



# Newsletter

1st January - 13<sup>th</sup> February 2026

## Upcoming Events

Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> February

School starts at 8:45am

Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> March

Year 4 MTC Parent Meeting 3pm

Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March

World Book Day Potato Parade

Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> March

CI&2 Dress like a Scientist event

C3 Orienteering Trip

Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March

Family Friday Lunch CI

Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> March

U-Dance Festival

Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March

Entrepreneur Coffee Station 3pm

Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> March

C2 Play Performance at 2pm

Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> March

C2 Farm Trip

Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> March

CI Museum Trip

## School Summary

It has been a busy half term and all pupils have been engaging well in their learning and enjoying the start of the new year.

In class 1, our younger pupils have been learning about people who keep them safe and really enjoyed being dentists in their classroom provision. The older children have been putting their instruction writing skills to the test and making sandwiches for Traction Man as well as exploring lines and shapes in art. This culminated in a wonderful showcase of learning in their parent assembly last week.

Class 2 have had a student teacher supporting them this half term, so have had lots of fun writing explanation texts for aliens as well as learning about Romans in History. They ended the half term with an exciting trip to Tullie House to visit the Roman Museum!

Class 3 have been working hard creating biographies in English, investigating animal classification systems in Science and learning how to play tennis in P.E. They have spent time learning all about staying safe online, as well as on their mobile phones, through the Cumberland Police Initiative with Pol-Ed. Miss Taylor also led a series of NSPCC Assemblies for all pupils on keeping safe and an assembly on Safer Internet Day, which was themed around responsible use of A.I.

There have also been lots of opportunities for learning outside of the Curriculum, with all children enjoying professional led Cricket lessons, helping to raise money with Gary McKee 'Marathon Man', taking part in activities for Children's Mental Health week and getting excited about their Character Curriculum choices! Children have been creating money making ideas, preparing for their U-Dance festival and enjoying outdoor learning experiences and can't wait to share their fun with parents at the end of next half term.

Wishing all of our pupils and their families a relaxing half term break!

*Mrs Walker*

## Clubs

Our Morning Club provision is available everyday from 8am and our Free 'Healthy' Breakfast Club is available to all pupils from 8:30 to 8:40am! Our After school clubs run on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday afternoons and all sessions can be booked on School Hub until the Easter Holidays.





# Safeguarding Update

Our attendance for the year so far has been 96% which is slightly below the 97% national target and our own school target of 98%. There has been a significant drop in the number of term time holiday requests and we would like to thank parents for their support in ensuring their child is making the best use of every learning opportunity at Lowca School!

Thanks to our Spring Wake and Shake Initiative the number of pupils arriving late to school has fallen from 141 incidents in the last half term to just 19 this half term. This initiative has also supported pupils who are less confident arriving in school being here and joining in the sessions without their parents, which is a huge step!

In the Autumn Term, our pupils and staff completed Behaviour Surveys to find out how safe they felt in school and what behaviours made learning more challenging. This half term, we have trialled several supportive strategies including Outdoor Nurture provision, additional SEND support, calm classroom time and targeted interventions. These approaches are designed to help pupils regulate emotions, build confidence and feel successful in school. We are pleased to share that staff and pupil surveys show safety increasing from 2/5 to 4/5, and behaviour logs reducing by 81%. This means more time for learning, improved wellbeing and a calmer environment for everyone.

## SEND Spotlight



We would like to remind parents that if they have any concerns about their child's needs or to learn more information about what support our school can offer, we have lots of helpful information on our school website and parent padlet.

The Cumberland Council has recently launched a new 'Local Offer' website which can be found on the link below.

[Lowca School SEND Webpage](#)

[Lowca School Parent SEND Leaflet](#)

[Cumberland SEND Local Offer](#)

[Lowca School Parent Padlet](#)



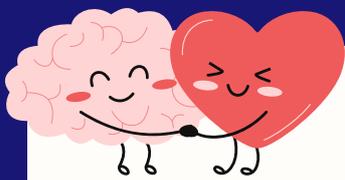


# Assessment Agenda



Children in our school know that assessments take place regularly so that teachers can understand how to tailor individual support and ensure progress for every pupil. The Spring Term assessment period will take place at the end of this half term and parents will be given updates at the Parents' Afternoon after Easter.

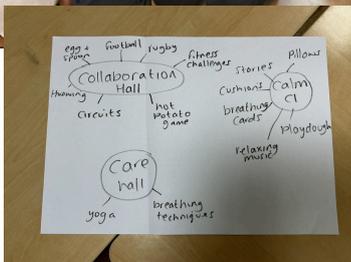
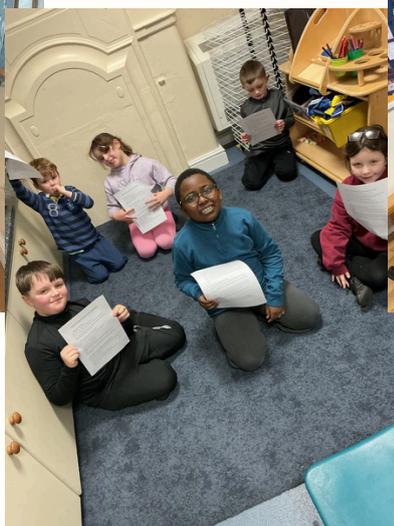
Our Year 6 pupils have made a great start in studying for their SATS in May and are enjoying the booster sessions run by Miss Taylor on Wednesday afternoons. Our C2 pupils are also enjoying learning their times tables through TTRS Club on Monday afternoons, which will really help our Year 4 pupils with their Multiplication Tables Checks in June. Miss Hadfield will be running a Parent Information session on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> March for more information about the government initiative, what this looks like and how parents can support pupils at home.



## Mental Health Champions

This half term, our Mental Health Champions have been busy planning and leading activities to celebrate Children's Mental Health Week. They met to share ideas and decided to run a range of wellbeing activities designed to promote positive mental health, alongside delivering an assembly to introduce their ideas to the rest of the school.

In follow-up meetings, the Champions worked together to choose activities, organise resources and rehearse their assembly scripts. On Friday 13<sup>th</sup> February, each Mental Health Champion supported a small group of children through the activities, modelling what to do, explaining each task and encouraging everyone to take part.



We have had a fantastic time celebrating Children's Mental Health Week. The Mental Health Champions took their roles seriously, shared thoughtful and creative ideas, and did a brilliant job supporting their peers to think about their own mental health and wellbeing. A huge thank you also goes to Miss Hadfield for supporting our pupils with organising the event!

# Reading Revolution



This year is the DfE National Year of Reading! The initiative aims to reverse the long-term decline in reading for pleasure, particularly among children and young people, and to highlight how reading connects with interests like music, sport, films and hobbies.

At Lowca Community School, reading is always at the top of our agenda, and this year has been no exception. Children continue to use our wonderful, well stocked and diverse library regularly to choose their own reading for pleasure books and reading together is a classroom routine every day and whole school delight every Thursday thanks to Miss High's Story assemblies. Parents, visitors, staff and pupils have taken part in the 'Masked Reader' to promote curiosity in new adventures and many of our pupils have undertaken 'Reading Leader' training to support shared reading throughout the school, encouraging discussion, promotion and a love of books. Our Book Fair in the Autumn Term was very popular and helped to add even more new and inspiring books to our library.

On Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March, we will be supporting World Book Day and asking pupils to decorate a potato as their favourite book character ... entries must be in by 9am for them to join the Potato Parade! Children will spend time in the afternoon enjoying books and completing WBD online activities including meet the Authors sessions. Look out for WBD tokens coming home next week!



# You are what you eat!

Pack your child a  
**HEALTHY LUNCH BOX**

Choose a variety of foods from each food group



We are committed to being a Healthy School and are working with Orian to see how we can make our school meals even better for our bodies and our minds. As part of this, we have changed our Breakfast Club menu and will now be offering fruit and wholemeal toast instead of white bread.

All children are offered a range of fruit at break time and are provided with water throughout the day to help curb their hunger until lunchtime.

We would like to remind parents that packed lunches need to be healthy too, as we have noticed children bringing in sweets, chocolates, pasties and enormous donuts for their lunches recently. Please ensure children have a selection of healthy items not just high sugar treats. Sugar free juice can be given as part of packed lunches but can only be consumed at lunch time.