



HIGH HESKET C of E SCHOOL (VC)

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Monday 14th December 2020

Dear Parents,

Merry Christmas to our whole school community!



The final week of term has arrived and it is the perfect opportunity to reflect back on what has been a very strange year overall. We have had to adapt to new ways of working and school has operated very differently to how it would normally. However, it has also been a year of celebrations as the children have embraced the return to school and our sense of community support has really strengthened as we have had to work together to overcome new challenges. I am so incredibly impressed with our children and how they have managed all of the changes we have made and I am also extremely grateful for the support and kindness our parents and families have shown the school. We are looking forward to a festive few final days and, whilst I am sure I will see many of you at the gate in the days to come, I would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Thank you messages from the staff

The staff have asked that I pass on their gratitude for the cards, gifts and messages of support that they have received. Whilst they do not get to see as many parents in person as they would do normally, I know that they are very grateful for the gestures of kindness they have received.

Track & Trace during the school holidays

If an individual in the immediate school community tests positive for coronavirus within the first few days of the school holidays, we will need to follow the normal procedures and seek advice from Public Health England. If the individual has been present at school within the 48 hours prior to developing symptoms, close contacts will need to be informed and asked to self-isolate for the advised period. Please continue to use the main school email address (head@high-hesket.cumbria.sch.uk) to notify school of any positive test results and this email will be monitored between 9.30 and 10am each day until 24th December 2020. Please note that any non-urgent queries to the email address will not necessarily receive a response until school reopens.

Pantomime – Wednesday 16th December 2020

We are hoping to stream a short online pantomime into our classes on Wednesday 16th December. It has been created by the Norfolk Music Hub and is based on the Rapunzel story. Fingers crossed that all the technology goes to plan!

Christmas jumper day – Thursday 17th December 2020

A reminder that Thursday 17th December is Christmas jumper day and children are welcome to come to school wearing Christmassy themed non-uniform. If the children do not have any Christmas themed clothing, normal non-uniform will be absolutely fine. The day will also include our film afternoon and the PTA snack boxes will also be given out. If anyone still wishes to donate £1.50 towards the snack boxes which will go towards school funds, please send the £1.50 in cash to school where the class teachers will collect the money in the normal way. I would like to extend my thanks to the members of the PTA who have continued to support the school through these challenging times and to think of new ways to continue to fundraise and offer opportunities for the children.



Google Classroom

We are hoping to add a couple of small video surprises to Google Classroom over the next few days for parents and children to see. We will send out a text message when there is something added and we do ask that parents do not download or share any of the material. If you are unfamiliar with Google Classroom, it can be accessed by visiting www.classroom.google.com or opening the mobile app. You should then sign in using your child's login details which were sent home on slips of paper at the end of last half-term. If you need these details to be resent, please e-mail your child's class teacher who will be happy to resend them. If you have any trouble accessing Google Classroom, we will be more than happy to help if you let us know.

Path along the field!

Our new path is finally finished and open for use! I hope this will make a huge difference to the end of the day and I am very appreciative of the patience everyone showed whilst waiting for the improvements to be made.

Guitar lessons

We are pleased to announce that guitar lessons will resume after we return to school in January for those children who are already signed up. The first lesson will take place on Thursday 7th January 2020.

St Mary's Church Christmas service

Sadly, St Mary's Church in High Hesket has had to greatly reduce the services they can offer this year. However, the PCC has asked me to pass on that there will be a Christmas service which will be a lay led service of readings and prayers at 11am on Sunday 20th December 2020. Due to the limited numbers allowed into church, anyone who would like to attend, please ring Alma to book a seat on 01697473998.

Last day of term

Friday 18th December 2020 will be our last day of term and we will close at the normal time. Please remember that there will be no After School Club on this day but Breakfast Club will operate normally. Several of the local secondary schools are closing early on this day so if you do wish to collect your child earlier in the day, we are more than happy to assist with this if you let us know in advance.

And finally...

I would like to reiterate my thanks for this last year and I look forward to seeing you all on Tuesday 5th January 2021 when school reopens for the Spring Term. Our current risk assessments and school arrangements will continue into the Spring Term so drop off and collection arrangements will remain the same. Please note that we are also asking that children are wearing their school uniform tops to school on all days, including PE days, so we are looking forward to seeing the children return to school looking smart and ready for the new school term.

Merry Christmas everyone!

Yours sincerely,

Mrs A Harvey