



## HIGH HESKET C of E SCHOOL (VC)

High Hesket, CARLISLE, Cumbria CA4 0HU TEL: 016974 73386

Head teacher: Mrs A Harvey

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Friday 15<sup>th</sup> November 2024

Dear Parents & Carers,

Thank you for all of the generous donations for Children in Need and it has been lovely to see the children's empathy towards the important causes we have been discussing recently, such as Anti Bullying week, Remembrance and Children in Need. I know the staff also enjoyed the opportunity to connect with so many of you as part of our parent's evenings and, as always, please do continue to get in touch if you ever have any concerns or queries.

### Attendance

As you know from previous communications, expectations regarding attendance have increased significantly and any unauthorised absences of ten sessions or more in a ten-week period may be subject to a fixed penalty notice. We have an attendance officer, Victoria Stewardson, assigned to the school who visits our setting regularly and reviews attendance across the school community. As a result, she may contact parents directly if attendance is causing a concern or if attendance is lower than 90% which is classed as persistent absenteeism. She is also happy to be contacted directly to answer any queries and we are also happy to provide support wherever we can so please do get in touch.

### Raffle prizes

A huge thank you to all of the generous donations of raffle prizes that we have received. We are really grateful to everyone who has reached out to different businesses and companies and we are excited to have a huge range of experiences and gifts that will be included. The PTA will be in touch shortly with details of how to purchase raffle tickets in advance of the school fair.

### Flu immunisation

The flu immunisation team have visited school today to deliver the nasal spray to all pupils in Reception – Year 6 for whom we have received parental consent via the online NHS portal. If your child has received the flu immunisation, you should receive an email confirming that this has been the case and providing details of the immunisation. Please note that the portal is not coordinated by school and the spray has only been administered if confirmation was received by the NHS team in advance. If your child did not receive the spray and you would still like them to, details of the local vaccination clinics have been sent out alongside this letter but please note that you do need to book an appointment in advance.

### Santa Keys

As you know, we are assisting one of our Y5 pupils with their fundraising towards attending the Allstar World Championships and Summit Championships for cheerleading in the USA. The 'guess the sweets in the jar' competition was a big success and, to raise further funds, the pupil will be selling decorative 'Santa Keys' for £3 at the end of the school day on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2024.

### Theatre by the Lake – Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> December 2024

We are really looking forward to our Year 2-6 trip to see The Jungle Book at the Theatre by the Lake. The buses will need to leave by 9am so we do ask that the children are in school promptly on this day. The show begins at 10am and is expected to last around 2 hours plus an interval. We aim to return to school for around 1pm and the children will have a school packed lunch when they get back. We will also provide a small snack and drink during the interval for the children to have at the theatre.

### Cold weather

Winter is definitely on its way so we do request that the children have a warm, waterproof coat in school for playtimes moving forward. If any snow does arrive, we do like to make the most of being outside but ask that children have a change of footwear, ideally wellies, on any snowy days so as they can enjoy the weather outside on the field.



## Takeaway breakfast – Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2024

You should have received an order form if you would like to join our takeaway breakfast next Friday, 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2024. Hot rolls for £3 can be pre-ordered for collection between 7.45 and 9am and drinks will also be available on the day for £1. If you have not yet received an order form and would like to know more, please email [admin@high-hesket.cumbria.sch.uk](mailto:admin@high-hesket.cumbria.sch.uk).

## Red Squirrels

We were delighted to welcome Rachel Smith from the Penrith and District Red Squirrel Group on Wednesday who delivered a really interesting presentation to Years 1-5 on red squirrels, how they differ to grey squirrels and how we can help protect them in the wild. As part of the session, we watched clips from a documentary about Cumbria's red squirrels which is available on iPlayer if you are interested in knowing more. The episode can be found at [www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/episode/m001zqv6](http://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/episode/m001zqv6) . We are also sending home a leaflet from the Penrith and District Red Squirrel Group alongside this email which contains information about how you can get further involved.

## Dates for the diary:

**Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> November 2024** – Year 1 & 2 trip to the Devil's Porridge Museum

**Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2024** – Fundraising takeaway breakfast

**Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2024** – Y1&2 Christmas performance at 2pm

**Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> December 2024** – EYFS Christmas performance at 9.15am and Y3&4 Christmas performance at 2pm

**Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> December 2024** – Y1&2 Christmas performance at 9.15am and Y3&4 Christmas performance at 2pm

**Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December 2024** – PTA Christmas Fair

**Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> December 2024** – Theatre by the Lake trip for Year 2-6

**Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> December 2024** – Cinema trip for Nursery, Reception & Year 1

**Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> December 2024** – Toy Day

**Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> December 2024** – Christmas lunch and parties

**Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December 2024** – Year 5 Carol Service at St Mary's Church at 1.30pm

**Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December 2024** – School closes for the Christmas holidays

**Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2025** – School reopens for the Spring term

Yours sincerely,

Mrs A Harvey  
Headteacher