



## 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](mailto:head@high-hesket.cumbria.sch.uk) Website: [www.high-hesket.cumbria.sch.uk](http://www.high-hesket.cumbria.sch.uk)

Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> April 2020

Dear Parents,

### HOME LEARNING AND COMMUNICATION UPDATES

The Summer term has now officially begun and it is very strange not to see all the children's smiling faces arriving for school as they would do normally. We are all missing our school community very much and hope it will not be long before we all get to see each other again in person.

#### Home Learning

Hopefully, you will have now received the information relating to the Home Learning that has been sent out this week for you to use in whatever way suits your individual circumstances best. I would like to thank all of the staff who have been working away behind the scenes, whilst juggling their own circumstances and childcare, to compile a range of resources and learning activities that can be accessed from home and which will hopefully allow the children to continue their learning whilst schools remain closed. Whilst we know we cannot replicate the learning and experiences that the children would be having in school, we hope you agree that we have chosen a format that everybody can access and which addresses a range of curriculum subjects and objectives. We have tried to find a way forward that is manageable for everyone, can be easily adapted and which also takes into account the guidance of the teaching unions and Department for Education relating to manageable expectations for staff and families.

#### Tapestry for everyone!

We are particularly aware that children will be missing the face to face contact that we would normally have at school and, whilst guidance makes it clear that primary lessons can not be replicated at home, we are keen to try and continue to interact with our pupils and their families. Many of you will be aware that we have used an online journal called 'Tapestry' for many years in our Early Years setting and it is extremely valuable in allowing staff to upload comments, photographs and observations to share. Similarly, parents and relatives can also upload pictures and messages about what they have been doing at home to help maintain a dialogue between school and home. We have decided that, during the period of school closures, we would extend access to this across the whole school and are hoping that our families will use it as a way to communicate with us further. There is no expectation for you to upload lots of photographs and observations on a regular basis but are hoping that our families will use this at least occasionally to 'touch base' with us, especially as we are missing our children so much!

In the next few days, you will receive an email with information about how to activate an account in Tapestry for your child. **Please note that, for children in Years 2-6, this will be a different KS1/2 account which will run in addition to the one we normally use in EYFS as it is for a limited period only. Year 1 will be added to our regular EYFS account.** Unfortunately, this will mean that parents with siblings across different year groups may have two accounts to login in to with two separate home pages. We apologise for this but is the only way it can be set up for now. Please be patient with us as we try and get it all set up and work through any teething problems! If you already have children in Nursery or Reception, you will just continue to use their accounts as normal.

You will be able to login using any web browser from [tapestryjournal.com](http://tapestryjournal.com) or by downloading the Tapestry app from the Play or App store, depending on what type of device you are using. I have attached the Tapestry user guide for iOS in case it is of use and it also contains a link to a similar user guide for Android applications. If you have installed the Tapestry app in a previous academic year, you may find that you need to reinstall a newer version as it may have been updated since you last used it. All data that is entered to Tapestry is stored securely on their servers. If you are interested in finding out more information about this, you can go to <https://tapestry.info/security>.

If you set the account up, we will assume that you have given us permission for us to continue to use Tapestry for your child. We will also assume that, if you set up an account, you are agreeing to adhere to the acceptable use expectations which make up part of our Online Safety Policy and Procedures ( available to view on the school website under INFORMATION → POLICIES). We also ask that any school content shared on the journal is not shared on social media. If you choose to add a new observation of your own to Tapestry, these can only be accessed by school staff and

cannot be seen by other parents. However, should you choose to comment on a group observation where other children have been selected by the class teacher, these can be seen by the parents of the other children selected so please be conscious of this when commenting. We are excited to see what everyone has been doing!

We will still continue to use email to send out letters, home learning resources and other key information. Please feel free to continue to contact school via email at [homework@high-hesket.cumbria.sch.uk](mailto:homework@high-hesket.cumbria.sch.uk) if you have any questions or queries relating to the home learning. Alternatively, any other comments or queries can be sent to [head@high-hesket.cumbria.sch.uk](mailto:head@high-hesket.cumbria.sch.uk).

### **Summer Term updates**

As we enter the Summer Term, this is the time of year when we start to consider ways in which to report to parents and share next steps for the children's learning. I'm sure you can appreciate that the unprecedented nature of the current situation means that changes to how we do this are inevitable and we are conscious that, due to social distancing requirements, we were unable to go ahead with some of our Spring term parent's evenings. This was the case for the vast majority of schools and please be reassured that, as mentioned in the newsletter that went home before school closed, should the teachers have had any significant concerns they would have already contacted you last term. We are not yet sure how this term will unfold for schools across the country but we are currently reflecting on how we can report to parents should the closures continue for a prolonged period of time. I appreciate your patience and understanding as we encounter many challenges to the way we would normally be approaching things at this time of year.

Please continue to take care of yourselves and each other; if I can offer any help or support, please get in touch.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs A Harvey  
Headteacher