HUNTER HALL

PREPARATORY & PRE-SCHOOL

Newsletter Number 9 Autumn Term, 18th November 2022

Dear Parents,

I can't quite believe that another week has whizzed by! As the children came through the gate 'inside out' this morning, it was great to see the smiles on their faces as they revelled in the joy of being a little bit scruffier than is normally allowed! Thank you very much for your donations to Children in Need. We raised the fantastic amount of £167.82. Another big thank you to Toby for counting all the money!

Year 5 and 6 had to delay the inside out fun for a few hours today in order to go to Kendal Mountain Festival. They saw a really interesting range of speakers: Molly Thompson-Smith, regular climbing pundit on BBC and Sky Sports, Team GB Climber and Hopeful Paris 2024 Olympian; Sophie Pavelle, climate change activist, who described the trips she took to see ten of the UK's rare species that could disappear entirely by 2050; Aldo Kane, a World Record Setting adventurer, explorer, producer, author & TV presenter with a penchant for the world's most dangerous, extreme and remote locations…. plus stunts by BMX-er Andrei Burton. The children came back buzzing!

Our governing board met on Tuesday to review the work of various sub committees and to look at next steps for school. Mrs Vinsome was able to join the meeting online. She has been able to attend a number of meetings virtually recently, and she is beginning to get back into school life, albeit remotely, as she continues her recovery. We look forward to seeing her back on site before too long hopefully. The governors have also had several prospective applicants for the headship visiting school over recent weeks for tours. People interested in the role have had conversations by phone with our chair, Mrs Natalie Harling, to understand more about our school. The level of interest is pleasing, so we are hopeful that there will be a good field.

Next week, the 'Winter Sparkle' is on Tuesday night, where many of out children (18 at last count I believe!) are looking forward to performing with an instrument or a reading. It's always a lovely event, sprinkled with a hearty helping of winter magic. It will be lovely to see lots of you there. It is non-ticketed. Do feel free to come along at 6.30.
For your information, also attached to this email are details of the Carlisle Festival for next spring, along with a form to fill in if your child would like to enter any speech, acting or music classes. Please can these be returned to Mrs Robson by the end of this term?

As of next week, Mr Sturgess is running a chess club on Tuesday lunch times for any children in upper school who are interested. This is with a view to running chess alongside choir after Christmas on Monday nights.

Finally, I'd just like to say a hearty thank you to Sara Hutt and her team of Parents' Group helpers for the firework event last Friday. As always, the fireworks were fantastic, the atmosphere was warm and friendly, and the food and drink were delicious. A huge amount of time and effort went into it, and it was not without its stress (as we looked on nervously at the strong winds mid-afternoon!). A thoroughly good evening was had by all.

Have a lovely weekend everybody.

Kirsty Fletcher

Nativities

With December fast approaching, we have some important dates for your diaries: the EYFS and lower school (Y1 and 2) nativities. These will take place as follows:

EYFS nativity: 1.30pm on Thursday 8th December

Lower School nativity: 6pm on Tuesday 6th December and 2.30pm on Thursday 8th December

A separate letter, regarding ticketing and further information, will be sent out by class teachers next week.

Pre-School News

We have had lots of fun this week in pre-school.

After the children had shown interest in the torches last week, we have followed on by exploring light and dark. We began the week by talking about the difference between light and dark and looking at pictures of day and night. We watched a video of the sun coming up and the moon in the night sky and the children talked about their own experiences of seeing these things. The children created a day and night collage, thinking about what colours to use and which objects should go in which picture.

We used the torches to do many different things. We created shadows and made our own shadow puppets and had a go at drawing around our own shadows; this was a little tricky! The children loved jumping on the light spot which the torch created, taking turns to jump on it. We also had a go at passing the spot around the circle as fast as we could. As well as these exciting games, we also explored coloured lenses on the torches and used prisms to explore what happened when the light went through them.

On Thursday, we learnt about Children in Need and why we raise money. We also finger painted spots onto Pudsey Bear's bandana.

As well as this, we have been busy getting into the swing of our Christmas preparations, practising our nativity and beginning Christmas crafts.
Well Done Pre-school!

Mrs Parker and Miss Graham

Parents' Group

Fireworks Spectacular
A HUGE thank you to everyone who attended the event on Friday. It was a great success and the weather eventually cooperated. Thank you to all of you who stayed behind and helped clear up; it makes a big difference. We raised a lot of money (still waiting on the final total), some of which will be spent on reading books for lower school.

Christmas Fayre/Bake Sale Friday 2nd December 3-5pm

Join us for a glass of mulled wine and a mince pie whilst buying a few Christmas goodies. There will be baked goods, reindeer food, a raffle, candles, Christmas-themed decorations and a few activities for the children.

How You Can Help
Do you make marvellous mince pies, perfect puds, beautiful bread, charming chutney? Do you have a hitherto undisclosed talent for making soap, bath bombs or Christmas wreaths?
If you are one of our many super-talented parents and would like to be involved, please see Sara Hutt as soon as possible.

Any donations of baked goods (on the day) would be very welcome.

Christmas Fayre
&
Bake Sale

Friday 2nd December
3 p.m. onwards

Mulled wine and Mince Pies

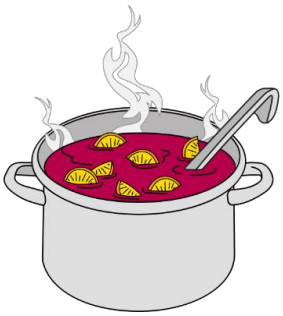
Christmas Gifts and Decorations

Baked Goods

Christmas Raffle

Reindeer Food

Rudolph Hot Chocolate



Please bring your baked goodies to school in the morning.

Winter Sparkle

An evening of words and music
Tuesday 22nd November
6:30pm

Hand-knitted Christmas table decorations (including a chocolate orange!) and advent calendars for sale on the night!
(Thanks to Mrs Wrightson's mother-in-law for raising money for music in school)

All welcome

Penrith Schools' Music Association

Carol Festivals

ST ANDREW'S CHURCH, PENRITH 7PM

MONDAY 5TH DECEMBER

Featuring CULGAITH, HUNTER HALL, KIRKBY THORE, LOWTHER, NORTH LAKES, TEMPLE SOWERBY, ULLSWATER COMMUNITY COLLEGE, QUEEN ELIZABETH GRAMMAR

TUESDAY 6TH DECEMBER

Featuring BEACONSIDE, PENRUDDOCK, SKELTON, ST CATHERINE'S, ULLSWATER COMMUNITY COLLEGE, QUEEN ELIZABETH GRAMMAR

Tickets £5 & £3 - available from participating schools

Proceeds towards music in participating schools

A Food bank collection point will be open to welcome donations at each Festival

Week ahead

Monday 21 November 2022

09:30 - 12:00	Richard Evans (drums/cello)
14:00 - 18:30	Barbara Gilbertson (voice, violin and piano)
15:30 - 16:30	Lower school: Running/Games
15:30 - 16:30	Lower School- Art
15:30 - 16:30	Upper School - Choir
16:30 - 17:30	Upper school - Band

Tuesday 22 November 2022

All day	Ampleforth maths day Year 6 – Cancelled by Ampleforth
08:30 - 09:30	Ian Butterworth (brass)
13:00 - 13:30	Upper School – Chess club
14:00 - 16:00	Barbara Gilbertson (voice, violin and piano)
15:30 - 16:30	Lower School- Multi-Sports
15:30 - 16:30	Upper School - Running
15:30 - 17:30	Upper School - Exam Prep Year 5
18:30 - 20:00	Winter Sparkle Words and Music evening

Wednesday 23 November 2022

08:00 - 09:10	Ian Butterworth (brass)
09:00 - 11:15	Year 4-6 Swimming @ Penrith Leisure Centre
12:00 - 17:00	Year 3 Mary Poppins @ Windermere school
14:00 - 15:30	U9 & U11 Rugby v Mowden Hall @ HH
15:30 - 16:30	Lower school - languages
15:30 - 16:30	Upper school - Fixtures/Sports club
15:30 - 16:30	Upper School - Mindfulness Colouring

Thursday 24 November 2022

08:30 - 15:30	Barbara Gilbertson (voice, violin and piano)
15:00 - 16:00	Lower school - Football
15:30 - 16:30	Lower school - Colour and Craft
15:30 - 16:30	Upper School - Outdoor Education – Year 6
16:30 - 17:30	Upper School - Football

Friday 25 November 2022

08:00 - 10:30	Garry Linsley (woodwind)
08:00 - 16:30	LAMDA
10:00 - 15:30	Andrew Roze (guitar/ukulele)
15:30 - 16:30	Lower school - Free Play
15:30 - 16:30	Upper School - Outdoor Education – Year 5P
15:30 - 16:30	Upper School- Cookery Club
16:30 - 17:30	Upper school -Tennis