



## HIGH HESKET C of E SCHOOL (VC)

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Monday 19th March 2020

Dear Parents,

As a result of our school closure we wanted to share some year 6 specific information with you concerning year 6 SATs and the Edinburgh residential.

### **Year 6 SATs**

We have received official notification today that the 2019/20 national curriculum year 6 assessments (SATs) will not take place due to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. This information has been shared with the children. We have recently sent home SATs homework packs for English and maths. Although children do not need to be revising at home for the assessments now they are cancelled, please feel free to continue using the books to study as they will be helpful in preparation for year seven.

### **School Closure**

As we are unsure how long school closures will be in place for, we cannot answer questions the children have asked today regarding transition to secondary school and our normal end of year 6 events such as: leavers play, overnight camp in a yurt, signature books and signing of shirts. As we cannot predict when the return to school will be, we invite the year 6 children to wear their leavers hoodies to school tomorrow and will have a more relaxed day with an extended Forest School session tomorrow with both of us. We will not be signing shirts tomorrow but will be marking the last day before the school closure for the year 6 children in a different way.

### **Edinburgh Residential**

In light of the situation regarding the outbreak of coronavirus (COVID-19), we have regretfully made the decision to cancel the year 5 and 6 residential trip to Edinburgh in July 2020. The wellbeing, safety and security of our school community – whether children, teachers, or parents – is of the highest priority, not least during this rapidly evolving situation. The UK government advice announced on 16/03/20 advises against all non-essential travel and although this trip is not until July, we have risk assessed the implications of continuing to organise it and made the decision to cancel. Due to the anticipated peak of the virus being May/June we may have pupils and staff that are isolated at home or ill. There are also financial implications of continuing to plan for the trip to go ahead as cancellation policies for different venues differs. We are presently in touch with the various providers we have booked with to try and organise refunds. When we have more information about refunds and cancellations we will be in touch and any refunds will be given via school money.

We are aware this will be disappointing news for the children, but given the current situation in the UK we are sure you will understand our decision. We will also reconsider alternative activities for July should school be open and be running within normal parameters.

We would also like to take the opportunity to express our pride and appreciation for how hard the year 6 children have worked this year and more recently in preparation for their end of year assessments. Their attitude towards their work has been so positive and we are sure this will stand them in good stead for when they return to school. They are a real pleasure to teach and we have enjoyed our year with them so far immensely. Keep it up year 6 and hopefully we will see you soon.

Mrs Jen Ager and Mrs Leanne Day