

10.12.24

# St. Mary's

Church of England Primary School  
Kirkby Lonsdale



Honesty



Trust



Responsibility



Perseverance



Respect



Dear parents and other members of the school community,

Our hearts go out to all those affected by the devastating fire in Kirkby Lonsdale. We offer our deepest condolences to the families who have lost loved ones, homes and businesses. We understand the immense challenge this tragedy has brought to the community, and we stand ready to support any of our school community who may be impacted. We also appreciate the impact on the emergency services and we send our thoughts and appreciation to them.

We have discussed this difficult event with the children, explaining the situation in a sensitive and age-appropriate manner. As a gesture of support, we have sent cards of thanks and gratitude to the emergency services who worked tirelessly to contain the fire. Despite these challenging circumstances, we will continue with our program of Christmas preparations to provide our students with a positive and joyful experience. Should it be required, our staff are available to support the children.

As we look to the Christmas period, we know that many families can find Christmas difficult as they remember loved ones no longer able to be at the Christmas table, the financial pressure it may surface and the complexities of family life. We hope that for the children, it will be a special time and a magical one despite the challenges. If you require support, please do reach out and seek advice and someone to talk.

At the end of the week we see the start of the class parties, and the beginning of our Christmas celebrations including our evening Carol Service, where we ask everyone from Y1-6 to take part. Reception will be inviting family members to their Nativity on Tuesday morning. We are currently working with Queen Elizabeth School to see if any changes in our arrangements need to be made in light of recent events in Kirkby Lonsdale. We will keep you informed of any changes.

Last week, we took Year 6 to Liverpool for three days. During the visit, it was delightful to hear from members of the public and staff where we visited, that our children were enquiring, thoughtful and polite. How we behave, speak and enquire really speaks volumes to those around us and it is heartening to hear that our children are noticeably engaging and considerate. The sense of community in Kirkby Lonsdale is another example of the importance of looking after one another and showing kindness at all times both in the good times and bad.

As we look to the end of Michaelmas Term, I would like to thank all of our families for their ongoing support, and to our staff for their dedication in making the children's learning experience, exceptional.

The last few days are Mrs Day's last days at St Mary's School. She has worked in various capacities in St Mary's for over 20 years. I would like to take this opportunity to thank her for her commitment to the community, her artistic creativity and her experience as a teacher. We wish her every success in the future and we hope she will enjoy the next phase of her life. Many thanks Mrs Day!

Wishing our community peace over the next few weeks and months.

Yours,

Mr Jones

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# Westmorland and Furness Council / Church Notice

**Kirkby Lonsdale Update** - There will be another public drop in at **6.30pm this evening (10 Dec) at Lunesdale Hall**. For any residents, visitors or businesses wanting support or needing help **support is also available at St Mary's Church**.

Agencies continue to remain in attendance in Kirkby Lonsdale following a significant fire on Sunday morning. Agencies are on the ground to offer support and help answer any queries.

Main Street in Kirkby Lonsdale remains closed to both vehicles and pedestrians and a cordon in place around the affected area.

This cordon will continue to be in place – Demolition work on any buildings that are structurally unsafe is now underway.

As previously communicated the council will also endeavour to carry out bin collections to planned properties, subject to traffic routes and diversions.

## Community Gathering

**Wednesday 11th**  
**from 7pm to 7.30pm**  
**in St Mary's Church**

Time to pause and  
reflect together

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# Emergency Contact information sheet

We realise the community is facing uncertainty at this time.

Here are a list of people who can be contacted for help and advice:

Westmorland and Furness Council  
0300 373 3300

Kirkby Lonsdale Town Council  
Paul Cassell-Chair 07379 383092  
paulcassell07@gmail.com

Business Information  
Chamber of Trade- Robin Sadler 07831 260119  
Logistical or emotional support

General Advice and support  
Community Cupboard- Amanda Gorton Community Hub  
015242 36404 office@klcommunity.co.uk

Health  
Repeat prescriptions-phone the surgery directly  
Signposting for support/walking aids  
Lunesdale surgery- 015242 71210

Churches  
Churches Kirkby Lonsdale- Rev Richard Snow  
015242 72044 rector@therainbowparish.org

Accommodation  
If you are unable to access your property and need assistance in finding alternative accommodation please call 01539 793199 during office hours or in an emergency and out of office hours 01229 833311

Please consider calling your household insurer for advice and assistance as they should be able to offer additional help in relation to temporary accommodation.

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## Activities over Christmas



For families receiving Free School Meals, Westmorland and Furness provide spaces for children over the Christmas period at numerous activities in the area. Please see our attached booklet and also follow this link to apply for a place:

<https://www.westmorlandandfurness.gov.uk/schools-and-education/holiday-activities-and-food-haf-programme>

## Clair Davies MBE - Governor



I would like to thank Clair Davies for her 20 Year service as Governor of our school. This week Clair hands over the baton to Hannah Burnett as a School Governor, with a specific specialism in Special Educational Needs.

Clair Davies MBE, who previously led Appletree Treatment Centre and specialises in therapeutic aspects of care, is Chair of The Children's Homes Association's Board, and has been a parent at our school over many years. We have really valued her training, wisdom and leadership during her tenure at St Mary's and extend our gratitude and heartfelt appreciation for her time and commitment to St Mary's. We wish her continued success – she has certainly had

a huge impact on the life of our school and we know she will continue to prosper in her new endeavours and commitments. Many thanks.

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# Religious Education – Visits and Visitor

In today's interconnected world, it is more crucial than ever for our children to develop a deep understanding and appreciation of diverse cultures and faiths. By fostering an environment where students can explore and respect different beliefs and traditions, we empower them to become empathetic, tolerant, and globally-minded citizens. Such knowledge not only broadens their horizons but also equips them with the tools to navigate complex social issues and build harmonious relationships with people from all walks of life.



Last week our Year 6 visited various Cathedrals but also a Mosque. We were welcomed in all places of worship and the children asked fascinating and thoughtful questions. They gained an awareness of different cultures and faiths and we also walked by synagogues and other churches along the way. In addition, we held a faith day this week, exploring Buddhism and Judaism to understand a little more of the origins and festivals of each faith.



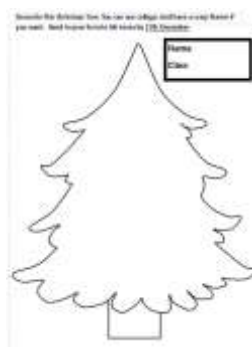
We were fortunate this week to have Rachel's mum, Alina to join us to share about the Jewish faith. Professor Alina Karabchevsky is from Lancaster University (UK) and Ben-Gurion University (IL) and is a scientist known for her groundbreaking work in integrated photonics. Prof. Karabchevsky has led multidisciplinary teams to pioneer advancements in physics and engineering sciences. In her leadership roles (member of the Senate, Dean for Diversity and Equality), she has prioritised developing and implementing forward-thinking strategies that enhance academic excellence. Beyond her academic contributions, Prof. Karabchevsky is deeply passionate about cultural and religious studies, offering unique insights into historical traditions and their relevance in the modern world. She brings a profound understanding of Judaism as one of the world's oldest religions, thoughtfully exploring its practices and values.



Many thanks to Alina - we really valued her input to support our children's understanding of the Jewish Faith.

## Christmas Competition

Each Christmas we hold a competition as we prepare for Christmas with various prizes for junior and infant entries. Sheets are coming out this week and can be handed in to Mr Jones until the 17th Dec.



Hopefully everyone will join in the fun!

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# Bikeability

Riding a bike is a fantastic life skill that promotes physical health, mental well-being, and environmental consciousness. It's a sustainable and enjoyable way to get around, and learning to do so safely on the roads is essential.

We're so proud of our Year 6 pupils for taking part in Bikeability, where they received four days of invaluable training. We encourage all our students to get out there, hop on their bikes, and have fun while staying safe. We're looking forward to presenting the Bikeability awards to our deserving Year 6 cyclists soon!



This is a super investment in or children's safety, well-being and future.



## Midday Supervisor Vacancy

If you, a friend or family member, would like to be part of our Midday Supervisor team, please apply and get in with our school office.

St Mary's Church of England Primary School  
Nurturing Creative Thinkers



### Midday Supervisor Vacancy

**\*REQUIRED ASAP**

The Governing Body of St Mary's CE Primary School in Kirkby Lonsdale seek to recruit a Midday Supervisor to join our team of hard working, enthusiastic and committed staff. Applicants should be enthusiastic and well-motivated and enjoy working and being with children aged 4 - 11.

Responsibilities may include:

- Setting up and clearing away tables and chairs
- Supervising children while they eat their lunch
- Encouraging and motivating the children to eat their lunch
- Encouraging and promoting positive play

Our school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all of its employees to share this commitment. An enhanced DBS check will be required for this post.

Hours: 12:00-13:00, Mon-Fri, term time only (reduced days may also be considered).

Salary: £12.00 per hour, £23,151 annual pro-rata (2024/25 pay award salary currently pending).

An application form can be downloaded from [here](#). Please return your completed form to the school office located on Kendal Road, Kirkby Lonsdale, LA6 2DN or via email to [admin@stmarys-kl.cumbria.sch.uk](mailto:admin@stmarys-kl.cumbria.sch.uk).

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## St Mary's CE School. Kirkby Lonsdale

### End of term events 2024

28 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Invictus Games Talk	
Fri 29 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Christmas Fair 4-6pm	
2 <sup>nd</sup> Dec	Imagining History Visit – Year 1	
3 <sup>rd</sup> -5 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Y6 Residential to Liverpool	
4 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Christmas Craft Morning – KS1	
5 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Team at Glow in the Dark Dodgeball	
9 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Nursery Performance	
	Faith Day – Exploring other faiths	
11 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Multiskills – Year 1 team (Lancaster and Morecambe College)	
	EYFS – Christmas Nativity activities in school	
12 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Nursery Performance	
13 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Year 3 and 4 Party	
16 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Nursery Christmas Party	
	Candle Lit Service at St Mary's Church (Y1-6) 5:30pm	
Tues 17 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Reception Nativity at St Mary's Church, 9:30am	
	Y5 and Y6 Christmas Party (pm)	
	<i>Please feel free to wear Christmas Jumpers from Tues - Fri</i>	
Wed 18 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Reindeer Rush – Sponsored Run (St John's Hospice)	
	(Arrive in running kit and bring Christmas Clothes and extra footwear to get changed into. Antlers provided)	
	Christmas Lunch – <a href="#">please book by Thurs 8<sup>th</sup> Dec</a>	
	Reception, Year 1 and 2 Christmas Party (pm)	
Thurs 19 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Music Concert – School Hall	
Fri 20 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Christmas Carol Singing in Kirkby Lonsdale (Y1-6) 9:30am	
	Term ends after lunch at 1:05pm	
	Spring Term begins on Tues 7th January.	



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**Spaces available for:**  
**U11 Mini Netball (7-11 year olds)**  
**Mondays 16:45-17:45**

**Join our netball club**

Develop social and physical skills

- ★ Learn netball skills
- ★ Make new friends
- ★ Start your netball journey



**at Lunesdale Sports Hall, Kirkby Lonsdale**

For more information, contact [k.l.n.c1@outlook.com](mailto:k.l.n.c1@outlook.com)

## Helpful Support:

**Support for families:**

Autism Unlocked: Lancashire and Cumbria autism support hub

<https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/children-education-families/special-educational-needs-and-disabilities/health-and-wellbeing/learning-disabilities-and-autism/lancashire-and-cumbria-autism-support-hub/>

Team Autism

<https://teamautism.co.uk/>

Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Information, Advice and Support Service (SENDIASS)

<https://sendiass.westmorlandandfurness.gov.uk/>

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