

November 2025 Newsletter

7th November 2025

AUTUMN UPDATE

I hope this letter finds you all well and you all had a good half term.

Absence from school information from the Local Authority

IT IS VERY IMPORTANT THAT YOU READ THIS IF YOU ARE CONSIDERING A TERM TIME HOLIDAY

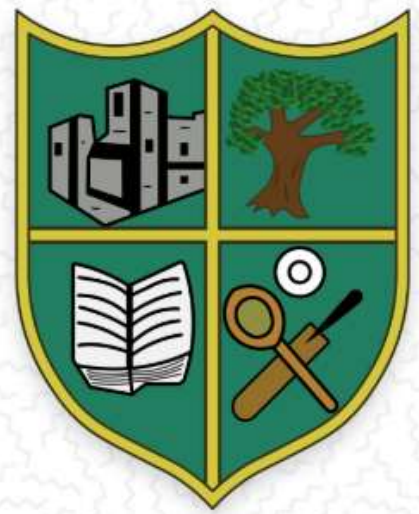
We have now had families who have been fined for taking holidays in school time, and may potentially end up in court as a result of not paying fines. **To make the process as clear as possible for families** we have again asked the Authority to lay out clearly the fining / court appearance process in relation to unauthorised absences. Please see below –

First Fixed Penalty Notice (For anybody with 5 unauthorised absence days, like a week's holiday, in a 10 week period): Issued at £80 and must be paid within 21 days of issue. If payment is not received within this period, the penalty automatically increases to £160, which must be paid within 28 days of the original notice. Failure to do so will result in court proceedings, with the potential for a fine of up to £2,500, a Parenting Order, or in some cases, a custodial sentence, alongside court costs.

Second Fixed Penalty Notice (For anybody who has 5 unauthorised absence days, like a week's holiday, in a 10 week period within 3 years of the first offence): The fine will be issued at £160, with no option for a reduced amount. This must be paid within 28 days. Failure to do so will result in court proceedings, with the potential for a fine of up to £2,500, a Parenting Order, or in some cases, a custodial sentence, alongside court costs.

Third and Subsequent Offences (within 3 years): No further Fixed Penalty Notice will be issued. The matter will proceed directly to prosecution, and if found guilty, you may be liable for a fine of up to £2,500 per offence, a Parenting Order, or in some cases, a custodial sentence, alongside court costs.

Should payment not be received within the 28-day period, the matter will be referred to the magistrates' court. At that stage, you may present evidence in relation to the absences and your failure to discharge the notice. Should you wish to contest the matter, this may only be done through the magistrates' court. At that stage, you will have the opportunity to present evidence and make representations in respect of the absences and the non-payment of the notice.



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Carpark fence

If you use the Greengate Lane side of school to come in and out in the morning you will be aware that we have had a fence erected around our carpark to ensure the separation of cars and members of our school community, so to add to our safety arrangements for our children.

I would like to take this opportunity to say a huge thank you to the After School Club



for their generous donation which has enabled us to be able to do this.

Midday Supervisors

We have a number of vacancies for Midday Supervisors. If a few hours work in the middle of the day would suit you, and you would like to join our school team, please give the office a ring to find out more details.

Parents' evenings

Next week you will receive a parent's evening appointment form to please be returned to us as soon as possible so staff can organise their meetings. I am sure you understand that we cannot always line up these meetings exactly when you have requested them, but please be aware that we do try our best. Please make every effort to attend these meetings. We will be running child care (mostly in the hall) for children coming in to parents' evenings with their parents.

Children in Need

Nationally Children in Need day is on Friday 14th of November. We will be raising money for charity on the day - children will be able to wear their own clothes and, if they wish, bring a £1.00 donation for the Children in Need charities.



PTA Christmas Raffle

The PTA will be running a Christmas fundraising raffle and tickets will be sold by the children, at the various school Christmas events and in Booths.

Christmas jumper Sale and Day

The PTA will hold a Christmas jumper sale on Friday 5th December in the playground after school.

Christmas Jumper day is on Thursday 11th December, children can wear a Christmas jumper, or their own jumper, on the day and bring a cash donation for charity if they wish.

2026 Reception Children

If you have friends with children who will be starting Reception in September 2026 please let them know that we are holding tours of school throughout November. If they would like to come on one of these please encourage them to ring the office to book. If they cannot make one, but would still like to look around that is not a problem, we can arrange an alternative for them. Many thanks.

Library help!

It is great that some of the KS2 children are using the School Library, however, we are missing over 300 books and have some very empty shelves!

Please could you look at home with your children for any Library books and return them as soon as possible for others to enjoy! Thank you! Children should only be borrowing one book at a time. Also, if you have any unwanted books at home, then any donations will be gratefully received. We rely on the kind generosity of our parents to keep our wonderful Library stocked full of quality books for all children to enjoy. Thank you!



Dates for the diary

Wednesday 19 th November:	Nasal flu immunisations, Rec-Y6
Wednesday 19 th November:	Parents evening
Thursday 20 th November:	Parents evening
Friday 21 st November:	Y5 & Y6 Kendal mountain festival, am, Leisure Centre
Monday 24 th November:	Y4 & Y5 Theatre by the Lake
Wednesday 26 th November:	Y4 Film festival, Brewery
Friday 5 th December:	Y5 & Y6 Kendal College Box Theatre, am
Friday 5 th December:	Y2 Kendal College Box Theatre, pm
Monday 8 th December:	Christingle assemblies for children
Tuesday 9 th December:	Y4 Kendal College Box Theatre, am
Tuesday 9 th December:	Nursery nativity, pm
Wednesday 10 th December:	Y1 Kendal College Box Theatre, pm
Wednesday 10 th December:	KS2 Christmas performance, 4pm
Thursday 11 th December:	Christmas jumper day for a cash donation
Thursday 11 th December:	Y3 Kendal College Box Theatre, am
Thursday 11 th December:	Christmas dinner
Thursday 11 th December:	KS2 Christmas performance, 6pm
Tuesday 16 th December:	Reception nativity, 2pm
Wednesday 17 th December:	Y2 nativity, pm
Thursday 18 th December:	Y1 nativity, am
Friday 19 th December:	Carol Service, Parish Church, am, KS2 ONLY THIS YEAR
Friday 19 th December:	Term ends, 2pm
Tuesday 6 th January 2026:	Staff inset day, children not in school
Wednesday 7 th January 2026:	Children return to school for Spring term

As usual, if you have any questions about the content of this letter, or anything else, please do not hesitate to contact the office.

Our Mission: Ghyllside Primary School – Growing Hearts and Minds
Our Values: Inspiring Healthy Inclusive Nurturing Experiences

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