

NEWS FROM LEES HILL CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

It was good to welcome everyone back into school after a restful, if a bit rainy, summer break. Well done to all the children who completed the summer reading challenge over the holidays and to those who won prizes at Gilsland Show – Matthew, Sam, Abbie, Jessica, Jack, Emily and Isaac.

The building work on our roof commenced as soon as we broke up for the holidays. Most of the work has been completed but, following the discovery of a family of bats, work has had to cease until they move out. Hopefully they will have left by the end of September so the roof can be finished then. The infant area has two, new smart 'sports' gates. These gates have created more opportunities for the infants to develop their throwing and other sports skills and a better enclosed outdoor area.

After school clubs and Music lessons have resumed with many children having a go at a variety of new clubs and also learning new musical instruments. Our new **STEM** (science, technology, engineering and maths) club is proving popular. We are lucky that two ex-Lees Hill pupils, one of which is now science ambassador from William Howard School, come along and help - bringing lots of ideas and enthusiasm!

The topic this term is 'The Great Outdoors' with a focus on our local area. The infant class are going to go to **Tullie House** for an owls and butterflies workshop. The children have also been learning about local Cumbrian Artists including Sheila Fell, Andy Goldsworthy and Beatrix Potter. We will be holding a 'Great Outdoors Night' very soon. The whole school will be visiting **Housesteads Roman Fort**. This is to enhance our learning about how the Romans made an impact on our local area and we will also take part in a 'Meet a Roman Soldier' session.

Our **Harvest Festival** will be held in **Walton Village Hall at 9am on Thursday 5th of October**. Everyone is welcome to join us to celebrate harvest and we will be holding a coffee morning afterwards as part of the **Macmillan world's biggest coffee morning** – *please come along and join us!*

RE Week commences on the 9th of October and the theme this year is prayer. During the week the children will be thinking about prayers for the world and the week culminates in a celebration service with other local church schools.

Community Lunches have also resumed and are held on the first Wednesday (term-time) of each month for a very reasonable £5.50 per person. Contact the school office to book a place on 016977 2577.