



HIGH HESKET C of E SCHOOL (VC)

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Monday 18th October 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

It is hard to believe that we are already entering the final week of this half term. It has been a busy but rewarding few weeks and I am sure that the next half term will bring much excitement with winter approaching and, of course, some of our Christmas activities. As always, there are some things to make you aware of below and you are always welcome to get in touch if you want to ask anything further.

School start time

A polite reminder that school for children in Early Years, Year 1, Year 2 and Year 3 starts at 8.40am. The doors open at 8.35am and lessons do start promptly at 8.40am. Older siblings are still welcome to arrive at the earlier start time and are supervised on the playground until their lessons start at 8.50am.

Governor changes

I am sad to announce that Mrs Emma Massey will be leaving her post as Co-opted Governor on the 31st October. Mrs Massey had previously worked at the school for many years prior to her Governor role and has continued to support us on the Governing Body whilst her children were at the school. Unfortunately, it is now time for her to move on and we would like to say a huge thank you for all her support over the years.

School photographs

We have the school photographer on site on Wednesday 10th November for this year's individual and family photographs. We appreciate that it hasn't been too long since we had the photographer in school but the June session was due to needing to postpone our normal photograph cycle due to the partial school closures last year. We are now returning to our normal cycle where we have individual/family group photographs in the Autumn term and then whole class photographs later on in the year.

Children in Need

This year, we will be raising money for Children in Need on Friday 19th November 2021. Children are welcome to come to school dressed in non-uniform and donations to Children in Need on the day would be gratefully received (suggested donation £1).

Christmas plays

After half term, we will begin preparing some short Christmas performances in our year groups ready for the festive season! It is too early to know for certain whether we will be able to perform for parent audiences or whether these will be recorded but we need to get rehearsals under way! We will write nearer the time when we have an idea of how these will be presented.

Travelling through the village

It is always worth a polite reminder to ask parents to drive safely and courteously when travelling through the village. Please can we also ask parents to continue to ensure that resident's driveways are left clear and that any litter or dog's mess is disposed of safely and considerately. Thank you for your support with this as we want to ensure a positive and safe environment for the children when they are travelling to and from school.

Good luck Miss Dent!

Miss Dent, one of our Key Stage 2 teaching assistants, will be starting her maternity leave at the end of this half term. We wish her all the very best and will keep you updated with any news!

Menus

When we return from half term, we will be on Week 2 of the menus for school lunches. These can be viewed on the website.



Age appropriate online platforms

I am aware that Netflix has become a very popular streaming service and there are a wide variety of films and TV programmes available, many of which are more than suitable for our primary aged children. However, we are also aware that, without suitable restrictions in place, children may be able to access programmes that are not age appropriate. One example that is gaining much attention in the media is 'Squid Game' which contains scenes that are unsuitable for young children. We would strongly advise that parents check the restrictions available on Netflix accounts and I have attached a useful safety guide from the National Online Safety website which includes some handy tips and discussion points.

Dates for your diary:

Monday 18th October 2021 – Year 5 swimming lessons start

Week commencing 18th October 2021 – Parent's evening appointments for Early Years

Friday 22nd October 2021 – school closes for half term break

Monday 1st November 2021 – school reopens

Thursday 4th November 2021 – Outdoor Classroom Day

Wednesday 10th November 2021 – School photographs

Wednesday 17th & Thursday 18th November 2021 – Parent's evening appointments for Years 1-6 (letter to follow)

Friday 19th November 2021 – Children in Need (non-uniform day)

Thursday 2nd December 2021 – PTA Children's Christmas Fair

Friday 3rd December 2021 – M&M Productions Christmas Pantomime 'Snow White' in school

Monday 6th December 2021 – Year 6 swimming lessons start (more information to follow)

Thursday 16th December 2021 – CFM Cash for Kids Christmas Jumper Day

Thursday 16th December 2021 – school closes for Christmas

Yours sincerely,

Mrs A Harvey
Headteacher