NORMAN STREET PRIMARY SCHOOL
CARLISLE · CUMBRIA

SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 7 · 2026/27 | FRIDAY 6TH NOVEMBER 2026

THE HALF TERM BEFORE CHRISTMAS!

Can you believe we are now already in the half term before Christmas? The time flies so quickly when you are having fun!

Make sure that you are up to date with everything this half term by checking in on our **school calendar** on our website. We will make sure that updates to dates are also highlighted on our newsletter. **Here's to another fantastic half term!**

🗓️ Our school calendar →



Kindest wishes,

ELE DOBSON

HEADTEACHER

THE HALF TERM BEFORE CHRISTMAS

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KEEP AN EYE ON OUR SCHOOL DATES!

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

WHOLE-SCHOOL DIARY →

NOVEMBER

Tue 10 Nov	Bags 2 School collection
Tue 10 Nov	**Reception New Starter evening** · 4–6pm
Thu 12 Nov	Y3/4 Sportshall Athletics
Fri 13 Nov	**Children in Need** · dress in uniform or PE kit **back to front!**
Fri 20 Nov	CET Y4 Multiskills Festival
Mon 23 Nov	KS2 Panathlon at RRCA
Thu 26 Nov	**PTA Christmas Fayre** · 6–8pm
Thu 26 Nov	Girls County Football Finals at Harraby
Fri 27 Nov	**Jack and the Beanstalk** at Norman Street · all children

★ Children in Need · Friday 13th November · uniform or PE kit, back to front! ★

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LOOKING AHEAD TO CHRISTMAS

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

STICK IT ON THE FRIDGE!

DECEMBER

Tue 1 Dec	Boys Football · Harraby
Wed 9 Dec	**Christmas Jumper Day**
Thu 10 Dec	Reception & Little Bothy Nativity · 2:30pm at school
Wed 16 Dec	**Christmas by Candlelight** at St Cuthbert's in town · KS1 1:30pm, KS2 3:30pm · all welcome
Fri 18 Dec	**Carols on the Yard** · 2:30pm

CHRISTMAS PARTIES

Mon 14 Dec · AM	Reception
Mon 14 Dec · PM	Year 3/4
Tue 15 Dec · PM	Year 1/2
Thu 17 Dec · PM	Year 5/6

A FEW THINGS TO REMEMBER

REMINDERS

COMMUNICATION — HOW WE SHARE THINGS WITH YOU!

There are lots of ways in which we share information with you — please keep your eyes on our **school Facebook page**, the **school newsletter**, and make sure that you have **Arbor** downloaded so that you can receive any messages directly from the office. Thank you!

FACEBOOK | NEWSLETTER | ARBOR APP

KEEP US IN THE LOOP!

If **ANY** of your contact details have changed — phone number, email address or postal address — it is really important that you let us know, so that we can ensure our records are kept up to date. Thank you!

✉ office@normanst.cumbria.sch.uk

EVERY DAY… IT'S THE NORMIE WAY!

ATTENDANCE MATTERS

Our whole-school attendance since the start of term is 95.4%.

Make sure you are here on Monday for another **Magic Monday raffle!**

We are aiming for our whole-school attendance to be at least 96%.

If you are struggling with any aspect of the morning which is making it difficult for you to bring your child to school, please do talk to us. **We are here to help.**

✉ parentliaison@normanst.cumbria.sch.uk

95.4%

SINCE THE START OF TERM

Our target: 96%+

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YOU BELONG WITH US!

MAGIC MONDAY & FULL-HOUSE FRIDAY

GOOD LUCK EVERYBODY!



Magic Monday Raffle

Well done to everyone who had a chance to be in our Magic Monday attendance draw! Who is going to be in with a chance of winning a prize… but you have to be in school on a Monday to be in with a chance!

Be in, to win!



Full-House Friday

Make it into school every day this week and you'll be in our Full-House Friday raffle. Make sure your name is on the spinning wheel!

Be in all week, to win!

★ **Make sure your name is on the spinning wheel! Here every day — it's the Normie Way!** ★

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ATTENDANCE GUIDANCE

COUGHS, SNIFFLES & SCHOOL

We know that the weather is getting colder and that children are more susceptible to coughs and sniffles.

However, please use this handy guide to help you to decide whether or not your child should be in school. We have already started making contact with all families when children are absent, and **we really need your children to be in school every day** — it's the Normie Way!

We are here to support you, so if you are struggling with your child's attendance, please don't hesitate to contact **Bev Ramshaw** via the office. Thank you for your ongoing support.

✉ parentliaison@normanst.cumbria.sch.uk



A cough or a sniffle?

If in doubt, bring them in — and talk to us. We are here to help.

HERE EVERY DAY — IT'S THE NORMIE WAY!

AI RISKS · A CHANGE TO HOW WE SHARE PHOTOS

KEEPING YOUR CHILDREN SAFE

Sharing photos of our children's learning, achievements and everyday school life is one of the things we love most about being part of the Norman Street community. Those pictures show the joy, effort and pride that happen here every day. **Keeping your children safe, though, will always come first**, and the online world has changed quickly. I want to explain a change we are making to how we share images of children, and why.

Artificial intelligence (AI) tools are now freely available that can take an ordinary photograph of a child, such as a sports day picture or a class photo, and alter it within seconds. Sadly, organisations such as the Internet Watch Foundation and the NSPCC have reported a sharp rise in AI being used to create fake and harmful images of real children from photos found online.

A child's face is what makes an image identifiable and open to misuse.

Once a photo is online, it can be copied, saved and shared in ways none of us can control or take back. Alongside our safeguarding responsibilities, we feel this is a risk we should no longer take on our children's behalf.

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OUR NEW APPROACH TO PHOTOS

WHAT YOU'LL SEE FROM NOW ON

From now on, any images of children that we share publicly — including on our website, social media, newsletters and anything sent home that could be shared — **will not show children's full faces**. Instead, you'll see:

👦

From behind or a distance

Children photographed from behind or from a distance, busy and absorbed in what they're doing.

✋

Hands, books & artwork

Close-ups of hands at work, books, artwork, models and finished pieces.

👥

Faces not identifiable

Group shots where faces cannot be identified.

🙂

Faces covered

Occasionally, images where faces have been covered, for example with an emoji or blur.

★ **We will continue never to publish children's names alongside their photographs.**

Over the coming weeks, we will also review older images on our website and social media. We will still take photographs in school to capture and celebrate learning, and you will still see your child's achievements — **just shared in a way that keeps them safer.**

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OUT & ABOUT · THANK YOU, CARLISLE COLLEGE!

A BUSY WEEK AT THE COLLEGE

STEM · ENGINEERING



F1 Champions visit Carlisle College

Our budding F1 engineers took up the offer of a visit to Carlisle College this week to explore the world of STEM and engineering. They were treated to the most fascinating morning of practical science and careers, including using a **virtual welding iron!**

A very big thank you to Carlisle College for making us feel so welcome… **we'll be back!**



KS2 · THE COLLEGE THEATRE

A Day Out at the Theatre

Our KS2 children were invited this week to the College theatre for a very special production. For some of us, it was the **first time we had ever been to a theatre**, so to see actors and actresses on the stage was amazing.

The children were brilliantly behaved and really enjoyed the show! Thank you Holly and all at Carlisle College for the invite!

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WE REALLY NEED YOU!

PARENT HELPERS

We're looking for parent volunteers to join us as Sports Helpers, supporting staff at sporting events and fixtures across the year!

If you're able to offer some regular help, we'd love to hear from you. **Full safeguarding training will be provided**, and we just ask that you're able to commit to a few dates across the school year.

It's a brilliant way to get involved, cheer on our Normies, and be part of the team behind the scenes. Thank you so much for considering it!

✉ office@normanst.cumbria.sch.uk

COULD YOU HELP?



Full safeguarding training provided — just a few dates across the year.

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THIS WEEK WE CELEBRATE

HEADTEACHER AWARD

Jack
BIG BOTHY

William
BIG BOTHY

Polina
BIG BOTHY

Jack, William and Polina! You have all been working incredibly hard in Big Bothy and are showing everyone what it means to be a brilliant Normie. You listen carefully, follow instructions so well, and always give things your best effort. These might seem like small things, but they make a huge difference and are helping you make such fantastic progress.

It was especially lovely to hear how much you enjoyed the theatre trip with the rest of your year group. Seeing you sharing those experiences with your friends and being such a valued part of our school community made us all smile.

We have loved seeing your confidence, determination and positive attitude shine through every day. You are all such an important part of our school family, and it is a pleasure to see you growing, learning and succeeding. We are so proud of the progress you have made and of the wonderful young people you are becoming.

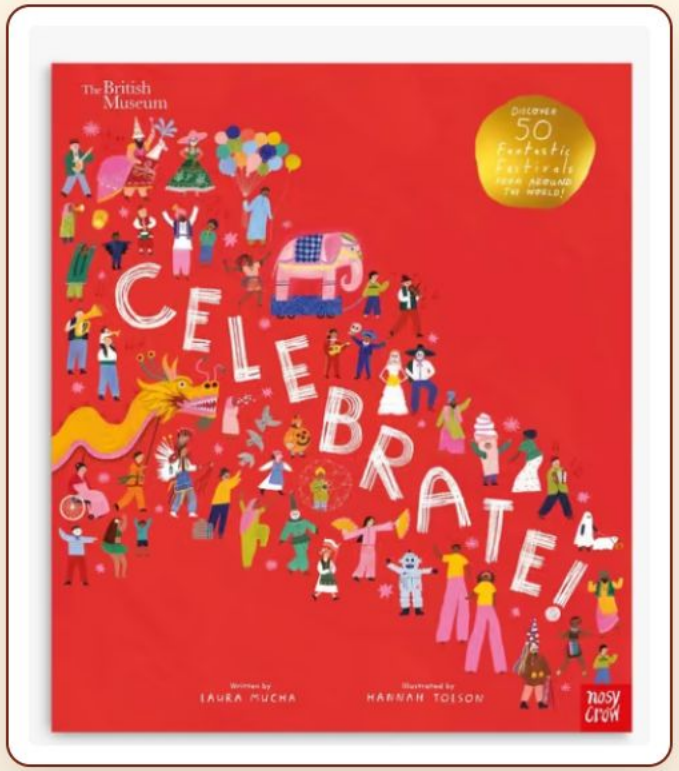
Keep being your brilliant Normie selves!

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A NEW SEASON OF CELEBRATIONS

READING RECOMMENDATION



British Museum: *Celebrate!*

by Laura Mucha · illustrated by Hannah Tolson

With a new half term comes a new season. This beautiful book is a great way to open up conversations with your children about the **different celebrations there are around the world**.

> *"Travel the world in this awe-inspiring new gift title from the British Museum featuring 50 spectacular new festivals that you won't want to miss! It's time to celebrate as you explore some of the world's most exciting festivals from different countries, cultures and religions around the globe. From the familiar to the unexpected, discover how and why festivals bring people together to enjoy all kinds of sensational celebrations."*

🏆 **Shortlisted · British Book Design & Production Awards 2024**

More by Laura Mucha →

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SAFEGUARDING INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

KEEPING YOUR CHILD'S IDENTITY SAFE ONLINE

We all love capturing those special school moments, whether it's a performance, sports day, trip, or celebration. These memories are precious, and families are very welcome to take photographs and videos for their own personal use. As part of our commitment to safeguarding all children, we ask parents and carers to **think carefully before sharing images online**. Small details can sometimes reveal more information than we realise and may make it easier for children to be identified by people they don't know.

1 Only share your own child

Please avoid sharing photos or videos online that include children other than your own. Not all families wish for images of their children to appear on social media, and we need to respect their privacy choices.

2 Check your privacy settings

Check your social media privacy settings regularly. Ensure that any images you do share can only be viewed by people you know and trust.

3 Look at the background

Look carefully at the background of photographs before posting them. School uniforms, badges, logos, signs, house numbers, street names, and even location tags can provide clues about where a child goes to school or lives.

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SAFEGUARDING INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

KEEPING YOUR CHILD'S IDENTITY SAFE ONLINE

To help keep everyone safe, please also consider the following:

4 Limit personal details

Think about how much personal information accompanies a photo. Avoid sharing full names, class details, or information about a child's daily routines and whereabouts.

5 Talk with your child

Talk with your child about staying safe online. Encourage them to think carefully about what they share, who can see it, and how information can spread beyond their intended audience.

6 Pause before you post

Remember that once something is shared online, it can be difficult to remove completely. Taking a few extra moments to check a post before sharing can make a big difference.

★ By working together, we can celebrate our children's achievements while helping to protect their privacy and keep them safe. Thank you! ★

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CONTACT US

We are always keen to hear your comments, suggestions and feedback. If you'd like to speak to a member of staff, please don't hesitate to get in touch.

01 · VISIT US

Norman Street, Carlisle,
Cumbria, CA1 2BQ

02 · CALL US

01228 210168

03 · EMAIL US

office@normanst.cumbria.sch.uk

Facebook · Norman Street Primary School **Instagram** · normanstreetsch **X** · @NormanStreetSch