



## HIGH HESKET C of E SCHOOL (VC)

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Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> December 2019

Dear Parents,

The Autumn term is nearly over and it is time to wish all of our children and families a very Merry Christmas! The term has flown by and the last couple of weeks will be full of Christmas activities and feeling festive! There are a few pieces of news and information I would like to share before we close for Christmas but I would also like to take this opportunity to say a huge thank you to our whole school community for your ongoing support.

### Parent questionnaire

A huge thank you to everyone who completed and sent back their parent questionnaires which we issued last month. The results were overwhelmingly positive and it is wonderful to know that 100% of the responses said that their children felt both happy and safe at High Hesket CE School. Please remember that we are always keen to keep communication with our community open and you are always welcome to make an appointment to chat to any member of staff should you require.

### Year 1 Active Cumbria Parent Survey

Parents in Year 1 received a letter in early November about our involvement in the Active Lives survey in collaboration with Sport England. We have now completed the survey with the children and some parents have very kindly completed the survey as well. For every 5 parents who contribute to the survey, we receive sporting equipment for the school so any additional responses would be much appreciated. The link is <https://ipsos.uk/PMZPE> and we have until the end of term before the survey closes. Please note that this is for parents in Year 1 only – thank you!

### PTA Christmas Fair

Our Christmas Fair on the 22<sup>nd</sup> November was extremely successful and there were lots of brilliant games and stalls on offer. We are thrilled that the PTA raised approximately £1485! Thank you to everyone who came and supported the event and, of course, to our fantastic PTA and the team of volunteers who made it such a festive evening!

### Books!

We are often approached to ask if we can make use of any books that are no longer needed at home and we are extremely grateful for the donations of these books that we receive, as many of them end up in our school library for others to enjoy. If you are ever having a clear out and have any books that you no longer have need for, we are very happy to take them off your hands! Any that we cannot use, we will make sure they are delivered to charity.

### Stamps

A member of our village community is currently collecting used stamps in order to raise money for Eden Valley Hospice. If, over the Christmas period, you have any used stamps from envelopes we are happy to collect these in the school office and pass on so as they can be recycled and raise money.

### Parking and First Lego League club

Several of our Year 6 children are taking part of the First Lego League Club and are involved in a Cumbria wide C-STEM competition where they have to suggest potential solutions to a problem that exists in their local community. The children have independently chosen the issue of parking outside our school and have asked if they can create a questionnaire to gather views from local residents and our school community. We have attached the children's letter and, if you are able to provide any responses to the children's questions, it would be much appreciated. The comments they receive will then feed into the ideas that they present to the competition judges and we are very proud of passion and enthusiasm they have shown throughout the project!

### **Theatre by the Lake**

Years 2-6 will be attending 'A Christmas Carol' at the Theatre by the Lake on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> December 2019. We have been informed that the production will include some strobe lighting effects so please let us know if this is a concern for anyone. We are also expecting to return back to school at approximately 4.30pm where children will be brought straight into school from the bus. Children in Years 3-6 can then be collected from the office door and Year 2 will be collected as normal from the Y2 classroom exit. Please can we also ask that if your child is to go home with another child's parent, please could you let us know in advance so as we can inform staff.

### **Christmas prayer spaces workshop**

On Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December 2019 we have a representative from NISCU (Northern Inter Schools Christian Union) visiting school. Hayley regularly visits to lead assemblies and workshops with the children and, on Friday, she will be working with groups to deliver a Christmas prayer spaces workshop. We will be using the St Mary's Church throughout the day as the workshop space and are looking forward to a festive day!

### **Dates for the diary:**

Monday 9<sup>th</sup> December 2019 – **Nasal flu immunisation**

Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> December 2019 – **EYFS Nativity play** 9.30am

Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> December 2019 – **Year 3&4 Christmas performance** 1.30pm

Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> December 2019 – **Year 1&2 Christmas performance** 2pm

Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> December 2019 – **Year 3&4 Christmas performance** 5.30pm (Please can children return to school by 5.15pm and be signed in to an adult)

Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> December 2019 – **Year 1&2 Christmas performance** 9.15am

Monday 16<sup>th</sup> December 2019 – **Reception and Year 1 trip** to the Sands Centre pantomime

Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> December 2019 – **Christmas lunch and party day** (children may wear non-uniform if they wish)

Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> December 2019 – **Years 2-6 trip** to 'A Christmas Carol' at Theatre by the Lake (4.30pm collection time from the school office (Y3-6) or from the classroom (Y2))

Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> December 2019 – **Toy Day** (children may bring an item from home to play with)

Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December 2019 – **Carol Service** at St Mary's Church (reserved seating for Y5&6 parents) 1.30pm. Children may wear Christmas jumpers / outfits if they wish.

Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December 2019 – **School closes early** at 2.30pm

Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2020 – **School reopens** for the Spring term

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year everyone!

Yours sincerely,

Mrs A Harvey  
Headteacher