



HIGH HESKET C of E SCHOOL (VC)

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Friday 30th April 2021

Dear Parents,

We have had a fabulous start to the Summer term and our whole school 'Hummingbird' project has produced some wonderful work throughout our bubbles. We are meeting together this afternoon over Zoom to share what we have been doing as a school and I am so looking forward to hearing about all the different activities that have been taking place. We will share some of our displays on Twitter next week so keep an eye out for some photos!

It is really positive that things are beginning to move in the right direction and that we are on track for the easing of restrictions within the wider community as outlined in the government's roadmap. I often get asked about how things in school will operate after June 21st when the government have predicted that many current restrictions may cease. As yet, our guidance has not changed and we have not yet received any communications about how things may look for schools in June and beyond. This means that we continue to work from our current risk assessment but we will, as always, inform you about any key changes. It is worth noting that, whilst there certainly have been challenges, the current circumstances have resulted in some positive changes, such as a decrease in traffic congestion due to our staggered timings, and there may be certain elements of the current school organisation that we wish to continue with in September in some form.

A key focus for school over the coming months, even as things relax, is to prevent any bubbles or groups from closing due to a positive case being identified in school. Public Health England require all close contacts to self-isolate following a positive case which, in most cases, would result in the closure of a class bubble. At the moment, we are maintaining our bubble arrangements and risk assessments in order to avoid wider school closures as we want to reduce the risk of this happening as much as we are able. Whenever we do receive new guidance, we will of course consider this carefully and keep you informed with any updates.

Parent's evening

By now, you should have received a link to be able to book your child's parent's evening appointment. The link should have been sent by either text or email so please let us know in the office if you have not yet received this. If you need any assistance or have any queries, please don't hesitate to get in touch. The link for the actual appointment (referred to as a PE video) will be sent out **24 hours** before it takes place via email or text. To start the appointment, click the link just before your appointment time. You will then wait on a page until the class teacher is ready and a 'join now' button will appear. Click this and it will connect you directly to the class teacher when your allocated time starts. Depending on the device you are using, you may be asked to allow access to the microphone and camera. As I have mentioned before, this is new to us as well but we are hopeful everything will run smoothly!

End of year reports

Obviously, this has been another year of changes and challenges but we are planning to send home end of year reports for the children in July which will give an overview of the year and your child's learning. They will be produced in a very similar format to last year's reports and we feel this new report format helps to give a clear and personalised snapshot of your child's experience over the last academic year.

Sports Day 2021

Unfortunately, we are still unable to have parents on site for events and the way that our bubbles work will make our usual Sports Day arrangements tricky so we are unable to invite parents our annual Sports Day to watch this year. However, we feel it is very important to continue with some of these key events in the school calendar for the children, especially as Sports Day was unable to go ahead last year. This year, we are handing over the organising responsibility to our Year 6 children who will be planning a day of activities that can be carried out in our bubbles and in accordance with all the current guidance in order to earn points for our colour teams. This will take place on Tuesday 22nd June 2021 and children should come to school on that day dressed in clothing suitable for PE. Your child may wish to wear an item of clothing or an accessory that reflects the colour team that they are part of so school jumpers are not required on this day. If you are unsure which team your child is in, please get in touch and the class



teachers will be able to let you know this information. If the weather is hot, we do also ask that the children come prepared with water bottles, hats and with sun cream applied.

Relationships and Sex Education

You received a letter several weeks ago outlining the changes to our RSE policy and providing information about how to view the policy and content overview on our school website (Website – Information – Policies). These are now no longer in draft format and will form the basis of our RSE teaching from this term onwards.

Individual and whole class photographs

We are hoping, depending on circumstances at the time, to be able to invite the school photographer in to school on Wednesday 30th June 2021. We are still in the process of finalising arrangements and ensuring that this can be done in accordance with all the relevant risk assessments, so we will confirm this nearer to the time.

M&M Productions of 'Treasure Island'

You may remember that, before Christmas, we had M&M Theatre Productions visit school and perform a COVID safe showing of 'The Wizard of Oz'. The children thoroughly enjoyed watching this in our expanded bubbles in the hall and so we have invited them back for a summer performance of 'Treasure Island'. We would very much appreciate a donation of £3 to cover some of the cost of the booking and this will be added to School Money nearer the time.

Dates for the diary:

Monday 3rd May 2021 – School closed for May Bank Holiday

Tuesday 4th – Thursday 6th May 2021 – Parent's evening appointments (Year 4 only)

Tuesday 11th – Thursday 13th May 2021 – Parent's evening appointments (All other year groups)

Monday 17th May – Friday 28th May 2021 – Year 6 swimming lessons

Thursday 20th May 2021 – Outdoor Classroom Day

Friday 28th May 2021 – School closes for half term holiday

Monday 7th June 2021 – School reopens

Wednesday 9th June 2021 – M&M Productions 'Treasure Island'

Tuesday 22nd June 2021 – Sports Day event (children only)

Wednesday 30th June 2021 – School photographer in school (provisional booking)

Friday 16th July 2021 – School closes for Summer holiday

Wishing you all a lovely Bank Holiday weekend!

Yours sincerely,

Mrs A Harvey
Headteacher