



## HIGH HESKET C of E SCHOOL (VC)

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Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> October 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

The Autumn term is now in full swing and, unbelievably, we are now already starting to make arrangements for Christmas! There are lots of exciting dates in the diary already and we are looking forward to seeing the children engage with all of the different opportunities that are coming up. It was lovely to see so many of you at our Harvest services and lunch and we would like to extend a big thank you for all of the generous donations for the Carlisle Foodbank.

### Christmas performances

We are looking forward to being able to present our Christmas performances to parents this year in the school hall and the dates for these are listed below. As usual, we will be inviting parents to book tickets for the performance of their choice (dependent on numbers) and more details about how to do so will be sent out nearer the time:

**Nursery & Reception** – Nativity performance, Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> December 2022 at 9.30am

**Year 1 & Year 2** – Performance of 'Away in a Manger' on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> December at 9.15am and Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> December at 2pm

**Year 3 & Year 4** – Performance of 'Bethlehem Bake Off' on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> December at 2pm and Friday 9<sup>th</sup> December at 2pm

**Year 5** – Christmas carol service in St Mary's Church, Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> December at 1.30pm

*Please note that **Year 6** will be presenting a summer performance as part of their Leaver's celebrations and we are also exploring other performance options. More information to follow next year!*

### Christmas trips to the theatre

We are delighted to be able to return to our tradition of taking the children to see a Christmas performance at either the Sands Centre, Carlisle (Reception & Year 1) or the Theatre by the Lake, Keswick (Years 2-6). This is a lovely, festive way to end the term and the PTA very kindly cover the cost of the transport involved. In order to fund the trip, we do ask for a contribution towards the cost of the tickets and this can be paid on School Money from Monday 17<sup>th</sup> October. The dates and costs are listed below and further details will be provided nearer the time.

**Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> December 2022** – Reception and Year 1 trip to the Sands Centre Pantomime 'Aladdin' (£8.50 per child)

**Monday 19<sup>th</sup> December 2022** – Year 2 -6 trip to Theatre by the Lake performance 'The Borrowers' (£10 per child)

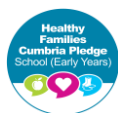
***If you do not wish your child to attend the above trips, please notify the school office by Friday 21<sup>st</sup> October 2022 so as we can finalise numbers.***

### Update relating to Ofsted

As you will know, we were privileged to be designated as an Outstanding School following our Ofsted inspection in September 2014. Until very recently, outstanding schools were exempt from further inspection but, following changes to legislation, they are no longer exempt and all outstanding schools are expected to receive an inspection before August 2025. The Education Inspection Framework utilised by Ofsted when inspecting schools has been significantly changed, as has the criteria for each Ofsted grading. I have attached a letter to parents from the Local Authority written earlier in the year which outlines these changes in more detail. Please take the time to read the letter and familiarise yourself with the change in current expectations.

### Wellies & waterproofs!

The weather has definitely become more autumnal and we have had such a wide variety of weather types over the last few weeks! Please can all children have a pair of wellies and a waterproof coat in school so as we are prepared for all eventualities! This will be particularly important on Outdoor Classroom Day which takes places on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2022 and will involve lots of outdoor learning during the day.



## Attendance / Health and Safety advice

As you know, regular attendance in school is essential and absence should only occur in exceptional circumstances. However, when your child is unwell, it can be difficult to know whether to keep your child off school. Cumbria County Council have produced a helpful parent's guide which I am emailing out alongside this letter which may support you in knowing if your child should or should not attend the setting.

## Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal / Remembrance Day

We have been provided with some items to sell in order to raise money for the British Legion's Poppy Appeal and these will be available to buy from **Monday 31<sup>st</sup> October**. The items and the suggested donation amounts are as follows: fabric zip pull (50p), poppy reflector (50p), wristband (£1) and snap bands (£1.50). Please note there is limited stock of each item so they will be on a first come, first served basis. We also have a box of traditional poppies which can be purchased for a donation of your choice.

To mark Remembrance Day on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> December, Reverend Houston will be holding a Remembrance Collective Worship for the children at St Mary's Church and we also hope to create a display of poppies in the churchyard.

## School Money

Please could we politely ask parents to login to your School Money accounts and check for any outstanding payments from the Summer term. Please do get in touch if you require any help with this by contacting Mrs McCullough at [admin@high-hesket.cumbria.sch.uk](mailto:admin@high-hesket.cumbria.sch.uk).

## PE in Key Stage 2 – Autumn term

After half term, all classes in Key Stage 2 will be participating in a one-week intensive block of swimming where they will have swimming lessons every afternoon for a week. This enables the children to build on the progress they make each session and apply the skills they have learnt across the week. As the sessions are blocked across an intensive period, some classes may only have one other PE session per week during this term so will only need to come to school dressed in PE kit once a week, depending on the arrangements for that year group. You will receive a letter nearer the time with the swimming dates and details for your child's year group. PE days for after half term will be emailed out next week by Mrs McCullough.

## Dates for your diary:

**Friday 21<sup>st</sup> October 2022** – School closes for half term

**Monday 31<sup>st</sup> October 2022** – School reopens

**Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2022** – Individual school photographs

**Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2022** – Outdoor Classroom Day

**Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> November 2022** – Year 4 trip to Tullie House & Year 6 trip to Carlisle Courts

**Friday 11<sup>th</sup> November 2022** – PTA Family quiz night

**Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> November 2022** - Year 3 trip to Keswick Museum and Castlerigg Stone Circle (letter to follow)

**Friday 18<sup>th</sup> November 2022** – Children in Need (non-uniform day)

**Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2022** – PTA Christmas Fair

**Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> December 2022** – Year 1/2 performance at 9.15am

**Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> December 2022** – Year 3/4 performance at 2pm

**Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> December 2022** – Nursery / Reception Nativity performance at 9.30am

**Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> December 2022** – Year 1/2 performance at 2pm

**Friday 9<sup>th</sup> December 2022** - Year 3/4 performance at 2pm

**Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> December 2022** – Christmas lunch and parties

**Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> December 2022** – Reception and Year 1 trip to the Sands Centre Pantomime

**Monday 19<sup>th</sup> December 2022** – Year 2 -6 trip to Theatre by the Lake performance

**Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> December 2022** – Carol Service at St Mary's Church, High Hesket at 1.30pm (Reserved seating for Year 5 parents)

**Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> December 2022** – Last day of term (normal finish time – no After School Club)

Yours sincerely,  
Mrs A Harvey