HUNTER HALL

PREPARATORY & PRE-SCHOOL

Newsletter Number 1 Spring Term, 6th January 2023

Dear Parents,

Welcome back and Happy New Year to those of you I have not seen as yet. The Christmas break is such a busy time with young children, but I do hope you enjoyed some down time too, away from the routines of school life etc.

The children, as always, are a tonic to us all and have returned in good form, settling down to their studies and activities. Term began with assembly where I spoke to the children about building firm foundations, fundamental to allowing success in all areas of life – be that preparing properly for a race, to ensure you perform the best you can, to surrounding yourselves with positive role models, who can help and support you when needed. In assembly this morning, 5P were super in demonstrating children's rights and responsibilities such as: the right to achieve to the best of their ability, whilst also having the responsibility to allow others the opportunity to achieve their best too.

On our teacher training day (the previous day), we were brought up to date with the latest legislation and had time to prepare for the term ahead. Mr Hetherington has been busy putting up football goals in readiness for a busy term, whilst Year 3 will be swimming this term too – please see the attached letter.

The early spring term is often beset by bugs, and we are going to try our hardest to offset these by ensuring the children sanitise their hands as often as possible. Please can I ask you to remind your children to sanitise, as they come through the gate each morning. During the pandemic when we returned to school it was noticeable how many fewer bugs we dealt with, and I think perhaps strict sanitising regimes did in some way help with this. Whilst we are on with health and safety Mr White has asked that I add the following to the newsletter today:

Dear All,
You might have noticed when we returned on Wednesday that the staff are now parking their cars in the part of the car park nearest the school. We have done this in response to concerns that this is an area that a lot of parents and children cross each day, and so we have tried to reduce vehicle movement in this area, at school drop off and pick up.
In addition, we have also been advised that reverse parking is the safest way to park, so if it is possible, I would would ask you to reverse park.
Please also ensure that you do keep a close eye on your children in the car park and always accompany them to the school gate. We must point out that the responsibility for your children remains with you in the car park – there is no staff supervision.
I hope that these revised procedures will make our car park a safer place.
Please do get in touch if you have any observations. david.white@hunterhall.cumbria.sch.uk
Thanks for your assistance,
Mr D White

This weekend we have a large running event happening on the school grounds and Mrs Wilson and a team of litter picking volunteers spent break time picking up litter that has blown into the hedges, surrounding the school fields over the last few weeks, to ensure the school is in fine form to host such an event. Many thanks to Mrs Wilson and her team - gold stars for them all!

Whatever you are doing this weekend enjoy, please remember to note fixture lists, outdoor education timetables and cookery lists etc on the notice board – as many parents now do, taking a photo on your phone means that it is quickly to hand should you need an aide memoir in what can be very busy days!

Mrs D Vinsome

Pre-School News

It has been lovely to welcome you all back into pre-school this week, hearing about how you have spent your Christmas holidays.

We spent our first couple of days talking and drawing pictures of what Santa brought us. We also talked about how we could say thank you to him and decided we should write a thank you letter.

Some of the children have made a start on their letters and we will finish them off next week.

We were all very excited to hear about Eli's special news that mummy had her baby, and we would like to congratulate all of the family on their new addition.

We have also enjoyed being back with our friends playing lots of imaginative games, such as baking in the homecorner or going on an aeroplane.

We worked hard in Work it Out Wednesday with our hide and seek challenge- trying to find the polar bear!

As well as this, we have enjoyed being back in the forest, exploring changes to the forest during winter.

Well done Pre-school!

Mrs Parker and Miss Graham

YEAR 3 SPRING TERM 2023 –SCHOOL SWIMMING

Dear Parent(s),

I am delighted to inform you that swimming, for year 3, will commence on Wednesday the 11th January 2023 and continue for 10 weeks (with a 1 week break during the February half term). Opportunities to swim at Hunter Hall have always been rich and varied, including lessons, house galas, inter school galas and open water swimming opportunities all taking place. Please find a rough breakdown of the 10 sessions in the table below.

Wednesday: starting 11th January 2023
Year 3 (45 minute lesson) 9.15-10am @ Penrith Leisure Centre
Session breakdown
Sessions 1-8: stroke development & water safety, **Session 9:** lifesaving challenges (pyjamas needed) **Sessions 10:** water polo

**Children in Reception, Year 1 & Year 2 will swim during the summer term.*

At Hunter Hall, we aim to go beyond the Primary school swimming standards and the national curriculum guidance. By the end of year 6 we want to develop water confident and capable swimmers who can swim a minimum of 50-100m efficiently, whilst providing them an opportunity to apply these skills in different environments e.g. water polo and open water swimming. For those new to the school, or swimming for the first time with us, please feel free to email me to share your child's current level of ability and provide an indication of how much swimming they have done over the last year. Whatever group they are in, please be assured that the same programme will be delivered and that our focus is on supporting them to become capable swimmers, who know how to be safe in and around water.

The cost of the 10 lessons will be added to your termly invoice.

Kit: towel, goggles (check they still fit and are water tight), swim cap, swimming costume (baggy shorts not ideal), water bottle- all contained within a suitable bag. A snack is a good idea for the journey back to school.

If you have questions, wish to share current ability levels or want to discuss any concerns please contact Mr. Hetherington. (andrew.hetherington@hunterhall.cumbria.sch.uk).

Kind regards,

Andrew Hetherington

Week ahead

Monday 09 January 2023

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

Tuesday 10 January 2023

08:30 - 09:30	Ian Butterworth (brass)
10:00 - 11:00	Barbara Gilbertson (violin, voice and piano)
15:30 - 16:30	Lower School - Multi-sports
15:30 - 16:30	Upper School - Running
16:30 - 18:30	Upper School - Exam Prep Year 5

Wednesday 11 January 2023

08:30 - 09:30	Ian Butterworth (brass)
09:15 - 10:00	Y3 Swimming @ Penrith leisure Centre
14:00 - 15:30	U10 7's Rugby A & B team v Austin Friars @ HH
12:45 - 17:00	U9 & U11 Netball @ Windermere
15:30 - 16:30	Upper School - Mindfulness colouring
15:30 - 16:30	Lower school - languages

Thursday 12 January 2023

08:30 - 15:00	Barbara Gilbertson (violin, voice and piano)
13:30 - 16:30	Upper School - Outdoor Education - Years 3&4
15:00 - 16:00	Lower School - Football
15:30 - 16:30	Lower school - Colour and Craft
15:30 - 16:30	Upper School - Drama
16:30 - 17:30	Upper School - Football

Friday 13 January 2023

08:00 - 10:30	Garry Linsley (woodwind)
08:00 - 16:30	LAMDA
09:30 - 15:00	Andrew Roze (guitar/ukulele)
13:30 - 16:30	Upper School - Outdoor Education - Year 5P
15:30 - 16:30	Upper School Cookery Club -Year 6 only
15:30 - 16:30	Lower school - Golden Time free play