St Mary's School, Kells

February

Newsletter

Term Dates **Wednesday 7th January – Friday 27th March 2026**
Half Term Holiday Monday 16th to Friday 19th February 2026

Lesson Times

Just a reminder that our gates are open from 8.15 a.m. every day so that children can do morning tasks and be ready for registration. The playground gate closes at 8.40 a.m. and lessons start promptly at 8.45 a.m., so children who regularly arrive late are missing important work.

We would be grateful if parents could try their best to have children at school on time by 8.40 a.m. every day. If you are going to be late please ring the school office on 01946 66356 or message us by replying to one of our school texts.

Next half term children with more than two late arrivals will be given a 'clocking in' card to monitor their timekeeping.

Safer Internet Day



On Tuesday 10th February the children will be taking part in lots of fun activities based on keeping safe while using the internet.

A really useful digital safety guide for parents & carers is available using the following link: What I wish my parents or carers knew: A guide for parents on managing children's digital lives

School Disco

On Thursday 12th February we will be holding a disco in the school hall. Times will be as follows:

Years 1, 2 & 3	from 3.45 to 4.45 pm
Years 4, 5 & 6	from 5.00 to 6.00 pm

Entry to the disco will be £3, which will include a drink and crisps.

All children must be collected from the disco by an adult.



EYFS Celebrations

On Friday 13th February the Reception class are having a Space Party. Children can come to school in fancy dress based on the space theme (see homework on Tapestry) and there will be lots of 'space' activities during the day. Please don't buy your child an expensive costume to wear – home-made will be great!





Next week the Nursery class will be celebrating the Chinese New Year. They will also be doing lots of fun things, including wearing red and trying some Chinese food on Wednesday 11th February.

For more information on any of the above, please check your Tapestry account.

Friday 13th February is a non-uniform day

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First Holy Communion

Information about the programme will be sent home after half term. Children will make their First Holy Communion during the 10 a.m. Sunday Mass.





Wear Red – Non-Uniform Day

The School Council has decided that Friday 13th February will be a non-uniform day Children are asked to wear something red to celebrate St Valentine's day (not Reception class – see EYFS Events) and there will be a bucket collection at the gate to raise funds for OPAL playtime equipment.
Pupils need to dress appropriately for the weather (sometimes it's not very warm in school) and please don't wear make-up. Thank you.

Message from Mrs Chidlow - Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator (SENCO)

Cumberland Council has an updated Children & Families Information Service with lots of information and advice on childcare activities and services.

There is a new SEND Local Offer with information for families with children with special educational needs and/or disabilities, which can be found using this link: https://cumberlandsend.co.uk/cumberland-send

Wrap Around Care (Booking in advance is required)

Before and after school care is now available for all age groups as follows:

Before school from 7.30 a.m. to 8.40 a.m. Cost £3.50 per day
After school (except Fridays) from 3.10 p.m. to 5.00 p.m. Cost £5.00 per day

Sessions need to be booked using the online form on our school website or using the QR code and then paid for in advance using ParentPay.
Bookings are only confirmed once payment has been received.

MyHappymind Workshops



Parents (from Reception to Year 6) are invited to join us in classrooms on Monday 9th February at 9.00 a.m., to watch a 'myHappymind' session in action. The programme helps children to understand how their brain works, to help them be their very best selves. Parent can download the myHappymind app for free, from Google Play or the Apple Store, to support the curriculum in school.

World Book Day

We will be celebrating World Book Day on Thursday 5th March.
The children and staff are invited to dress up as a character from a favourite story, so this is just to give you a little bit of advanced notice.



School closes for half term on Friday 13th February at 3.10 p.m.