

PENNINGTON CHURCH OF ENGLAND SCHOOL  
PENNINGTON  
Nr. ULVERSTON  
CUMBRIA LA12 ORR.

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Web: [www.penn.cumbria.sch.uk](http://www.penn.cumbria.sch.uk)

Head Teacher: Mrs Helen Storey

Autumn Term Newsletter 05 - 21/11/2025

Dear Parents and Carers

### **Special Mentions**

Congratulations to our children whose special achievements were celebrated with our Special Mention Certificates in our Collective Worship.



**Term time holidays and illness** - What happens if my child is unwell and unable to attend school immediately before or following a leave of absence?

You should notify the school of your child's illness following the normal procedure. The school will refer any absence that includes a holiday if it is longer than five days (10 sessions). The School Inclusion Officer can request official booking details of the holiday in order to demonstrate the sickness was genuine and not a way of avoiding a penalty notice.

### **FoP - Christmas Cards and Other Festive Items**

Class Fundraising are once again supplying items for our Christmas fundraising project - details of how to order have been sent home with the children, along with a copy of their design and their unique design code. The second shop will open on **21<sup>st</sup> November - 1<sup>st</sup> December**

The organisation code is NS3L26 and link is:

<https://shop.classfundraising.co.uk/>

### **Christmas Craft Day - Friday 28<sup>th</sup> November**

On Christmas craft day all classes make Christmas decorations for classrooms and communal areas of the school. Children can wear their own clothes, we suggest not their best clothes as they will be cutting, gluing and creating. If any parents/grandparents would like to join us and help, please send a message to your child's class teacher via Dojo.

Children can wear non-uniform for a donation towards the tombolas that we will run at the school Christmas Fair. We ask that Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 bring a contribution towards the chocolate tombola and Years 3,4,5 and 6 bring a bottle of something, eg shower gel, bubble bath, ketchup, olive oil, wine, etc. If they are glass bottles, they should be transported carefully or brought in by an adult. The more prizes we collect, the better the tombolas. Thank you in advance for your contributions.

### **Church Decorations**

Pennington church have asked if the children will make some Christmas decorations for the church. This year they have a choice of creating:

- A Nativity scene in a shoebox.
- A candle (this may be a real candle which has been decorated or a candle drawing, painting or model).
- A Christmas bell.

This is a Christmas creative homework and we hope parents will be able to help children to participate. Be as creative as you can, decorations that light up look particularly effective. A little Christmas treat will be provided for those that participate.

### **Christmas Holidays**

On the last day of term, on Friday 19th December 2025, we will be finishing school at 1.30pm for Christmas. Please can you organise for your children to be collected at 1.30pm. Thank you.

### Year 4 Coffee Morning

Thank you to all the Year 4 children and their families for making their coffee morning a huge success, £121.00 was raised and £60 was donated to Children in Need.

### Bromcom - My Child at School (MCAS)

Just a reminder that My Child At School (MCAS) is a parent portal and app, created by the school management system provider Bromcom, that allows parents to view and manage their child's school-related information, such as attendance, online payments for school-related costs like trips and after school clubs. This has been rolled out to parents. You will need to download the app 'MyChildAtSchool' - please find link to **user guide** below. (We will still be using Parentpay until early next year.)

<https://d3kchveacp7yrb.cloudfront.net/2020/08/MCAS-Parent-Guide-July-24-New-UI-version-1.pdf>

### Outdoor days

We will continue offering regular outdoor days for all classes this year. Children will need to wear suitable outdoor clothing for the weather conditions. They should have a waterproof coat, enough warm clothes and wellies or old trainers. Please see below dates for outdoor learning days.

Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> December	Y2
Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup> December	Reception
Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> December	Y1

### School Hub

Please can we remind parents to choose their child's lunch from the School Hub website. You can order up to 2 weeks in advance. If you have any problems with your login details, please contact the school office. For those children in Reception Class, Year 1 and 2 who prefer to bring a packed lunch from home please can you inform the school office via the School Hub option **PACKED LUNCH FROM HOME**. Thank you in advance for your co-operation.

### New Reception Class Children September 2026 Appointments

We have shown some prospective new parents around school over the last few weeks. If you know anybody who is interested in a school place for their child in September, please ask them to contact school and Mrs Storey will be very happy to show them round.

The procedure for applying for a place will be found on the Westmorland and Furness Website. Please apply online. **The closing date for applications is 15 January 2025.**

<https://legacy.westmorlandandfurness.gov.uk/childrensservices/schoolsandlearning/lss/schooladmissions.asp>

## Christmas Events

Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> November	Christmas Craft Day/Non uniform
Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> December	Friends of Pennington Christmas Fair
Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Jumper Day
Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> December - pm	Reception Christmas Party
Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> December - pm	Year 1 and Year 2 Christmas Party
Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup> December - pm	Year 3 and Year 4 Christmas Party
Wednesday 17 <sup>th</sup> December	Reception Class, Y1 & Y2 School Hub Christmas Lunch
Wednesday 17 <sup>th</sup> December - pm	Year 5 and Year 6 Christmas Party
Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> December - 10.00am	Nativity Service - Reception Class, Y1 and Y2 (parents invited)
Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> December - 1.30pm	KS2 Carol Service (parents invited)
Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> December	<b>1.30pm BREAK UP FOR CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS</b>
Sunday 21 <sup>st</sup> December	Pennington Church family carol service with school choir all welcome - time TBC
Wednesday 7 <sup>th</sup> January 2024	Return to school

## Facebook

Do you follow us on Facebook? We post all our activities on this page, including Special Mentions, classroom activities, outdoor learning days, sports events, school trips, school residentials and Friends of Pennington information. It is often the quickest way to receive information about what is going on in school.





## After School Clubs

All clubs need to be booked, paid for and permission given through ParentPay. There will be a nominal charge for clubs run by school staff to cover resources and sports/outside providers will be charged to cover their time. We still consider this to be good value. Thank you to staff for giving their time freely to offer these opportunities. Clubs will start as soon as we return to school on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> November for 6 weeks. To enable that we know your child is safe, please can you let school know if your child is not going to be able to attend their after-school club. Thank you.



## After School Clubs - Autumn 2 2025

Day	Activity	Leader	Where?	Time
Monday	<b>Football</b> Year 4, 5 and 6 £15.00	Isaac	School Playing Field Hall when wet	3.15-4.15pm
	<b>Bracelet making</b> Year 5 & 6 £6.00 (FULL)	Miss John	Year 3 Classroom	3.15-4.15pm
	<b>Maths Club</b> Year 6 (By invitation only)	Mrs Holiday	Year 6 Classroom	3.15 - 4.15pm
Tuesday	<b>Colouring club</b> Year 4, 5 & 6 £6.00 (FULL)	Miss Steel	Year 3 Classroom	3.15-4.15pm
	<b>Film club</b> Year 1, 2 & 3 £6.00 (FULL)	Miss John	School Hall	3.15-4.15pm
Wednesday	<b>Football</b> Year 1, 2 & 3 £15.00	Isaac	School Playing Field Hall when wet	3.15-4.15pm
	<b>Stay and Play</b> Year 4, 5 & 6 £6.00 (30 places)	Miss Simona & Miss John	School Playing Field Hall when wet	3.15-4.15pm
Thursday	<b>Christmas Craft Club</b> Year 4, 5 and 6 £6.00 (FULL)	Mrs Baldwin	Year 4 Classroom	3.15 - 4.15pm
Friday	<b>Christmas Choir</b> Year 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 & 6 £6.00 (FULL)	Mr Fleming	Year 4 Classroom	3.15 - 4.15pm
	<b>Chess Club</b> Year 3, 4, 5 & 6 (20 places) £6.00	Mrs Hockaday	Year 6 Classroom	3.15 - 4.15pm

# SCHOOL TERM DATES 2025/2026



## AUTUMN TERM 2025

<u>STARTS</u>	<u>ENDS</u>	<u>HALF - TERM HOLIDAY</u>
Wednesday 3 September	Friday 19 December	Monday 27 October - Friday 31 October
Number of school days in term - 73		

## SPRING TERM 2026

<u>STARTS</u>	<u>ENDS</u>	<u>HALF - TERM HOLIDAY</u>
Wednesday 7 January	Friday 27 March	Monday 16 February - Friday 20 February
Number of school days in term - 53		

## SUMMER TERM 2026

<u>STARTS</u>	<u>ENDS</u>	<u>HALF - TERM HOLIDAY</u>
Monday 13 April	Friday 17 July	Monday 25 May - Friday 29 May
Good Friday - 3 April Easter Sunday - 5 April Easter Monday - 6 April May Bank Holiday - 4 May		

Number of school days in term -64

Number of days in year - 190

INSET Days: Monday 1 and Tuesday 2 September  
Tuesday 6 January

# SCHOOL TERM DATES 2026/2027



## AUTUMN TERM 2026

<u>STARTS</u>	<u>ENDS</u>	<u>HALF - TERM HOLIDAY</u>
Wednesday 2 September	Friday 18 December	Monday 26 October - Friday 30 October
Number of school days in term - 73		

## SPRING TERM 2027

<u>STARTS</u>	<u>ENDS</u>	<u>HALF - TERM HOLIDAY</u>
Wednesday 5 January	Friday 25 march	Monday 15 February - Friday 19 February
Number of school days in term - 53		

## SUMMER TERM 2027

<u>STARTS</u>	<u>ENDS</u>	<u>HALF - TERM HOLIDAY</u>
Monday 12 April	Friday 16 July	Monday 31 May - Friday 3 June
Good Friday - 26 March Easter Sunday - 28 March Easter Monday - 29 March May Bank Holiday - 3 May		

Number of school days in term -64

Number of days in year - 190

INSET Days:       Tuesday 1 September  
                          Tuesday 4 January

# Friends of Pennington

## Christmas products

The children's completed designs have been uploaded to the Class Fundraising website and are available for parents to review and purchase online.

There are a wide range of products available to buy, such as cards, cushions, mugs, gift wrap and many more.

**Next date for orders is 21<sup>st</sup> November - 1<sup>st</sup> December!**

All purchases will be delivered to the school and distributed via the children in plenty of time for Christmas. Look out for updates!

## Christmas Family Fun Night!!

We are busy organising the Christmas Family Fun Night, we need your help!!!

The event will be held on Thursday 4th December 6-8pm and the cost of tickets will be £8.00 per family and £3.00 for individual tickets.

If you can support with any of the following, please get in touch via email with:

Carly Baird, Amanda Dexter and Stella Baldwin on [FoP@penn.cumbria.sch.uk](mailto:FoP@penn.cumbria.sch.uk) or telephone the school office.

🎟️ Raffle Prizes

From friends/family or local business

🍰 Cakes for our cake stall

🎁 Second hand toys and teddies to sell

🎄 New Christmas Decorations for Christmas Cottage

👶 Christmas Jumpers to Sell

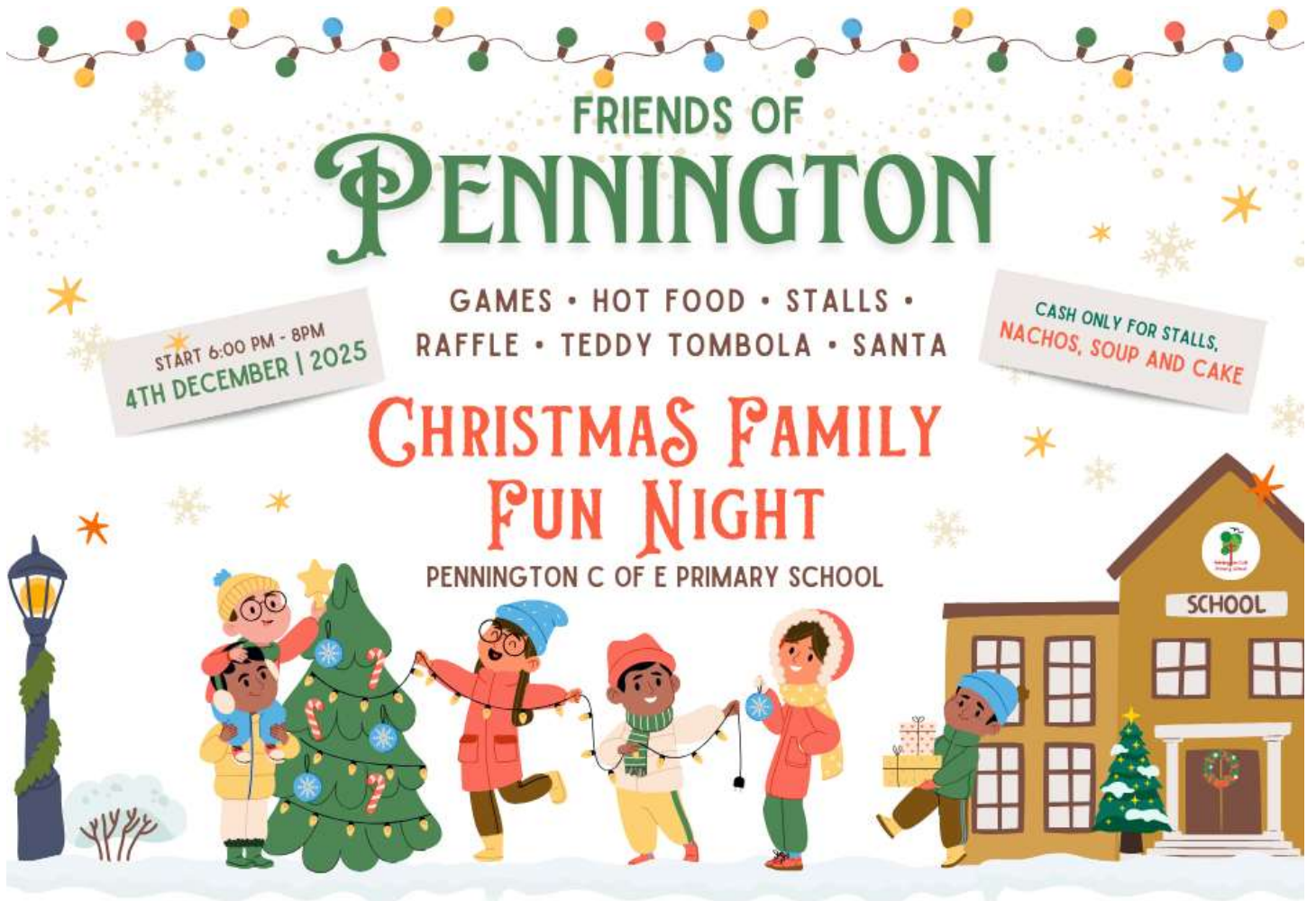
👥👥 Volunteers

To help set up before the event, Decorate Christmas Cottage or run the volunteer led stalls on the night

**For all other donations, please can these be brought into school from Monday 1<sup>st</sup> December.**

Thank you, as always, for your help and support.





TICKETS ONLY AVAILABLE @

[HTTPS://WWW.PTA-EVENTS.CO.UK/FRIENDSOPENNINGTON](https://www.pta-events.co.uk/friendsofpennington)

FAMILY TICKET £8

Two adults plus two children, babies and toddlers free!

SINGLE TICKET £3

Our Christmas Fair is one of our biggest annual fund raisers. It is a family-friendly, fun event and we encourage you to join us.

Family tickets are £8.00 and individual tickets £3.00. The ticket price includes a visit to Father Christmas, juice and a drink for children and a glass of mulled wine and mince pie for adults.

Stalls, food and drink will be **cash only**. We will be holding a second-hand Christmas stall to include Christmas jumpers and Christmas books and would welcome some donations. We also hope to have a teddy tombola and bric-a-brack stall. Year 6 will be running games and we may have visiting stall holders from the local community, if you or anyone you know is interested in running a stall, please contact us. There are also hot food, drink and cake stalls and a fabulous grand raffle.

Carly, Stella and Amanda.

Friends of Pennington School

Email us at [FoP@penn.cumbria.sch.uk](mailto:FoP@penn.cumbria.sch.uk) to get in touch

FRIENDS OF PENNINGTON

# JOIN OUR FRIENDLY PTA!

THE FRIENDS OF PENNINGTON SCHOOL ENRICH SCHOOL LIFE BY ORGANIZING ENJOYABLE EVENTS AND CRUCIAL FUNDRAISING EFFORTS THAT BENEFIT OUR CHILDREN.

## HIGHLIGHTS OF OUR PTA EVENTS:

SCHOOL DISCOS | MOVIE NIGHTS | BOUNCEFEST | CHRISTMAS FAIR | FUN EVENTS | NETWORKING OPPORTUNITIES | SKILL DEVELOPMENT

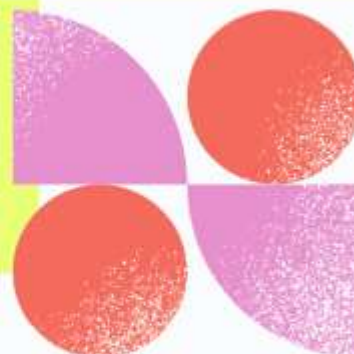
WE ARE SEEKING NEW VOLUNTEERS TO ASSIST US IN THESE ESSENTIAL ROLES:

- CHAIRPERSON (FROM JAN 2026)
- TREASURER (FROM JAN 2026)
- SECRETARY (FROM JAN 2026)
- GENERAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS
- OCCASIONAL VOLUNTEER SUPPORT AT EVENTS

IF YOU'RE INTERESTED OR WOULD LIKE TO FIND OUT MORE, PLEASE CONTACT US AT [FOP@PENN.CUMBRIA.SCH.UK](mailto:FOP@PENN.CUMBRIA.SCH.UK)

APPLICATIONS BY:

**MON 3<sup>RD</sup> NOVEMBER**



PENNINGTON  
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CUMBRIA LA12 ORR.

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Web: [www.penn.cumbria.sch.uk](http://www.penn.cumbria.sch.uk)

*Head Teacher: Mrs Helen Storey*

Dear Parents/Carers

### **Pupil Premium and Free School Meals**

If your child is eligible for 'free school meals' and you register them for this, we'll receive extra funding called 'pupil premium'. We use this extra money to improve the educational provision and resources at the school.

### **What is pupil premium funding?**

Pupil premium funding from the government is given to schools to help pupils reach their full potential, regardless of their background or financial situation. It's provided for pupils who:

- Are registered for free school meals
- Have been registered for free school meals at any point in the past 6 years
- Are, or have been, in care
- Have parents in the armed forces

At Pennington, we get an extra £1,515 for every eligible pupil who is registered for free school meals. This extra money could make a real difference to the quality of education we offer.

For example, we've previously used pupil premium funding for:

- Educational provision/resources
- Academic interventions
- Wellbeing and self-esteem building interventions

### **Is my child eligible for free school meals?**

To be eligible for free school meals, your family's annual household income must be no higher than:

- £22,700 for families outside of London with one child
- £26,300 for families outside of London with two or more children

This includes any wider income or support you may be getting and any earnings from employment.

You must also have less than £16,000 in savings, including any shares, investments and bank accounts - but not including your home.

Your child may be able to get free school meals if you receive any of the following:

- Income Support
- income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- the guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit - Provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit, also your annual gross income is no more than £16,190
- Working Tax Credit run-on - paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit - if your household income is less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get)
- children who get these benefits paid to them, instead of through a parent or guardian, can also claim free school meals.



Your child may also claim free school meals if you get any of these benefits and your child is both:

- younger than the compulsory age for starting school
- in full-time education
- free school meals are available to statutory school aged children attending full time education. Full time education is defined as full days from 9am to 3pm, this excludes private nurseries and further education colleges.

### **When not to apply**

If you receive working tax credits you may not be eligible for free school meals or clothing grants.

### **Universal infant free school meals**

Currently, pupils in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 are entitled to a free school meal thanks to a different government funding scheme known as universal infant free school meals (UIFSM). You shouldn't confuse UIFSM with free school meals and the pupil premium.

If your child is in Reception, Year 1 or Year 2 and is eligible for free school meals according to the criteria above, you should still register because we'll receive the extra pupil premium funding.

### **Does my child have to eat the free school meals?**

No. Pupils who are registered for free school meals don't have to eat them. If you're eligible but you want your child to have packed lunches you should still register because the school will receive the funding which can support your child in other ways.

### **How do I register?**

You only need to register once at the school.

To register and for more information about applying for free school meals, please click on the following link:

<https://www.westmorlandandfurness.gov.uk/schools-and-education/free-school-meals-and-clothing-vouchers>

### **More information**

For more information about pupil premium go to our website, which contains details of how the pupil premium has been spent in the past academic year and how it will be spent this year.

Kind regards

Mrs Storey  
Headteacher

**BBC**  
**CHILDREN**  
**IN NEED**

**WE RAISED**

**£359.00**

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**TO MAKE LIFE LIGHTER FOR CHILDREN**

**THANK  
YOU**





**Pennington CE Primary School  
Poppy Appeal 2025**

**Collection Total**

**£164.17**

**On Behalf of The Royal British Legion  
Poppy Appeal**

**A very BIG Thank You!**





Would you like the chance to win one of 2 x £250 vouchers to spend in time for Christmas?

The Active Travel to School team wants to hear from you!

If you have a child attending a nursery, primary or secondary school in Cumbria, you are eligible to enter the prize draw.

Simply complete a short survey on how your child gets to school, how often you walk, wheel or cycle on the school run, and tell us about any challenges that may prevent you from having an active school commute.

This will help us understand how often families travel to school using physical activity such as walking, wheeling, scooting or cycling and what measures can support you on your daily school commute!

Remember to complete the survey by Friday 12 December 2025 to enter the draw to win one of 2 x £250 vouchers here: <https://surveymechanics.com/s/activetraveltoschool>



# Merry Christmas!



## December Timetable

All sessions delivered live online via zoom. 90 minutes long

**£24 each or FREE with School Membership**

Book online at [facefamilyadvice.co.uk](http://facefamilyadvice.co.uk)

Recordings available for 48 hours (excluding Free Talk)

Decreasing Depression	1 DEC 10am
Raising Self Esteem	1 DEC 7pm
Understanding the Teenage Brain	2 DEC 10am
Supporting Healthy Sleep	2 DEC 7pm
Autism - Improving Communication	8 DEC 10am
Improving Family Communication	8 DEC 7pm
Supporting A Child with ADHD	9 DEC 10am
Understanding Addictive Behaviour	9 DEC 7pm
Anxiety Based School Avoidance	15 DEC 10am
Understanding Anger	15 DEC 7pm
Supporting Healthy Screen Use	16 DEC 10am
Facing Defiance	16 DEC 7pm





 <h2>Rainbows</h2> <p><b>For ages 4 to 7</b></p> <p>At Rainbows, girls play, learn and have tons of fun</p>	 <h2>Brownies</h2> <p><b>For ages 7 to 10</b></p> <p>At Brownies, girls have nonstop fun, learning and adventure</p>	 <h2>Guides</h2> <p><b>For ages 10 to 14</b></p> <p>At Guides, girls laugh, learn and expand their horizons</p>	 <h2>Rangers</h2> <p><b>For ages 14 to 18</b></p> <p>At Rangers, girls have fun, hangout, learn more and give back</p>
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**Girlguiding**

*Lindal Rainbows and Brownies*

Lindal Rainbows and Brownies have spaces for girls aged 4-10. Please search Girlguiding Join Us to register interest or email, [1peterand1vicki@gmail.com](mailto:1peterand1vicki@gmail.com)

### Winter Flu catch up clinics

Please find below the dates & locations where our vaccination clinics are being held:-

- Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> November @ The Blackhall Unit - WGH **Kendal** - 3pm-5.30pm
- Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> December @ **Barrow** Library in the Hub - 3pm - 5.30pm
- Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> December @ The Blackhall Unit - WGH **Kendal** - 3pm-5.30pm
- Monday 15<sup>th</sup> December @ **Ulverston** Community Health Centre - 3pm-5.30pm
- Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> December @ The Blackhall Unit - WGH **Kendal** - 3pm-5.30pm

# E-School Nurse Clinic

(By appointment only)

Twice weekly health support and advice for parents, carers and professionals who are supporting children and young people aged 5-19 years old.



## Tuesday and Thursday

Telephone for an appointment

# 0300 304 9039

You will be able to talk to a school nurse, the contact will be private, secure and confidential. In consultation with you, the nurse will assess the child or young person's health problem and provide you with the support and advice needed.



Westmorland  
& Furness  
Council