

SIR JOHN BARROW SCHOOL

SUCCEEDING
ENJOYING
BELONGING

WEEKLY SNIPPETS

Friday 27th February 2026

Dear Parents, Carers and Families,

As we fly towards the final days of February, we are delighted to see the first few signs of spring! During this half-term, I hope to be involving the children (and any willing parents and family members) to help us give the various spaces around SJB a really good 'spring clean'! As you may have heard, we have plans to brighten up our Early Years outdoor space and we have already been gifted some kind donations from local shops and businesses! I am also keen to re-vitalise the garden area behind the school building to make the environment for the children as welcoming and relaxing as possible...more news/dates to follow!

Our Y6 children are getting very excited about their London adventure which starts next Wednesday morning (at 5.00am!) and keeps them fully busy and entertained until Friday evening (hopefully safely back in Ulverston by 9.30pm). We look forward to hearing about their fantastic experiences on their return! I would also like to welcome Miss Conway who has joined the Y2 team this week. Miss Conway is a final placement student who will be supporting the teaching and learning with the Y2 children during the spring and summer term - please make her feel welcome and supported!

Best wishes

Mr. Reddy and the SJB Team!

POLITE NOTICE: If you are reporting a student absent, please clearly state the reason for absence.

Office News - As you may have noticed we now have an operational hatch in the school office! Thank you for your patience whilst we have been waiting for the works to be completed. If you do need to speak to the office staff please use the hatch. When possible please contact the office on admin@sjbarrow.cumbria.sch.uk. Many thanks, Admin Team

Dates for Diaries - Week commencing:
Monday 2nd March 2026

MON	<u>Maths Club</u> Year 6 3.15-4.00pm email invite- Mr Maher <u>Multi Sports</u> Year 3 & 4 3.15-4.00pm Coach Tom <u>Music Festival Rehearsals</u> 3:15-4:15pm Mrs Fletcher
TUES	<u>Gymnastics Club</u> - KS2 8.00am Mrs Daley <u>Grammar Club</u> Year 6 3:15-4.00pm Mr Maher <u>Choir</u> - KS2 3:15-4.00pm CANCELLED
WED	<u>Athletics Club</u>- KS2-8.00am Mr Maher Cancelled
THUR	<u>Rugby/Dodgeball Club</u>- KS2 - 8.00am Mr Maher Cancelled <u>Maths Club</u> - Year 6 3.15-4.00pm- email invite- Mr Maher Cancelled <u>Recorder Club</u> 3:15-4.00pm Miss Sadler CANCELLED *NEW* Chess Club 3:15-4.30pm
FRI	<u>Running Club</u> KS1 & KS2 - 8am Mr Reddy <u>Year 3 & 4 Football</u>- 3.15-4.00pm Coach Jack <u>Ukulele Club</u> 3:15 - 4:00pm Miss Sadler CANCELLED <u>Multi-Sport</u> Y5 and Y6 3.15pm- 4.00pm Mr Maher <u>Dance with Louise</u> Y3 & Y4 3:15-4:00pm

Dates for Diaries

Lots more to follow, please keep checking...

4th-6th March: Y6 London trip

10th March: Y5 UVHS Taster Session

9th-13th March: Book Week

13th March: Fancy Dress for World Book Day

17-18th March: Y4 Liverpool trip

20th March: Comic Relief

20th March: Easter Rocksteady Concert

27th March: Break up for Easter holidays

13th April: Summer Term one begins

23rd April: Y5 Jodrell Bank Trip

11th-14th May: 2026 KS2 SATS

22nd May: Break up for half-term

1st June: Summer Term two begins

10th June: Y3 Manchester trip

7th July: Y5 Art Day - Felting

9th July: Y5 & Y6 Trip to Grasmere

17th July: Break up for Summer holidays



THIS WEEK'S PLAY UPDATE:

It's been wonderful to be back with our friends. Some new dressing-up items have sparked imaginations this week with thanks to Mrs Nevinson for the donation. On Monday we will announce two Golden Welly awards! There will be a Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 award for kind and creative play.



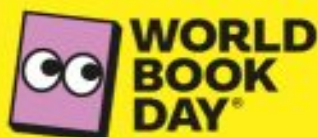
Wooden train set?



Some children have requested a wooden train set to play with - do you have an old Brio style train set that you could donate?

The Gift Junction

PROUDLY SUPPORTS



5 March 2026



9 King Street,
Ulverston, LA12 7DZ

Choose your £1 book for free
with your World Book Day book token

Sponsored by
**NATIONAL
BOOK
tokens**



Books are available in shops from 12 February until 15 March 2026

THE GIFT JUNCTION





Free kids table tennis sessions!

Did you know that Ulverston Table Tennis Club offers **free sessions** for school-aged kids, on a **Wednesday evening**?

From 6-7pm at Ulverston Park (formerly GSK Sports Centre) you can come along and have a go at table tennis. Its free! All equipment is provided. Come along in comfy clothes and trainer-type footwear. Coaching is available – we'll explain the game and help you to progress. Its great fun! Follow us on FB 'Ulverston Table Tennis Club'



What Parents & Educators Need to Know about WHATSAPP

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

With more than two billion active users, WhatsApp is the world's most popular messaging service. Its end-to-end encryption only allows messages to be viewed by the sender and any recipients: not even WhatsApp itself can read them. The UK's Online Safety Bill proposes to end such encryption on private messaging, but for the time being, this controversial feature remains.

AGE RESTRICTION
13+

EVOLVING SCAMS

WhatsApp's popularity makes it a lucrative hunting ground for scammers. Recent examples include posing as the target's child, requesting a money transfer because of a spurious 'emergency' – plus a scam where fraudsters trigger a verification message by attempting to log in to your account, then (posing as WhatsApp) call or text to ask you to repeat the code back to them, giving them access.

CONTACT FROM STRANGERS

To start a chat, someone only needs the mobile number of the WhatsApp user they want to message. Therefore, if a child has ever given their number out to someone they don't know, that person could then contact them via WhatsApp. It's also possible that the child might be added to a group chat or community (by one of their friends, for example) containing other people they don't know.

FAKE NEWS

WhatsApp's connectivity and ease of use allow news to be shared rapidly – whether it's true or not. To combat the spread of misinformation, messages forwarded more than five times on the app now display a "Forwarded many times" label and a double arrow icon. This makes users aware that the message they've just received is far from an original – and might not be entirely factual, either.

CHAT LOCK AND SECRET CODES

In 2023, WhatsApp introduced a feature that lets users keep their chats in a separate 'locked chats' folder, saved behind their phone's passcode, fingerprint or face ID. There is an additional feature – 'Secret Code' – where users set a unique password for locked chats. Unfortunately, this creates the potential for young people to hide conversations and content they suspect their parents wouldn't approve of.

VIEW ONCE CONTENT

The ability to send images or messages that can only be viewed once has led to some WhatsApp users sharing inappropriate material or abusive texts, knowing that the recipient can't respond later to use as evidence of misconduct. People used to be able to screenshot this disappearing content – but a recently added WhatsApp feature now blocks this, citing protection of privacy.

VISIBLE LOCATION

WhatsApp's Live Location feature lets users share their current whereabouts, which can be helpful for friends meeting up or parents checking that their child is safe while out, for example. However, anyone in a user's contacts list or in a mutual group chat can also track their location – potentially letting strangers identify a child's home address or journeys that they make regularly.

Advice for Parents & Educators

EMPHASISE CAUTION

Encourage children to treat unexpected messages with caution; get them to consider whether it sounds like something a friend or relative would really send them. Make sure they know never to share personal details over WhatsApp, and to be wary of clicking on any links in messages. Setting up two-step verification adds a further layer of protection to their WhatsApp account.

ADJUST THE SETTINGS

It's wise to change a child's WhatsApp settings to specify which of their contacts can add them to group chats without needing approval. You can give permission to My Contacts or My Contacts Except... Additionally, if a child needs to use Live Location, emphasise that they should enable this function for only as long as they need – and then turn it off.

CHAT ABOUT PRIVACY

Check in with the child about how they're using WhatsApp, making sure they know you only have their safety at heart. If you spot a locked Chats folder, you might want to talk about the sort of content they've stored in there, who they're talking to, and why they want to keep these chats hidden. Also, if children send any View Once content, it could be helpful to ask them why.

DISCUSS GROUP CHATS

Make children aware that there could be members of a group that they don't know well and that words can be misinterpreted. Encourage them to leave a good impression, to avoid joining in if conversations turn towards bullying, and to respond to such situations in an appropriate way. Make sure they know that it's OK to leave a group chat if it makes them uncomfortable – or for any reason, in fact.

THINK BEFORE SHARING

Help children understand why it's important to stop and think before posting or forwarding something on WhatsApp. It's easy – and all too common – for content that a user posts to be shared more widely, even publicly on social media. Encourage children to consider how an impulsive message or forwarding might damage their reputation or upset a friend who sent something to them in confidence.

Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian Government comparing internet use and sexting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

Sources: See full reference list on guide page at <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/whatsapp-2023>

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/www.thenationalcollege

@wake.up.wednesday

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Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 19.02.2024

Ulverston Junior Chess Club



**We meet every Tuesday in Ulverston Market Hall
3:15pm - 4:45pm**

**Parents are welcome to stay.
For further information please telephone:
Peter Hanks on 07833934031**

It's free.



Westmorland and Furness
SEND Information, Advice
and Support Service

CONTACT US

[Westmorland and Furness SEND IAS Service | Sendiass](#)

Your local SEND IAS Service Co-ordinator will listen to your concerns and can offer:

- Appropriate support, impartial information, and advice on a range of SEND related queries including - identifying a need, exclusions from school, complaints, and disagreements when something goes wrong.
- Advice regarding SEND related health and social care matters.
- Detailed explanations of how the Special Educational Needs (SEN) process should work, for example the support that should be ordinarily available for all children and young people with SEND in early years, schools, and post sixteen settings.
- Information about local and national voluntary organisations
- Information about young peoples' and parents' support groups in your area
- Support through the Education, Health, and Care Plan (EHCP) Process including annual reviews.
- To help you learn more about the SEND Code of Practice and your legal rights.
- Support at meetings where appropriate.

A child or young person may have learning difficulties caused by:

- A physical disability
- A problem with sight, hearing, or speech
- Difficulties with reading, writing or mathematics
- Emotional or behavioural problems
- Communication and social interaction.

For self-referral, please use our email:

sendiass.waf@westmorlandandfurness.gov.uk

Please give a brief description of the matter you require support with, and your location and a member of our team will be in touch with you to offer advice and guidance.



Westmorland
& Furness
Council

Information,
Advice & Support
Services Network



Offering impartial information, advice and support to children and young people with special educational needs and or disabilities and their parents & carers.