



HIGH HESKET C of E SCHOOL (VC)

High Hesket, CARLISLE, Cumbria CA4 0HU TEL: 016974 73386

Head teacher: Mrs A Harvey

Email: head@high-hesket.cumbria.sch.uk Website: www.high-hesket.cumbria.sch.uk

Wednesday 8th January 2020

Dear Parents,

A very warm welcome back to all of our children and their families! We hope you all had a wonderful Christmas together and that the new year has already brought you lots of fabulous memories. We are excited to be starting the Spring term at High Hesket CE School and are looking forward to lots of new adventures and learning.

A thank you to start...

All of the staff would like to pass on their thanks for all of the Christmas wishes, gifts and cards that we received at the end of last term; we really appreciate the thoughts and gestures.

Tanzania news...

We are incredibly excited to announce that we are part of the British Council's 'Connecting Classrooms through Global Learning' programme and have received funding which is enabling two members of staff to visit our link school in Tanzania, Mrawi Primary School. This funding is part of a larger grant enabling a cluster of Cumbrian Schools to engage with the programme; Mrs Ager is coordinating the whole project. Teachers from four Cumbrian schools will be involved in visiting Tanzanian schools from Wednesday 5th February until Thursday 13th February 2020. Mrs Ager and Miss Blenkharn will be involved in the project and in their absence, their classes will primarily be covered by Mrs Harvey (Year 2) and Mrs Day (Year 6) although other staff may be involved to assist with cover as well. We are looking forward to connecting with them via video link during their stay and, later on in the year, we will be welcoming teachers from Tanzania to High Hesket CE School. As part of the programme we will be working on a practical project with children from both schools on peace, justice and strong institutions. We are very proud of the connection we have with Mrawi Primary School and the children from both schools enjoy collaborative learning about, and from, different cultures. The donations we have received from our autumn term performances raised £350. This money will be used to buy much needed teaching supplies for Mrawi School and also to start a new building project. The school is in need of a sheltered porch area for the children to sit under for lunch during the wet season for protection from the heavy rains and also to provide extra shade from the hot sun. The headteacher, Mrs Imelda Minde extends her gratitude and thanks for the money raised to date. Without the support from our children, parents and school community, the link would not be so successful. To have the balance of charitable giving and engaging curriculum lessons exploring global themes with face to face communication, really strengthens the learning experiences for the children at High Hesket CE School.

Start of the school day and absence procedures

Just a reminder that the school day starts at 8.45am and we do expect all children to arrive by this time so that they are ready for the day ahead. If your child is absent, please inform school as soon as possible via email, telephone or the school website absence form. If we do not hear from you and your child is not in school, we will need to contact you to ensure all of our children are accounted for. It is also worth mentioning that I am unable to authorise any absences unless in exceptional circumstances and, unfortunately, family holidays do not meet this criteria.

Governor update

We are pleased to advise you that Mrs G Dixon will be continuing her role as Parent Governor following her reappointment. A full list of governors can be found on the school website.

UDance performance by Dance Club

A reminder that our after-school dance club are currently rehearsing with Miss McDermott in order to perform as part of UDance at the Sands Centre on Friday 20th March. Tickets for the show go on sale from the Sands Centre on Monday 13th January 2020 and often very popular so it is worth purchasing early on to avoid disappointment.

Continued overleaf...

Goodbye to Josh & Sadie

You may be aware that, since September 2018, we have received sports coaching on Tuesday afternoons from Josh and Sadie at No Limit 1 on 1 Coaching. Unfortunately, due to changes in their circumstances, they are no longer able to provide their school sessions and we wish them every success for their new adventures. We will be looking to provide alternative arrangements and will notify you when this has been finalised.

School Money

We are aware that some parents have recently had trouble logging in to their School Money accounts. For security reasons, the logins will sometimes require resetting if they have not been used regularly. If you are having any problems accessing your account, please contact the school office and Mrs McCullough can reset this for you. Please can we also ask that any outstanding monies from the Autumn term are paid as soon as possible in order for us to reconcile our accounts. Your support with this is much appreciated.

Reading records

Your child should bring home a reading book and a yellow reading record book regularly in order to enable them to read at home. We do encourage children to read as often as possible to an adult and we would very much appreciate it if you could record in the reading record when you listen to your child read. We do understand that some children, particularly in the older year groups, are ready to read independently but would still benefit from chatting to an adult about what they have read which can still be recorded in the yellow book or they are welcome to complete the reading record themselves. Your child's class teacher will be more than happy to discuss this further if you require any additional information.

Dates for the diary

Wednesday 5th February 2020 – **Year 2 'Play in a Day'** performance for Year 2 parents at 2.50pm in the hall.

Tuesday 11th February 2020 – **Safer Internet Day** (activities to take place in classes).

Tuesday 11th February 2020 – **Nursery 'Stay and Play'** session from 2pm

Wednesday 12th February 2020 – **Year 4 class assembly** at 9am (Year 4 parents are invited to watch).

Thursday 13th February 2020 – **Nursery 'Stay and Play'** session until 9.30am

Friday 14th February 2020 – **School closes** for half term.

Monday 24th February 2020 – **School reopens.**

Monday 24th February – **Fairtrade Fortnight** begins (activities to take place in class).

Wednesday 4th March 2020 – **Year 5 & 6 Edinburgh residential information meeting** for parents at 5.30pm.

Thursday 5th March 2020 – **World Book Day** (activities to take place in school, no dressing up required).

Wednesday 11th March & Thursday 12th March 2020 – **Parent's evening** appointments.

Friday 13th March 2020 – **Sport Relief** (non-uniform day)

Friday 20th March 2020 – **Udance performance** at the Sands Centre for Dance Club.

Monday 23rd March 2020 – **Year 1 'Play in a Day'** performance for Year 1 parents at 2.50pm in the hall.

Thursday 26th March 2020 – **Year 3 class assembly** at 9am (Year 3 parents are invited to watch).

Friday 27th March 2020 – **Last day of term.** School closes at 3.20pm.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs A Harvey
Headteacher