chicken with vegetables

Thursday – Fish Goujons & Wedges

#### Friday – Pork Sausages & 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.



#### 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!



# Attendance Champions!

A huge well done Year 3 AGAIN who achieved 100% attendance this week!

Great attendance means great learning — keep it up everyone!



## 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.

#### 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.



# Be Ready For The Weather!

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.



# **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.

### **Silloth Primary School**

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