



HIGH HESKET C of E SCHOOL (VC)

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Tuesday 2nd September 2025

Dear Parents & Carers,



We are excited to be welcoming everyone back to school tomorrow, Wednesday 3rd September, and are looking forward to seeing the children return after the summer break. This first newsletter is full of information that hopefully answers any questions that you may have regarding day to day logistics. However, if you do every have any queries or concerns that you would like to discuss further, please don't hesitate to contact school and we can arrange an opportunity for a conversation.

Menu for this week

The meals for the first three days of term will be as follows:

Wednesday 3rd September – sausage in a bun

Thursday 4th September – chicken wraps

Friday 5th September – fish fingers

We will then be starting next week, Monday 8th September 2025, on Week 1 of the school menus. School menus can be found on the school website at PARENTS – MENUS – SCHOOL MEALS.

School times

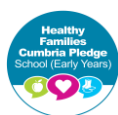
A reminder that children in Nursery to Year 2 begin their school day at 8.40am and end at 3.10pm The school doors will open at 8.35am to allow for a prompt start. The school day for children in Years 3-6 begins at 8.50am and ends at 3.25pm. Siblings of the younger children can arrive at the earlier time and are supervised on the school playground until 8.50am. Similarly, younger siblings are able to wait in their classrooms at the end of the school day until 3.25pm to allow parents to collect all siblings at the same time. We do ask that parents adhere to the correct arrangements for their child's year group to enable us to ensure we have the correct staffing ratios. A member of staff will be outside at the beginning of the school day from 8.35am to supervise the children as they arrive and we do advise that the children are not left unattended on the school grounds before this time. A reminder that, if you wish your child to be collected by an adult who is not part of your regular pick up arrangement, we do need to be notified of this by the parent/carer of the child in advance. This can be done by telephone, email or by speaking to the member of staff on duty at the gate in the morning. If you advised us of any arrangements last year, we do already have these recorded and only need to be advised of any changes. Similarly, **if your child is going to be absent, please let us know no later than 9.30am.**

Breakfast Club and After School Club

Our Breakfast Club doors (located at the hall entrance) open at 7.45am and close at 8.25am. Breakfast is served until 8.15am only. After School Club runs until 6pm (with a small additional charge for the 5.30-6pm session). More details about session costs and booking details can be found on the school website.

Parking / one-way system

It is always useful at this time of year to remind parents about our parking arrangements and the plans for travelling through the village at peak times. As the traffic can be very busy at certain times of the day, we do advise a one-way system through the village at peak times which does help with the flow of vehicles. It is recommended that cars enter at the Penrith end of the village and exit at the Carlisle end. We do also ask that all vehicles are parked considerately and safely, ensuring that all driveways and pathways can be accessed. The bus bay is able to be used as a 'stop and drop' area in the mornings but should not be used to wait in or park in as access is required at all times.



Harvest Festival & Christmas performances!

I know it is far too early to be considering Christmas but we always try and provide as much notice as possible for our Harvest Festival and Christmas performances to allow parents to forward plan. This year, the Harvest Festival will take place during the morning of Friday 26th September 2025 and more details about the arrangements will follow in a separate letter. The Christmas performances will take place as follows:

Nursery & Reception – Tuesday 2nd December 2025 at 9.15am

Year 1 & Year 2 – Tuesday 2nd December 2025 at 2pm and Thursday 4th December 2025 at 9.15am

Year 3 & Year 4 – Wednesday 3rd December 2025 at 2pm and Thursday 4th December 2025 at 2pm

Year 5 will be leading our Carol Service on Friday 19th December 2025 at 1.30pm.

Year 6 will be performing later in the year as part of their leaver's events. More information about all of the performances will be sent out nearer the time.

PTA meeting – Monday 15th September 2025

Our fabulous group of PTA volunteers will be meeting on Monday 15th September 2025 in school at 3.30pm. All parents are very welcome to attend and it can be a great way to get to know other parents and help support the brilliant fundraising that the PTA organises for the school. If you are attending the meeting, children can be supervised free of charge in our After School Club but we do ask that this is pre-booked prior to the meeting.

PE Days

For the Autumn term, the PE days for each class will be as follows:

Reception – Tuesday & Thursday

Year 1 – Tuesday & Thursday

Year 2 – Tuesday & Thursday

Year 3&4 – Thursday (plus intensive week of swimming w/c 13th October 2025)

Year 5 – Tuesday (plus intensive week of swimming w/c 20th October 2025)

Year 6 - Tuesday (plus intensive week of swimming w/c 20th October 2025)

The children do not need PE kits this week, PE sessions will start the week commencing Monday 8th September 2025.

The Tuesday PE session for Year 5 and 6 will be a joint gymnastics lesson at Richard Rose Morton Academy. Please can long hair be tied back and earrings removed or covered with tape.

Medication procedures

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.

Morning snack & drinks

We ask that children bring a refillable bottle to school each day which contains water only. Children are also entitled to free milk up until the term they turn 5 years old and then, after this, parents can sign up to pay for daily milk through the Cool Milk Scheme. The children in Early Years to Year 2 are provided with a free piece of fruit for morning snack which is funded through the government's free fruit for schools scheme. Children in Years 3-6 are welcome to bring in a snack of their own if they wish but we ask that this is a healthy snack, ideally fruit based or a suitable savoury alternative such as bread sticks or crackers (no crisps, sweets or items containing chocolate please). We also ask that any food brought into school does **not** contain nuts due to allergies in our school community.

Dates for the diary:

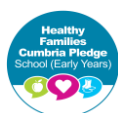
Wednesday 3rd September 2025 – School reopens for the Autumn term

Monday 15th September 2025 – PTA meeting at 3.30pm in school

Monday 22nd September 2025 – Fairtrade Fortnight (activities in classes)

Friday 26th September 2025 – Harvest festival and Harvest lunch

Wednesday 15th October 2025 – Year 6 trip to Carlisle Courts and the street art trail



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Wednesday 15th October 2025 – EYFS Forest School session with Miss Kendall

Friday 24th October 2025 – School closes for half term

Monday 3rd November 2025 – School reopens

Thursday 6th November 2025 – Outdoor Classroom Day

Monday 10th November 2025 – Anti bullying week

Tuesday 11th November 2025 – Remembrance service at St Mary's Church (pupils only)

Friday 14th November 2025 – Children in Need (non-uniform)

Tuesday 25th and Wednesday 26th November 2025 – Parent's evenings

Tuesday 2nd December 2025 – EYFS Christmas performance at 9.15am and Y1&2 Christmas performance at 2pm

Wednesday 3rd December 2025 – Y3&4 Christmas performance at 2pm

Wednesday 3rd December 2025 – Y1 Forest School session with Miss Kendall

Thursday 4th December 2025 – Year 1&2 Christmas performance at 9.15am and Year 3&4 Christmas performance at 2pm

Tuesday 9th December 2025 – Year 3-6 trip to Theatre by the Lake

Wednesday 17th December 2025 – Christmas lunch and parties

Thursday 18th December 2025 – Toy day

Friday 19th December 2025 – Year 5 Carol Service for whole school (families of Year 5 welcome to attend)

Friday 19th December 2025 – School closes for Christmas holiday

Wednesday 7th January 2026 – School reopens for Spring term

Yours sincerely,

Mrs A Harvey
Headteacher