



HIGH HESKET C of E SCHOOL (VC)

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Wednesday 29th November 2023

Dear Parents & Carers,

We are really looking forward to our PTA Christmas Fair on Friday and hope to see lots of you there! December is only a few days away and we are already feeling festive in school! There are lots of Christmas activities coming up over the next few weeks which I am sure will bring much enjoyment to the children.

Parent survey

A huge thank you to everyone who responded to our parent survey. We were delighted with the results and are incredibly grateful for so many lovely comments. We really appreciate the feedback we received and, where possible, will look at how we can action some of the suggestions moving forward.

Toy donations for the PTA fair – Friday 1st December 2023

We have had lots of amazing donations for the toy stall which will take place in the Year 1 classroom during the PTA fair on Friday. If there are any toys left at the end of the night, we will arrange for these to either be used in school or sent to charity unless we hear otherwise. Thank you so much!

Christmas cards

As the Christmas season approaches, I know many of the children are excited to start giving out Christmas cards. The Christmas post box will be open from Monday 4th December and the children are welcome to bring cards in to give to their classmates and put them in the post box. Alternatively, they may wish to write one card addressed to the whole class. Any individual cards should be labelled with names and year groups to avoid confusion and the post box will be located in the school library. Our Year 6 pupils will have the responsibility of delivering these once a day and the last delivery will take place on Monday 18th December 2023.

Donkey visit – Monday 4th December 2023

We are delighted that we will be having a visit from Wyeknot Donkeys to really start the Christmas festivities in style! The donkeys will be visiting our Early Years unit during the morning of Monday 4th December and then we are hopeful all the classes will get a chance to meet the animals briefly before they return home! There will be a risk assessment in place for their visit and children will be asked to wash their hands after visiting or handling the donkeys. Please do let us know if your child has any relevant allergies that we are not yet aware of.

Theatre by the lake – Tuesday 12th December 2023

The theatre trip for Year 2-6 will be during the morning so we will require a prompt departure to enable us to arrive in time for the performance. Please can we ask that all children arrive **no later than 8.45am** on this day. Please do get in touch if this causes you any difficulty.

Vote for us!

A reminder that voting is still underway at the Rosehill Tesco store for our 'Stronger Starts' outdoor reading area project. The vote is open until January so please keep spreading the word! Some of you may also have seen that there are several exciting competitions for schools circulating on social media and we are extremely grateful for everyone who has voted for us as part of these competitions. Thank you for your support!

Medication procedures

This time of year can often be when all sorts of winter illnesses are circulating and the cold weather certainly doesn't help! As a result, we just wanted to make you aware that we do have to follow strict guidelines in regards to medication in school should your child require it. Any medication brought into school from home should be prescription only and should be provided in the original packaging, clearly marked with the prescription details. We will also need you to fill out forms outlining the administration details. When antibiotics are required, we often find that those requiring to be administered 3 times a day can usually be done at home around the hours of the school day



without needing to be given in school. If you ever have any questions, please don't hesitate to get in touch to discuss things further.

Bus bay

A reminder that the bus bay should not be used for parking or waiting at any times. It can be used to 'stop and drop' in the mornings but vehicles should not be left for any periods of time. There have been several occasions recently when the school bus has been unable to access the bus bay so please could this message be passed on to any family members or friends who provide transport and do not receive the newsletter updates.

Christmas lunch & parties – Thursday 14th December 2023

We are really looking forward to our Christmas lunch and parties on Thursday 14th December and we can't wait for the festivities to begin! The children are welcome to wear non-uniform on this day to really get into the festive spirit!

Toy day – Friday 15th December 2023

It has been a tradition for many years that the children bring in a toy towards the end of term to play with their friends and enjoy some social time together. The children are welcome to bring in a toy from home on Friday 15th December but we do ask that the children do not bring in any items of high cost or sentimental value. We also ask that the children only bring in items that they are happy to share with others and that the children do not bring in any games consoles.

Carol service – Tuesday 19th December 2023

Our Year 5 class will be leading our carol service at St Mary's Church on Tuesday 19th December at 1.30pm and we will be reserving the pews for the families of our Year 5 children.

Last day of term – Tuesday 19th December 2023

School closes at the normal time on Tuesday 19th December 2023. I am aware that some of the secondary schools do finish at an earlier time so please get in touch if you would like to collect your child at an earlier time on this day.

Dates for your diary:

Friday 1st December 2023 – PTA Christmas Fair 4.45-6.30pm

Monday 4th December 2023 – Wyeknot Donkey visit

Wednesday 6th December 2023 – Year 3&4 Christmas performance at 2pm

Thursday 7th December 2023 – EYFS Christmas performance at 9.15am and Year 1&2 Christmas performance at 1.45pm

Friday 8th December 2023 – Year 1&2 Christmas performance at 9.15am and Year 3&4 Christmas performance at 2pm

Tuesday 12th December 2023 – Year 2-6 trip to Theatre by the Lake

Wednesday 13th December 2023 – Reception & Year 1 trip to Penrith Cinema

Thursday 14th December 2023 – Christmas lunch and parties

Friday 15th December 2023 – Toy Day

Tuesday 19th December 2023 – Year 5 Carol Service (Y5 parents invited) at 1.30pm

Tuesday 19th December 2023 – School closes at normal time (No After School Club)

Wednesday 3rd January 2024 – School reopens for Spring term

Yours sincerely,

Mrs A Harvey
Headteacher