Learning together, valuing all, enjoying and achieving

Sunday 18th October 2026

Dear Families,

We have had a busy couple of weeks in School and I am delighted to share some of the highlights with you.

Our Year 3 and Year 4 pupils had a brilliant day at Wood Matters in Windermere last week, exploring life in the Stone Age as part of their history topic. Pupils made Stone Age tools, lit fires and explored how to write using Stone Age symbols. It was a fantastic way to bring their learning to life.

It was wonderful to welcome families into school last week for our Parents' Evenings. These appointments are a great opportunity to meet with staff, celebrate the learning your child has been doing and discuss how we can further support your child both in school and at home. A reminder that we have further Parents' Evenings after school in our school hall this week:

- Year 3 and 4 on **Tuesday 20th October**
- Year 5 and 6 on **Thursday 22nd October**

We have seen a wonderful uptake in school meals this term. Our lunches are heartier and filling, and feedback from our children has been really positive. Pupils asked Dione to add an all-day breakfast to the menu, so this Friday Dione has put on a breakfast special. We have also updated some of the menu for after half term based on pupil feedback – please check this on Arbor. We will be sending a questionnaire to families soon to gather your views on how we can continue to improve our school menu.

Our Pupil Voice Groups met last Wednesday and continue to make a big impact across school. Their work has included more active lunchtimes; inviting our MP, Marcus Campbell-Saviours, into school; setting up stationery recycling boxes in classes, and our Mini Police planning and delivering an assembly on being safe in the community over half term. We are really proud of these groups and would welcome support from families. If you think you could support one of our groups in any way, please get in touch.

We are very grateful to all of our staff who go above and beyond to ensure pupils can access as many opportunities as possible by taking on responsibilities such as being able to drive the mini-bus and I am pleased to share that four of our teachers, who renewed their minibus driver training last week all passed with flying colours.

On Thursday we held our Spook and Sparkle Disco. It was a fabulous evening, and pupils made a big effort with their costumes, which looked spectacular. Thank you to families for continuing to support our fundraising events.

This Friday we say goodbye to Miss Holmes, who is leaving North Lakes to pursue a change in career. Miss Holmes joined us as an apprentice Teaching Assistant and over the last ten years has become a significant member of our staff team. She has delivered ELSA and Decider Skills to so many pupils, supported teachers and pupils across all year groups, and been one of our staff mental health champions. She will be greatly missed by everyone, and we wish her every success in the future.

Please could I also ask parents to park respectfully and responsibly at drop off and pick up times. Our neighbours have been in touch to request this, and we would be grateful for your help. Thank you.

We currently have a vacancy on our Governing Body for a parent governor. If you are interested in joining us and being part of our school's strategic vision, please contact our clerk, Jo Willets, at admin@northlakes.cumbria.sch.uk.

Grasmere class are swimming tomorrow – Please remember your swimming kits!

Finally, the children have been designing Christmas Cards for families to order. Their designs are looking brilliant and will be sent home this week on Thursday with information on how you can order your child's design. Orders need to be return by Monday 2nd November 2026.

Save the date!
26th October – 30th October Half Term.
2nd November – Autumn Term 2 starts
2nd November – orders for Christmas cards need to be returned to school.
9th – 13th November Interfaith week

Nicole Spibey

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