

Autumn Term After School Clubs

All clubs start WC Monday 23rd September (week 4) and the last week of clubs will be WC Monday 2nd December (week 5). All clubs start at 2:45pm and finish at 3:45pm. **Please sign up using the school's app** – School Spider app is free to download. Club places are very limited for health and safety reasons and places will be offered as fairly as possible. The **closing date is Wednesday 18th September**.

	Club	Year Groups	Number of places	Collect from
Monday	Playground Games	Years 1-2	20 children	Year 2
	Dance/Cheerleading	Years 3-6	30 children	Year 3
	Cookery	Years 3-6	12 children	Breakfast Room

Tuesday	Football	Years 3-6	30 children	Year 6
	Dodgeball	Years 3-6	30 children	Year 2

Thursday	Tag Rugby	Years 3-6	30 children	Year 6
	Quicksticks	Years 3-6	30 children	Year 1
	Athletics	Years 3-6	30 children	Year 3
	Cricket	Years 3-6	30 children	Year 4
	Computer Club	Years 3-6	30 children	Year 5

Children taking part in physical activity clubs need their PE kit. If your child does not have their PE kit, they will not be allowed to attend the club.

When signing up to a club, you are committing to your child attending every week. If your child doesn't want to attend a club, please send a letter so we can take their name off the register and allocate their place to another child.

Regards, Mr Thwaites (Deputy Headteacher and PE Subject Leader)

Primary and Secondary Places for September 2020

The on-line application systems are now live (www.lancashire.gov.uk/schools) – follow the electronic links to admissions.

Closing dates (statutory) – the on-line application system closes at 11.59 pm on these dates:

- **31st October 2019** – **secondary** application closing date
- **15th January 2020** – **primary** application closing date

For September 2020, offers will be issued electronically only for all on-line applicants. Letters will be issued by Thursday 16th April 2020 by 2nd class post only to those who applied late or on a paper form. On-line applicants will be able to view their own offer on the system on the morning of the offer date. All late applicants will receive an offer letter.

- **2nd March 2020** – **secondary offers confirmed** electronically to online applicants.
- **16th April 2020** – **primary offers confirmed** electronically to on-line applicants

Secondary School Open Evenings

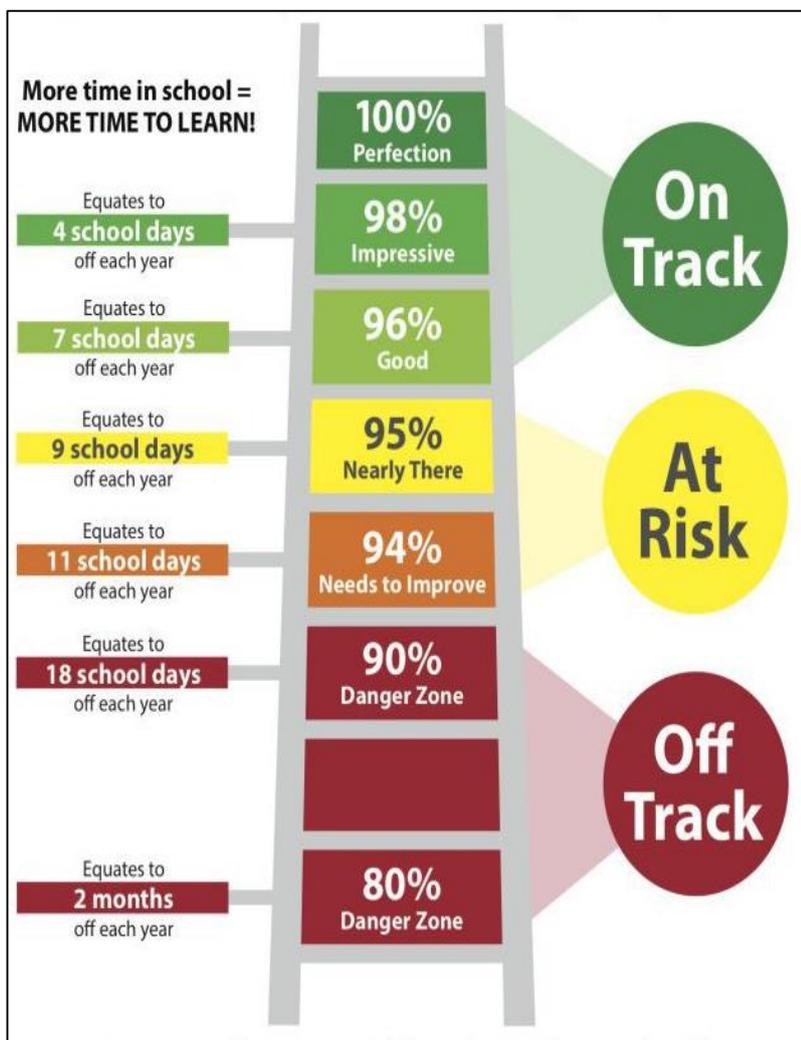
I have seen a number of Y5 and Y6 families visiting the local secondary schools this week when I attended the open evenings at the Bay Leadership Academy on Wednesday (formerly Heysham High) and Morecambe Bay Academy on Thursday (formerly Morecambe High). Please check the diary dates at the end of the newsletter, or our school's Facebook page, for additional open evenings.

Attendance & Punctuality

The **minimum attendance** target set by the government for all children across England is **96%**. Last year, **our whole school attendance was an impressive 96.6% which was fantastic** and this is down to our **supportive parents and families**. However, a small number of children have poor attendance and / or lateness and I have been writing separately to these parents since we returned from the summer break.

We take unauthorised absence seriously and, particularly in the case of repeated unauthorised absences, persistent absentees and lateness, will undertake further liaison with the family, pupil, the School Attendance Consultant and the Pupil Attendance Support Team (PAST) as appropriate. **Furthermore, if we fail to see an improvement in attendance and punctuality, we may request that the local authority issue penalty notices (fines) – this provision was added to our Attendance & Punctuality Policy by our governors in July.**

Our policy states that as headteacher, I am responsible for determining what is classed as authorised and unauthorised absence.



Examples of **authorised absence**:

- Medical or dental appointments, which relate directly to the pupil and unavoidably fall during the school day (evidence may be required for authorisation).
- Illness of the pupil (evidence may be required prior to authorisation).
- Leave which has been authorised by the headteacher due to exceptional circumstances.

Examples of **unauthorised absence**:

- Parents keeping children off school unnecessarily including absence / illness of siblings and other family members.
- Truancy before or during the school day.
- Absences which have never been properly explained.
- Children who arrive at school after the register has closed.
- Shopping, looking after other children or birthdays.
- Day trips and leave in term time which have not been agreed.
- Days that exceed the amount of leave agreed by the headteacher.

Our policy now also states that absences due to medical appointments or illness will no longer be authorised without medical evidence when attendance (and / or lateness) is a concern. We now have medical slips in the school office, which can be stamped by your local pharmacist or GP surgery, and may be considered as sufficient evidence for an absence to be authorised.

I want to stress again, that the vast majority of our parents and families are supportive and ensure that their children attend daily and on time – thank you. We can't teach your child if they are not in school! Lateness also impacts on learning. When a child is late, even if only by a few minutes, this can cause considerable disruption. It is disruptive not just to their own learning, but to the learning of the rest of the class. 'Lost minutes equal lost learning'. Just 5 minutes late per day equates to 3 days of school missed each year. Please remember that the school doors are opened at 8:20am to ensure children have plenty of time to enter school and settle in, so please aim for 8:20am instead of 8:30am if you sometimes find you are rushing.

Thank you for your continued help and support. **'Working together to achieve success.'**

Back to school immunisation

There are a lot of things that need to be done in preparation for your child's first day at school. As part of preparing, making sure your child is up to date with their immunisations is also really important. Having your child immunised is the best way to protect them from serious childhood diseases.

At school your child will be mixing with other children in small spaces which increases the risk of germs spreading. Immunisations will help protect your child from diseases which can be spread very quickly making children very poorly and could lead to serious complications. It is really important your child is fully protected and getting immunised is a safe and effective way of doing this. It also helps protect other people as well.

Your child should have had a pre-school booster and their second Measles, Mumps and Rubella immunisation at the GP practice when they were around 3 and a half years old.

If you are not sure if your child is up to date with their immunisations check their personal health record (Red Book) or contact your GP practice today. For more information visit www.nhs.uk/vaccinations.

For Information on MMR in different languages or in an accessible format visit <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/mmr-for-all-general-leaflet>.

We wish your child a happy and healthy start at school.

Yours sincerely,



Tricia Spedding
Head of Public Health



Dianne Draper
Screening and Immunisation Lead

Diary Dates

Mon 16th Sept	Miss Butler working every Mon afternoon with KS2 delivering 30min 'Mindfulness' sessions with each class
Tues 17th Sept	2:15pm Thank you afternoon tea for our volunteers Carnforth High School Open Evening from 6pm → 8:30pm
Wed 18th Sept	Pupil interviews focussing on Science, Computing and DT Closing dates for After School Clubs
Thurs 19th Sept	Our Lady's Catholic College open evening form 5:30pm Queen Elizabeth School open evening from 6:30pm
Mon 23rd Sept	After School Clubs start this week Road & Bike Safety Assembly with PCSO Pete to launch poster competition
Thurs 26th Sept	2:15pm and 5:30pm Rec & KS2 Phonics and Reading Meeting for parents Dallam Open Evening from 6pm onwards
Tues 1st Oct	Friends of Mossgate PSA Annual General Meeting at 6pm
Thursday 3rd Oct	Harvest themed lunch
Wed 9th → Fri 11th Oct	Y3 climbing at Borwick Hall (groups of 10 each day)
Thurs 10th Oct	Y6 Disaster Zones Workshop with Lancaster University in school
Tues 15th Oct	Y5 History (linked to the Victorians) visit to Judges' Lodges – Lancaster
Wed 16th → Fri 18th Oct	Y5 Caving at Borwick Hall (groups of 10 each day)
Fri 18th Oct	School closes for the October half term
Mon 28th Oct	School closed for pupils – INSET Day for staff
Tues 29th Oct	School opens for pupils