HUNTER HALL

PREPARATORY & PRE-SCHOOL

Newsletter Number 12
Autumn Term, 3rd December 2021

Dear Parents,

With just under two weeks to go before Christmas there is a lot going on in school! Please keep a careful note of the week ahead for timings etc. for various performances and as an advance warning – Monday morning the 13th of December drop off will be at St Andrews Church, not school, so we can rehearse for our carol concert. More details on this will follow next week.

On Sunday the choir are meeting at Keswick to be part of the Victorian Fayre festivities and Mrs Wrightson and I are looking forward to singing along and supporting them in their first public outing, out of school for the year.

Speaking of outings, Mrs Wrightson, Mrs Wilson and myself visited Austin Friars this week to see the opening night of Grease. Our Old Hunters were part of the performance, with Elliot A playing the lead role of Danny Zuko, whilst Arabella B-B played Marty. We also spotted Edward T, Evie P and Zach P – what a treat to catch up with them and see their confident, self-assured performances – a proud moment for all concerned.

We welcomed Windermere school to our final home fixture of the term on a particularly biting afternoon this Wednesday – luckily, Fiona had put on hot chocolate to go along with a sausage sandwich for their match tea, which was welcomed by all.

Swimming has also had its final session of the term, with the house swimming competition taking place. It was an extremely close finish with both Badgers and Foxes grasping first place with 130 equal points, Squirrels and Hares took third and fourth position. Well done to all our swimmers who have thoroughly enjoyed getting back into the pool after a sizeable absence and making the progress they have. Mr. Hetherington has read that the number of children who now cannot swim 25 M is set to rise dramatically due to COVID, yet all our children have made considerable progress, with only a small handful yet to make that 25 M mark.

This morning, I have also taken our Year 3 group to St Andrew's Church on an RE trip to find out all about the Christmas story. We might hear the story every year, but the magic never fails 😊

On to nativity and festive timings, these have now been confirmed - please see the 'Dates for your Diary' box below.

Don't forget our parents' group bake sale today from 3pm in the courtyard. Thank you to all our bakers – everything looks delicious!

And finally, our official Christmas card for 2021 has arrived. I thought you might like to see a photo of it – taken during the lockdown online learning term in February last year, with our key worker children.

Enjoy your weekend,

Mrs D Vinsome

Dates for your diary

Year 1 and 2 Nativity afternoon performance – Tuesday 7th December @ 2pm -**2 guests per family**

Early Years (Reception and Pre- school) Nativity afternoon performance Wednesday 8th December @ 2pm - **3 guests per family**

Year 1 and 2 Nativity Evening performance– Wednesday 8th December @ 6pm - **2 guests per family (all Year 1 &2 children will need to bring a packed tea)**

Reindeer Run in aid of Jigsaw Children's Hospice - Friday 10th December @ 2:30pm (see notice below)

Christmas Carol Concert rehearsal at St Andrews - Monday 13th December **– Drop off from 8:15am at Mansion Street carpark (next to the laundry)**

Christmas Carol Concert (whole school) evening performance- St Andrews – Wednesday 15th December @ 6.30pm - **All invited (all children are expected to attend)**

Carols around the tree (weather permitting) Thursday 16th December @ 11.30am - **All invited**

Please note, unfortunately we cannot offer refreshments at any of our performances other than carols around the tree due to its outside nature.

Tree Planting

On the weekend of 4th/5th December PACT (Penrith Action for Community Transition) has arranged, with Eden District Council, for the planting of 500 trees at Frenchfield.

Students (and parents) from UCC and QEGS plus members of Eden Runners are attending to help with the planting. It would be nice for Hunter Hall to be represented too.

We are looking to start at 10.00am on Saturday. You will need appropriate clothing, boots/wellingtons and a spade. We will meet in the Hunter Hall car park as this is where the saplings are being delivered. We will be grateful for any time that you can give to help plant the trees.

If you have any questions, please email me at Philip.Sturgess@hunterhall.cumbria.sch.uk

Philip Sturgess
PACT director

Pre-School News

Wow, what a very exciting week we have had in pre-school, we can certainly tell that we are into December!

We started the week by talking about how we all get ready for Christmas; we watched the Christmas tree in the courtyard get decorated and found it very exciting when the lights were switched on.

The children helped to create our Christmas home corner, hanging stockings, wrapping presents and decorating with tinsel.

We have carried on with our extra special Christmas crafts and practicing our nativity.

It was very exciting on Wednesday when we got the Christmas tree out and helped to decorate it with baubles and tinsel, we had a small tinsel explosion as we were going!

We also had a very special arrival in pre-school- our elf who we named, 'Frosty Sparkle' and learnt about his magic, and how he flies back to the North Pole every evening to report back to Santa.

As well as this we have talked about how people have different Christmas traditions. We also looked at the tradition of Christmas dinner and created our own yummy versions.

Mrs Parker

Reindeer Run for Jigsaw Children's Hospice!

Some festive fun to support a fantastic local charity! Children will be taking part in a whole school reindeer run on the afternoon of **Friday 10th December at 2:30 at Frenchfield** to support Jigsaw Children's Hospice in Carlisle.

Parents are welcome to attend and cheer the children in their quest!

Jigsaw have created a video to show the children what their hard-earned funds will do: you can also view the video here: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XjeAiUXKIzE

1. There is a minimum donation of £1 for each child. With this each child will receive a set of antlers and a certificate for taking part. An envelope will be issued to each child next week for their donation: this is to be returned to the school on the morning of the run.
2. For those of you who would prefer to donate and share with family and friends online, please visit this link: https://jigsawhospice.org/support-us/fundraise/the-reindeer-run-donations
3. There is also an official sponsorship form from Jigsaw for those who wish to donate in this way. These can be collected from Charlotte MacRae or Sara Hutt.
4. (If we raise an average of £10 per child, each child will also receive a shiny medal from Jigsaw!)

Secondary School News

On Wednesday 8 December Ampleforth are holding an online event for families who would like to learn more about Music Scholarships and Development Awards at Ampleforth College.

Music Scholarships at Ampleforth offer gifted musicians the opportunity to take a leading role in making music at the highest level as part of one of the country's leading music departments.

Scholarships are prestigious and scholars are expected to demonstrate a strong contribution and leadership in their field of interest. They are also expected to make the most of the many opportunities on offer to further their talents and each is assigned a personal Scholarship Mention to monitor and support their progress.

If you know of any families who might like to learn more about the music opportunities available at Ampleforth College please do share this information with them. Families can register for our Music Scholarship evening by **clicking here**.

Week ahead

Sunday 05 December 2021

12:30	Choir singing at Keswick Victorian Fayre

Monday 06 December 2021

10:00 - 12:00	Richard Evans (drums)
12:00 - 18:30	Barbara Gilbertson
15:20 - 16:20	Choir
15:30 - 16:30	Lower school - Hockey
16:30 - 17:00	Band – note change of finish time

Tuesday 07 December 2021

14:00 - 15:15	Lower school nativity performance
13.30 - 15.30	Outdoor Ed Year 3&4 Group 2
15:30 - 16:30	Upper School - Chess
15:30 - 16:30	Upper School – Fencing - CANCELLED
15:30 - 16:30	Lower School - Running
16:30 - 17:30	Exam Prep Year 5

Wednesday 08 December 2021

09.15 - 11.15	Years 3-6 swimming
14:00 - 15:00	Reception and Pres-school Nativity performance
14:00 - 15:30	U9 & U11 Hockey v Windermere @ Windermere (Astro)
15:30 - 16:30	Lower School - Street Dance
15:30 - 16:30	Upper School - Languages
18:00 - 18:45	Lower School Nativity performance

Thursday 09 December 2021

NO OUTDOOR EDUCATION

08:30 - 15:30	Barbara Gilbertson
12:45 - 17:00	Theatre by the Lake theatre trip for upper school.
15:30 - 16:30	Upper School – Mindful Colouring - CANCELLED
15:30 - 16:30	Lower School - Colouring
15:30 - 16:30	Lower School - Football

Friday 10 December 2021

LAMDA

08:30 - 10:30	Garry Linsley (woodwind)
11.15 - 11.45	Year 2 Swimming
12:00 - 15:30	Andrew Roze (guitar/ukulele)
14:30 - 15:15	Reindeer Run in aid of Jigsaw Hospice - whole school
15:30 - 16:30	Lower School - Free Play
15:30 - 16:30	Upper School - Running