



Newsletter

Lowther Endowed School & Little VIPs Day Care
Friday, 11th September 2026



Welcome Back to School!

Dear Parents, Carers and Friends,

A very warm welcome back to school! We hope that you have all had a wonderful break and are feeling refreshed and ready for the new term ahead.

We are delighted to welcome everyone back and are looking forward to another exciting and successful term together. There is lots to look forward to, and we are excited to share the children's achievements, experiences and learning with you throughout the year.

A very warm welcome to all of our new Reception children and their families! It has been wonderful to see the children settling in to school life so well and beginning to develop new friendships, routines and confidence. They have already made a fantastic start, exploring their new environment, getting to know their teachers and enjoying lots of exciting learning experiences. We are incredibly proud of how well they have adapted to Hedgehogs class and would like to thank families for their support in helping make such a positive start to their school journey. We are looking forward to a happy and exciting year ahead together!

Forthcoming Events



Macmillan Coffee Afternoon - We will be holding a Macmillan Coffee Afternoon on Friday 25th September between 2.30-4.30pm. We would love for families and friends to join us for an afternoon of cake, coffee and community, while helping to raise money for Macmillan Cancer Support. We hope to see lots of you there!

Please see the attached poster for further details.

Harvest Festival Pop-Up Café – this year instead of holding a Harvest Festival assembly, we will be hosting a Harvest Festival Pop-Up Café on Monday 5th October.

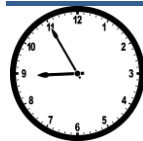


Families and friends are warmly invited to join us for some delicious homemade treats, including jacket potatoes and apple crumble.

As part of our Harvest celebrations, we will be raising funds to support the Penrith Salvation Army Food Bank.

It will be a wonderful opportunity to come together as a school community, enjoy some delicious food and support a fantastic local cause. More details to follow.

Notices



A Prompt Start to the School Day - a reminder that the school day starts promptly at **8.55am**.

Arriving at school on time is really important. A prompt start helps children to settle into the classroom calmly, prepare for the day ahead and ensures they do not miss important morning routines, registration, learning and information from their teachers.

Please ensure that your child arrives at school in good time and is ready to start the school day at **8.55am**. Thank you for your support in helping us to make sure every child has the best possible start to their day.

End of Day Collection - please be reminded that lessons finish at 3.30pm each day. Children will be dismissed as soon as possible after this time. Please ensure that you are at school by 3.30pm so that you are ready and available to collect your child as soon as they are dismissed.

SchoolMoney - please remember to use SchoolMoney to book the following services where required:

- School dinners
- Breakfast Club
- After School Club



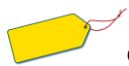
Please ensure bookings are made in advance so that we can plan appropriately and make sure your child has a place.

If you require your child(ren) in after school club 'on the day' please ensure you call and leave a message on the school answer phone. We cannot guarantee that emails will be read before 3:30pm.

PE Kit Reminder - please remember that children should wear their PE kit to school on Tuesdays and Wednesdays.



Having PE kit ready and worn to school on these days helps the school day run smoothly and ensures that children are prepared for their PE lessons.



Label Uniform – Please could you ensure that all items of your child's school uniform, including their PE kit, are clearly labelled with their name.

Whilst we always do our best to make sure everyone has the correct uniform, this can be difficult when items are not named. Labelling your child's uniform helps us to quickly identify and return any misplaced items.



Diary Dates – Please Make a Note! - below you will find our diary dates we currently have confirmed up until Christmas.

Please take a moment to look through these dates and make a note of them in your calendars. We know that there is a lot to remember during the school year, so we hope having these dates together will help you plan ahead.

Please note that additional information about events, trips and activities will be sent home in letters as the relevant dates approach.

Our New Half-Termly Newsletter - this year, we will be writing a half-termly school newsletter, rather than a fortnightly newsletter.

Each newsletter will provide an opportunity for us to celebrate the wonderful things that have happened during the half term, including events, activities, achievements and some of the exciting learning taking place across the school.

We will also look ahead to the next half term and share some of the things that we are excited about and looking forward to.

We hope that this will give you a regular snapshot of life in school and help you to stay connected with all that is happening.



Friends of Lowther Endowed School & Little VIPS - our Friends of Lowther Endowed School and Little VIPS are already looking ahead to Christmas!

We are looking for parents and grandparents who would be willing to volunteer and help at our Christmas Fair on Friday 4th December.

Whether you can spare a little time to help with preparations, run a stall or support us on the day, we would be incredibly grateful. These events are a wonderful opportunity for our school community to come together, and the support of our families makes such a difference.

If you are able to help, please speak to either Alice Vince, Gabriella Watkins or Katie Smith.



Are you looking for a school place? Do you have a child, who will be starting school in September 2027? - If so, why not come along to one of our Pop-in and Play sessions and discover more about our wonderful school?

This is a lovely opportunity for prospective families to come and meet us, have a look around our school and find out more about life at Lowther Endowed School and Little VIPs Day Care.

More details can be found on the attached poster. We would love to welcome you!



Termly Overviews – below are copies of this term's curriculum overviews for each class.

Our termly overviews are a helpful way for families to find out more about what children will be learning each term. They provide an overview of the key topics, themes and areas of learning that will be covered across the curriculum.



We hope these overviews will give you a useful insight into your child's learning and provide opportunities for you to talk about and support their learning at home. Please take a look at the overview for your child's year group to see what exciting learning is coming up this term.

If you or know anyone, who can help support any of these topic areas we could love to hear for you! This could be giving a talk on the topic or supporting class.

Homework Expectations - we believe that homework should support and reinforce the learning that takes place in school, while helping children to develop positive routines, independence and responsibility.

Homework is usually set on a weekly basis. We expect all homework - whether paper-based or online - to be completed and handed in by the set day. Our homework expectations are age-appropriate and designed to be manageable for families:

All children

- Reading - All children are expected to read at least 3 or 4 times each week. For our younger children, this may involve sharing and enjoying a book together with a family member. We encourage parents and carers to talk about the story, characters and new vocabulary to help develop a love of reading and strong comprehension skills. All reading should be recorded in their Reading Record.

Hedgehogs class

Homework is set on a Monday and is to be handed in the Friday of that week.

- Phonics (Reception & Year 1): Children should regularly practise their phonics.
- Spelling (Years 1 & 2): Children should practise their weekly spellings. There will be a spelling quiz on Fridays.
- Maths (Year 2): Year 2 should complete their maths work set by Miss Booth.

Badgers class

Homework is set on a Monday and is to be handed in the following Monday.

- Spelling: Children are expected to practise their weekly spellings regularly at home via their

spelling practice weekly menu task in yellow book as well as on SpellingShed (<https://play.edshed.com/> - log in details are in their reading records). A spelling quiz will be completed on Monday.

- Times Tables: Children should practise their times tables regularly via TTRockstars (<https://play.ttrockstars.com/public>) and their Times Table Expedition missions. Short, frequent practice is often the most effective.

What happens if homework is not completed?

We understand that there may occasionally be circumstances that prevent a child from completing their homework. If this happens, please communicate with your child's teacher.

Where homework is regularly not completed without a reason, age-appropriate consequences may be put in place. These will vary according to the child's age and individual circumstances and may include children being asked to complete missed homework during breaktime or another appropriate time during the school day.

Our aim is to help them understand the importance of completing responsibilities, developing good habits and taking pride in their learning. As children move through the school, we expect them to take increasing responsibility for managing and completing their homework.

Thank you for your continued support in helping our children develop positive learning habits and a responsible approach to their education.

Achieving, Caring and Enjoying (ACE) - This year, we have introduced our ACE Points to celebrate and promote our school values of Achieving, Caring and Enjoying.

Throughout the week, children can be awarded ACE Points for demonstrating these values through their learning, behaviour, kindness, effort and attitude. Each ACE Point earned will be added to the child's class ACE Jar.

At our Monday Celebration Assembly, one name will be drawn from each class. The lucky winner will be able to choose an ACE Reward as a special recognition of their achievement. Rewards may include:



-  A VIP seat at lunchtime
-  Wearing slippers to school for the day
-  15 minutes of extra breaktime with a friend
-  15 minutes of free time on an iPad or laptop

ACE Superstars! - we will also recognise one child from each class who has consistently demonstrated our ACE values throughout the week.

This child will receive a special mention during our Celebration Assembly, an ACE Superstar Certificate and an ACE Reward.

Our ACE Points system is designed to recognise and celebrate the positive choices and behaviours that we see across our school every day.

By focusing on Achieving, Caring and Enjoying, we want to give children a clear and positive understanding of what it means to live our school values. We hope that ACE Points will:

- Encourage positive behaviour and reinforce the importance of making good choices.
- Celebrate effort and achievement, not just academic success.
- Recognise kindness, respect and care towards others.
- Build children's confidence and self-esteem by celebrating their individual contributions.
- Motivate children to take pride in their learning and behaviour.
- Develop a strong sense of belonging and community, where children recognise and celebrate the successes of others.
- Encourage children to take increasing responsibility for demonstrating our school values, both in and outside the classroom.

Most importantly, we want ACE Points to help create a school where children feel valued, recognised and motivated to be the very best version of themselves — while ensuring that Achieving, Caring and Enjoying are at the heart of school life.

Staffing Updates – we would like to share a few staffing updates with you.

Ms Thwaites is currently on sick leave following an operation and is expected to remain away from school until after the October half-term. During this time, Mrs Steadman will be teaching Badgers Class

full time, supported by Mrs Clark on Monday and Wednesday afternoons and Mr Calway in the mornings.

We are delighted to welcome several new members to our school team. Mrs Hastings has joined us as a 1:1 Teaching Assistant, and Chris Baden has joined as a Midday Supervisor. Nadene Mattinson has also joined the team in Little VIPS. We are very pleased to have them all as part of our school community and look forward to seeing them settle into their new roles.

We are also looking forward to welcoming Miss Tickner back to school on 1st October following her maternity leave. We are delighted to have her returning and know that she will receive a very warm welcome from both the children and staff.

We would like to thank all of our staff for their continued flexibility and support during this period of change, and we are confident that these arrangements will ensure our children continue to receive the care, support and consistency they need.

Looking Ahead - we are very much looking forward to the term ahead and to seeing our children continue to learn, grow and thrive.



Thank you, as always, for your continued support and partnership. Working together with families makes such a positive difference to our children, and we look forward to another fantastic term.

If you ever have any concerns or matters you wish to address, please do not hesitate to speak to Michelle Clark – headteacher, a member of staff or a member of the governing body.

Warmest wishes, Lowther Endowed School and Little VIPS!



Diary Dates

Date	Time	Event	Who	Curriculum Area
Autumn 1 2026				
18 th Sept	9:00am – 2:00pm	EVSP Fell Walk – Murton Pike	Badgers	PE
19 th Sept	9:30am – 11:00am	Little VIPs Open morning	Community	
24 th Sept	1:30pm – 3:00pm	Pop in and Play session (Red Squirrels & Hedgehogs classroom)	Community & Perspective families	
25 th Sept	AM	EVSP Hi-5 Netball	Years 5 & 6	PE
25 th Sept	2:30pm – 4:30pm	Macmillan Coffee Afternoon	Community	PSHE
28 th Sept	PM	CitB Football tournament @ Shap	Badgers	PE
30 th Sept	All day	Harvest artwork with Andi Taylor, NISCU	All	Art/RE
5 th Oct	12:00pm – 1:00pm	Harvest café	Community	RE/PSHE
8 th Oct	12:30pm – 3:30pm	EVSP Badminton	Badgers	PE
16 th Oct	9:00am – 10:00am	Come & Celebrate Our Learning	All	PSHE
20 th & 21 st Oct	3.45pm – 6:00pm	Parents & Carers Evening	Parents & Carers	
22 nd Oct	AM	Forest School – Dave Corrie	Years 3 & 4	Outdoor Education/Enrichment
22 nd Oct	PM	Forest School – Dave Corrie	Hedgehogs	
23 rd Oct	AM	Forest School – Dave Corrie	Years 5 & 6	
23 rd Oct	1:30pm – 3:00pm	Pop in and Play session (Red Squirrels & Hedgehogs classroom)	Community & Perspective families	
23 rd Oct	3:30pm	Break up for half term	All	
Autumn 2 2026				
2 nd Nov	8:55am	Start of Autumn 2 term	All	
3 rd Nov	All day	NISCU Andi Taylor – Remembrance art workshop	All	RE/Art/History
10 th Nov	All day	Ernest Trust Cook Day	Hedgehogs	Outdoor Education/Enrichment

Our school values: 'Achieving, Caring, Enjoying'



11 th Nov	11:00am	Remembrance Service	All	History/PSHE
12 th Nov	12:30pm – 3:30pm	EVSP Basic Moves	Hedgehogs	PE
17 th Nov	All day	Ernest Trust Cook Day	Badgers	Outdoor Education/Enrichment
18 th Nov	12:30pm – 3:30pm	EVSP Sportshall Athletics	Yr3, 4, 5 & 6	PE
19 th Nov	1:30pm – 3:00pm	Pop in and Play session (Red Squirrels & Hedgehogs classroom)	Community & Perspective families	
24 th Nov	All day	NISCU Andi Taylor – Advent art workshop	All	RE/Art
26 th Nov	12:30pm – 3:30pm	EVSP Tri Golf	Yr3, 4, 5 & 6	PE
2 nd Dec	12:30pm – 3:30pm	EVSP Cheerleading	Yr3, 4, 5 & 6	PE
4 th Dec	TBC	FoLS Christmas Fair	Community	
7 th /8 th Dec	TBC	St Andrews Christmas Concert	Yr3, 4, 5 & 6	RE & Music
10 th Dec	6:00pm – 7:00pm	Christmas play	All	RE & Drama
11 th Dec	1:30pm – 3:00pm	Pop in and Play session (Red Squirrels & Hedgehogs classroom)	Community & Perspective families	
14 th Dec	2:30pm – 3:30pm	Come & Celebrate Our Learning	All	PSHE
15 th Dec	12:00pm – 13:00pm	Christmas dinner	All	PSHE
17 th Dec	All day	Darlington Hippodrome – Panto	All	Drama
18 th Dec	AM	Christmas parties	All	
18 th Dec	1:30pm – 2:30pm	Christingle Service at school	Community	RE
18 th Dec	2:30pm	Break up for Christmas holidays	All	NO after school club
18 th Dec	6:00pm	Christmas Choir singing at Askham Hall	Choir	Music
Spring 1 2027				
4 th Jan	All day	Inset (staff training)	Staff	
5 th Jan	8:55am	Start of Spring 1 term	All	

Our school values: 'Achieving, Caring, Enjoying'





Be Kind

Be Curious

Be Your Best ♥

Hedgehog Class

Autumn 2026

With Miss Booth ♥

We all travel together... ♥

Small Steps Big Adventures!

Explore

Discover

Learn

Grow

Together ♥

Transport

We will be learning about different types of transport.



- Past, present and future
- How transport has changed
- Different vehicles and where they go
- People who help us travel

English

We will be inspired by two wonderful stories:

A Squash and a Squeeze



by Julia Donaldson

Beegu



by Alexis Deacon

- Writing captions, sentences and stories
- Describing characters and settings
- Using exciting vocabulary
- Asking and answering questions
- Retelling and creating our own stories

Maths

Year 1 and Year 2

1 2 3

+ - =



- Number and place value
- Addition and subtraction
- Shapes and patterns
- Sorting, comparing and measuring
- Practical maths in real life (e.g. time, money, travel)

Science

Animals including humans

- Identify and name different animals
- Explore our body and senses
- Compare humans and animals
- Healthy living and looking after ourselves



see hear smell taste touch

Spelling & Phonics

Spelling and phonics homework will be set on a Monday.

This will be a short activity to support the sounds and spellings we are learning in class.

s a t p



PSHE

Being Me



- Be kind
- Be confident
- Be a good friend
- Celebrate our differences
- Set goals and try our best

PE

Dance, fundamental skills. Throwing and catching.



- Developing coordination
- Teamwork and taking part
- Keeping active and healthy

Creative Subjects

- Design & Technology – making fire engines
- Music – hand bells and body percussion
- Art – transport pictures and models
- Computing – IT all around us



RE

A Wonderful World

- Explore special places
- Think about what makes our world amazing
- Be thankful and respectful



Homework

- Spelling and phonics homework will be set on a Monday.
- Maths homework for Year 1 and Year 2 will be set on a Monday.
- We ask that the children share read a book at least 4 times a week.



Read

Explore

Imagine

Grow

A book a day helps you grow in so many ways! ♥

Different vehicles. Brighter futures! ♥



Curious minds. Kind hearts. Bright futures. ♥

Hedgehog Class

Autumn 2026 ♥





Curious
Kind
Brave
A Brighter
Greener Tomorrow ♥

Badgers Class – Autumn 2026

Teachers: Ms Thwaites & Mrs Steadman

Keen to be Green

On Your Doorstep

This term, children will explore sustainability and our local area while developing key skills across the curriculum.

Small
Changes
Make a
Big Difference ♥

Local
Roots
Brighter
Futures ♥

Explore
Learn
Make a Difference
Together ♥



English

READ • WRITE • IMAGINE

- Writing inspired by The Iron Man.
- Building vocabulary, grammar and writing skills before writing an independent story.
- **Years 3/4:** nouns, adjectives, adverbs, conjunctions and speech punctuation.
- **Years 5/6:** clauses, semicolons, cohesive devices and modal verbs.
- Daily spelling and handwriting practice.



Maths

PROBLEM SOLVE • REASON • ACHIEVE

- **Years 3/4:** place value to 10,000; **addition** and subtraction; multiplication and division to 12×12 ; area.
- **Years 5/6:** place value to 10,000,000; addition and subtraction; factors, multiples and prime numbers; multiplication and division; fractions.



Science

DISCOVER • INVESTIGATE • ASK

- **Years 3/4:** rocks, soils and fossils; solids, liquids and gases; melting, freezing and evaporation.
- **Years 5/6:** properties of materials; dissolving; reversible and irreversible changes; evolution and inheritance.



Geography

Keen to be Green

OUR PLANET • OUR CHOICES • OUR FUTURE

- **Big question:** How does the way we live affect our planet, and what can we do locally to make a difference?
- Climate change, food miles, where our food comes from, reducing/reusing/recycling, surveys, maps and sustainability posters.



History

On Your Doorstep

EXPLORE • DISCOVER • REMEMBER

- A local history study of our school, our village and Lowther Castle.
- What was our local area like in the past?
- What has changed and what has stayed the same?
- How has our school changed over time?



Art & DT

CREATE • DESIGN • MAKE

- Recycle Robots.
- Local landscapes and artists.
- Packaging.
- From farm to fork cooking.



Computing

EXPLORE • CONNECT • BE SAFE

- Systems and searching.
- How information moves between devices.
- How the web and search engines work.



PE & Outdoor Learning

BE ACTIVE • BE HEALTHY • BE YOUR BEST

- Traditional dances of the British Isles.
- Football/rugby.
- Gymnastics.
- Forest School and EVSP sports events.



PSHE

BE KIND • BE RESPECTFUL • BELONG

- Jigsaw scheme.
- Being Me in My World.
- Celebrating Difference.



RE

EXPLORE • REFLECT • RESPECT

- Buddhism.
- The True Meaning of Christmas.



Music

LISTEN • PLAY • PERFORM

- This Little Light of Mine.
- Fanfare for the Common Man.
- Christmas production and concerts.



French

EXPLORE • SPEAK • DISCOVER

- In the Classroom.
- Do You Have a Pet?

Bonjour!



Homework

PRACTISE • BUILD CONFIDENCE • SUCCEED

- Set on Monday and handed in the following Monday.
- Spelling menu activity plus EdShed practice.
- Times tables practice through a mission menu.
- Regular reading recorded in reading record.



Respect • Responsibility • Resilience • Teamwork •

Achieving, Caring, Enjoying

Proud to be Badgers ♥



LOWTHER ENDOWED SCHOOL
& LITTLE VIPS DAY CARE



Together in our community

MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING

Come along, have a cuppa, enjoy some cake
and help us raise money for a worthy cause.



**FRIDAY
25TH SEPTEMBER**



2:30pm – 4:30pm



Families are welcome
to come for a tea or coffee
and purchase some cake
to help raise money for
Macmillan Cancer Support.

**MACMILLAN
CANCER SUPPORT
RIGHT THERE WITH YOU**



We would greatly
appreciate any donations
of cakes (or bakes) by 9am
on Thursday 24th September.



Any left overs will be sold
on both sites on
Monday 28th September.

Let's come together
to make a difference.

**WORLD'S
BIGGEST
COFFEE
MORNING**

Our school values: 'Achieving, Caring, Enjoying'





LOWTHER ENDOWED SCHOOL
& LITTLE VIPS DAY CARE

Achieving • Caring • Enjoying

Stay & Play

COMING TOGETHER • EXPLORING • GROWING



We warmly invite families with younger children to come and visit **Red Squirrels** and **Hedgehogs Class** at Lowther Endowed School and Little Vips Daycare.

1:30 – 3:00pm

REFRESHMENTS AVAILABLE

UPCOMING DATES

THURSDAY 24th SEPTEMBER	FRIDAY 23rd OCTOBER	THURSDAY 19th NOVEMBER	FRIDAY 11th DECEMBER
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All families welcome!
A relaxed opportunity to meet our team, explore our spaces, see how we work together and enjoy time together.



Stronger together, supporting every child to thrive

Our school values: 'Achieving, Caring, Enjoying'

