



Great Wood News

February 2026



This month's value is Equality

We are sharing our **Singathon** with parents this week

- R, Y1, Y2 MONDAY Feb 2nd 2:45pm start
- Ys 3,4,5 & 6 TUESDAY Feb 3rd 9:00am start
- Each class has prepared a song to share from the musical theatre genre.
- Prepare for a squeeze in the hall.

There are Year 3 assemblies two mornings of the following week.

Parent Evening Time Slots are sent home with pupils on Friday Feb 6th. We are piloting telephone appointment in first hour of the day of parents' evening to ease the pressure in the evening; hopefully it will help timings go smoothly.



Miss Punter, formerly Mrs Kennedy, is retiring after 20 years service to the Great Wood Community. Working part time and covering teachers for leadership responsibilities, she teaches throughout the school. Her last day will be Wednesday 11th February.

On – Line Safety Week

Children are learning how to stay safe on-line in school – At home please think about children's use of screens and what they have access to. Also what children don't get to do when they are on screens. The book *Zombie Generation* available for check out at the school office describes how brains the impact of screen time on young brains – and though there are benefits for children to access technology there are dangers – apps are generally designed to be addictive.

Great Wood teams have been attending football, dodgeball and athletics competitions – Please see our Facebook page for news on these – the 3 most recent posts are on our website for non FB users.

During On-line Safety Week – share with other parents. Get conversations going and help each other.

- What actions do you take at home to make sure that your child does not have access to unsafe content online?
- With screentime being addictive and having the potential to rewire the brain – how do you limit screentime at home?

Year 4 Maxwell had a lovely send off by the children. He lived closed to school and the children were forewarned the cortege would the playground at lunch playtime on the way to the funeral. The respect the children showed, silent and waving, was deeply touching for the family and staff – they then went back to play with happy memories of Maxwell. We will be installing a bench in his memory.

The PTA have been planning ahead. Make sure Saturday June 20th is kept free for the Summer Festival. They are having a Bake Sale after school on Wednesday 11th February and would welcome donations of baked goods. A Valentine theme perhaps.

Looking ahead to **World Book Day** - Thursday 5th March 2026



On World Book Day we would like children to dress as a word. We would encourage you to choose a word with your child and discuss what the word means. There is no need to buy pricey outfits. With a little imagination, dress up costumes can be created with little/no cost. Dressing as a word enables us to focus on discussing and exploring vocabulary – something that is hugely beneficial for the children. The children were so creative last year! If you are stuck, there are a huge amount of ideas online with a quick google search. The outfit can be as simple or as creative as you choose and it does not stop children dressing as a character – just think of a word that is suitable for that character!

Your child should come to school dressed as their word with their word presented either on their outfit or on a piece of card. Please feel free to include the definition, especially if you think your child will have difficulty explaining what their word means!

Housekeeping

February 26	
w/c 2 nd	Online Safety Week
Mon 2 nd	2:45pm Infant <u>Singathon</u> for Parents Governors <u>Curriculum</u> meeting
Tues 3 rd	9:00 Junior <u>Singathon</u> for Parents
Wed 11 th	9:00 3HN Class Assembly
Wed 11 th	3:20 PTA Bake Sale in Mini Hall
<u>Thur 12th</u>	9:00 3CH Class Assembly
<u>Thur 12th</u>	PARENT'S EVENING
16 th – 20 th	School Closed
Mon 23 rd	Return to School
March 26	
Thu 5 th	World Book Day
w/c 9 th	Safety Week – Life Education Visits
Wed 11 th	Spring Discos
16 th – 27 th	Y5 <u>Bikeability</u> group sessions.
Mon 23 rd	Governors' Meeting
Wed 25 th	1:45pm Y4 Play for Parents
<u>Thur 26th</u>	2pm – <u>Barnados</u> – Teenage Brain – <u>Workhop</u> for parents. 6:00pm Y4 Play for Parents
Fri 27 th	1pm Snuggle up with a Book – bring blankets & book

We had a morning this week when there were about 30 children standing in pouring rain, looking into the hall hoping to be let in at 8:35am School hours start from 8:45am and classroom doors aren't opened before then. There was a club on in the hall and when there is capacity in the hall we have let children stand inside out of the rain, however this can't be relied on. We are happy that pupils are independent and coming to school on their own, however, particularly when it is foul weather, don't let them leave too early. The playground is supervised from 8:45am.

We are also having children saying they haven't had breakfast – 3 in one lower-junior class, this morning. Please make sure that children are set up for the day. Getting up earlier can help.

Message from a neighbour- I am a resident of Easdale Avenue, which is a single-lane cul-de-sac. It is becoming increasingly frustrating and concerning due to the number of parents who continue to park on this road during drop-off times.

This morning, a parent parked directly blocking my driveway, which is unacceptable. Residents need to be able to leave their homes safely and on time for our own school runs and work commitments.

Parking on this road makes it extremely difficult to access and exit driveways, and blocking driveways is in no way reasonable or safe. I would appreciate it if parents could be reminded that Easdale Avenue is a single-lane road and that parking here causes significant disruption to residents. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Community News and Support

Lancaster & Morecambe Additional Needs What's On Guide Spring 26

<p>Lancashire Break Time Short Breaks Offer https://bit.ly/3sYDE6r BOOKING ESSENTIAL Morecambe Road School – MoRo's Mon – Fri 9.30-3.30 Ages 4-18. 01524 414384 f.gill@moremcaberoad.lancs.sch.uk Unique Kidz and Co Mon-Fri 10-4 Ages 4-18 01524 831132 services@uniquekidzandco.org.uk Bowerham Kids Club 01524 63999 Lots of other providers across the county including Outdoor offers at Towerwood & Borwick Hall. Go to the Lancashire Local Offer and search Lancashire Break time or go to the Lancashire Local Offer facebook Page</p>	<p>BEE Unique Autism www.bookwhen.com/beeunique Range of activities and coffee mornings hosted across Lancashire and South Cumbria, no diagnosis necessary but booking essential on all family activities. No need to book for coffee mornings. Activities include: Swimming at Lune Valley Swimming Pool, X Height Climbing Wall, Jump Rush Trampoline, Soft Play @ Salt Ayre and Hugo's Other activities from Bee Unique on offer in Carlisle, Whitehaven, Keswick, Penrith, Kendal, Preston. Details on Book When web link above.</p>	<p>Disability Friendly sessions at Jump Rush Morecambe Ages 5+ Thursdays 4.00-5.00 £6.00 per jumper (carer jumps for free) Siblings welcome www.jump-rush.com</p>	<p>Before setting off to join an activity, please check with the provider / venue in case you need to pre-book and any info about your child that would help the session leaders is shared. Unless specified, no diagnosis or proof of diagnosis is needed to access any of the groups.</p>
<p>Escape2Make www.escape2make.org Lots of FREE opportunities for 11-18 yr olds (Not SEN exclusive) sessions are fully inclusive.</p>	<p>SEND parent peer support group 1.00-3.00 at Lune Park Family hub 1st Friday of the month 01524 581280. Parent peer support with ASD pathway Navigator and other services e.g. SENDIAS, Family Hub staff and others.</p>	<p>Autism Friendly Screening at Reel Cinema Morecambe and Vue Cinema Lancaster Vue: last Sunday of the month normally around 10am Check Vue website or NLDG page for details Reel: check Reel website or NLDG page for details</p>	
<p>X Height Climbing Wall Salt Ayre SEN sessions Thursdays 4pm & 5pm. There are 8 spaces per session, ages 5+ siblings welcome. £8.00 per climber. Book via Salt Ayre Leisure Centre www.lancaster.gov.uk</p>	<p>EASY - SEND Youth Group Ages 12-25 Morecambe Library 6.15 – 8.30 Booking essential 01524 581280 Claire.Armer@lancashire.gov.uk</p>	<p>Colourful Footsteps parent peer support group Thursdays 1.00-2.30 at Lune Park Family Hub children under 8 welcome 01524 581280.</p>	
<p>Unique Kidz and Co Stay and Play 0-5's Wednesdays 10-12 / Thursdays 12-2 Unique Coffee and Cake Salt Ayre Café 12/9/25 10-12 Woodhill Lane Morecambe L44NW .No need to book, Unique Kidz Siblings group Thursday Evenings for 8-18 yr olds. Unique Toyz Free lending library https://uniquetoyz.lend-engine.com/ email info@uniquekidzandco.org.uk</p>	<p>CHATS Parent Peer Support (Not SEN Specific but all welcome) Social Café meets at More Music Morecambe 1st Friday of the month 10-12 , Connections Meeting 2nd Thursday of month More Music 10-12, Also Zoom sessions last Thursday of month 7-8.30 and Connections Fairs at More Music chatnorthwest@gmail.com</p>	<p>SEND Roadshow 15th April 9.30-1.00 Lune Park Family Hub Lancaster FREE event for families to meet service providers and connect with other families</p>	
<p>For more information on local activities during term time, school holidays and after school, please go to: Lancashire Local Offer: www.Lancashire.gov.uk/SEND Local Offer facebook page: www.Facebook.com/LancashireLocalOffer North Lancashire Directions Group Facebook page: www.facebook.com/NLDGAdditionalNeedsSupport</p>			

PTO for QR codes

SEND support GROUP

SUPPORTED BY SCHOOL AGE AUTISM PATHWAY NAVIGATOR

MEET OTHER PARENTS/CARERS

GAIN SUPPORT AND ADVICE, NO DIAGNOSIS NECESSARY

INFO AND ADVICE FROM SEND SERVICES

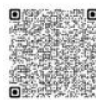
DATES FOR 2026
 FRIDAY 9TH JANUARY
 FRIDAY 6TH FEBRUARY
 FRIDAY 6TH MARCH
 1-3PM

LUNE PARK FAMILY HUB

Come and find out how to get the best out of family life



We will be running the Nurture parenting Programme in 2026
 Call 01524 581280 to book on or see QR link below



Centre	Time	Date
Westgate	9:30-11:30	12/1/2026
Lune Park	9:30- 11:30	15/1/2026
Westgate	9:30- 11:30	20/4/2026
Lune Park	9:30- 11:30	23/4/2026
Westgate	9:30-11:30	14/9/2026
Lune Park	9:30-11:30	17/9/2026



The Nurture Parenting Programme

How to get the best out of family life

Children are rewarding, stimulating and fun, but looking after them can be stressful and challenging. The Nurturing Programme helps deal with those challenges.

Centre	Time	Date
Westgate	9:30-11:30	12/1/2026
Lune Park	9:30- 11:30	15/1/2026
Westgate	9:30- 11:30	20/4/2026
Lune Park	9:30- 11:30	23/4/2026
Westgate	9:30-11:30	14/9/2026
Lune Park	9:30-11:30	17/9/2026

This programme is for parents with children aged 3-11 years and runs for 10 weeks.
 Call 01524 581280 to book on or see QR link below

Lancashire SEND IAS Information, advice and support for Special Educational Needs and Disability

Making Sense of SEND

Does your child struggle in school?

Do you know what help is available for them?

Are you confused by the words and abbreviations that are used in meetings?

Do you want to know more?

Do you know how to find information, advice and support for yourself?

You are invited to attend this FREE five-week course.

Fridays, 27th February – 27th March
 9:30am – 11:30am
 County Hall
 Fishergate
 Preston
 PR1 8XJ

To register complete the registration form:
[Making Sense of SEND Information and Awareness Course – Fill in form](#)

There are limited places, we will confirm your place via email.

What's on at our centres?

Spring 2026 Jan - Feb



Morecambe Central (Library) LA4 5DL



Monday	Thursday	Saturday
Development Matters (0-5 years) 9.30am-11am	Coffee & Connect 9.30am-11.30am 1st Thursday of the month	MATCH 10am-12 noon Every 1st Saturday of the month
Infant Massage (Pre-book) 1pm-2pm	Baby & You Sensory Time (0- to pre-walking) 1pm-2pm	
School's Out (8-11 years) 3.30pm-4.45pm	Friday NCT Breastfeeding Peer Group 11.30am-1pm	

Monday

Baby & You (0-pre-walking) 10am-11am

Lune Park LA1 2LN



Tuesday

Mucky Makers 9.30am - 10.30am

Wednesday

Development Matters 9.45am-11.15am

Friday

Mini Move & Groove (0-5 years) 9.30am-11am

Thursday

Infant Massage (Pre-book) 11am-12pm

Colourful Footsteps (0-8 years Additional Needs) 1pm-2.30pm

SEND Support Group 1pm-3pm
1st Friday of the month

Chatter Play (0-5 years) 1pm - 2.30pm



Wellcom Screen (Pre-book) 1pm-2.30pm



Westgate Hub LA4 4XF

Tuesday

Baby & You (0-pre-walking) 10am-11am

Thursday

Chatter Play (0-5 years) 9.30am-11am

Friday

Development Matters (0-5 years) 9.30am-11.00am



Infant Massage (Pre book) 1pm-2pm

Babbling Babies (0-18 months) 1pm-2pm

Carnforth LA5 9LS



Monday

The Listening Lounge 9.30am-11.30am
1st Monday of the month

Friday

Carnforth Food Club 2pm-4pm
To sign up email members@eggcup.org or call 01524 928027

Babbling Babies (0-18 months) 1pm-2pm



School's Out (8-11 years) 3.30pm-4.30pm

Sandylands Community Hub LA3 1EJ

Tuesday

Early Explorers 9.15am-10.15am

Salt Ayre Leisure Centre LA1 5JS

Thursday

Ready, Steady, Go! 1pm-2.30pm

Firbank Centre LA1 3HL

Wednesday

Infant Massage (Pre book) 1pm-2pm

Online

Wednesday

Virtual Brew & You 10.30-11.30am
Virtual peer support drop-in for Mental health
Please call 01524 581280 for more information

Courses

Our bookable sessions/courses are:

- Bump, Birth & Beyond (Antenatal)
- Infant Massage (Attachment and Bonding)
- Wellcom Screening (Speech and Language)
- Nurture Parenting Programme (Parenting Support)
- New Horizons (Self-esteem and Personal Development)



To book onto these, please call us on 01524 581280, book online at the link below:
<https://events.apps.lancashire.gov.uk/en/webpage/all-events> or scan the QR Code.

01524 581280



Lancaster and Morecambe Family Hubs



Lancasterfamilyhub@lancashire.gov.uk

Children and Family Wellbeing Service

LANCASHIRE FAMILY HUBS NETWORK

Lancashire County Council



Mental Health Support



Lancashire and South Cumbria Thrive Service
Mental Health Support Service
01772 505138 thrivesc@barnardos.org.uk

The service offers therapeutic one-to-one, group work and counselling support to children and young people aged 5 to 18 (extending to 25 years based on SEN need) within the whole of the Lancashire & South Cumbria Integrated Care Board (ICB) area.

Please note: The My Time to THRIVE Service is NOT a crisis service. We provide support to children & young people with low – moderate mental health needs. Services supporting children and young people's emotional health and wellbeing. We have centres where children and young people can visit and have a trained worker they can trust and talk to. We help them build their confidence and get to the root of their difficulties.

If you need urgent support, please contact your GP, the local CAMHS Crisis Team (via 0800 953 0110) or in an emergency, you should consider contacting Emergency Services or visit your local A&E department or Urgent Care facility.

Here are some other services and organisations, that may also be useful to you:

www.kooth.com www.youngminds.org.uk www.every-life-matters.org.uk



Kooth

www.Kooth.com

Lots of ways to get help

Kooth offers a comprehensive range of services specially designed to offer young people support in different ways. Everyone is different, at Kooth you can choose from different types of support to suit your needs.

Live text chat & messaging



Users can chat with trained counsellors and emotional wellbeing practitioners from 12pm to 10pm on weekdays and until 8pm on weekends. We are open 365 days a year, even on Christmas Day and other public holidays*

Self-Help Activities



Kooth provides a variety of self-help activities that users can engage in at their own pace. These activities are designed to help manage stress, anxiety, and other mental health issues.

Informative Articles



The platform hosts a library of articles written by both professionals and peers. These articles cover a wide range of topics relevant to young people's mental health and wellbeing.

Journaling and goal-setting



Kooth offers tools such as journaling and goal-setting to help users track their progress and manage their mental health more effectively.

* Chat hours may be reduced during public holidays

