



# HUNTER HALL

PREPARATORY & PRE-SCHOOL

Newsletter Number 2 Spring Term,  
13<sup>th</sup> January 2023



Dear Parents,

Thank you to our parent's group for chocolate bingo last Friday – I hear it was a sellout event with almost all the school there. Chocolate bingo is certainly different, but I can imagine it could prove very popular, especially on dark winter January days! Thank you to Mrs Raven and all the parent team who helped to organise such an event.

Our parents group work so hard raising money for the school, but first and foremost it is a platform where parents can come together as a community, as it is often difficult during the normal school day and the geographical location of where some of our families live. If you would like to be involved, a reminder that Mrs Sara Hutt is chair of the group, and she can be contacted on [Huntherhallparents@gmail.com](mailto:Huntherhallparents@gmail.com)



In spring, exams take place for all children in Years 3 to 6 in core subjects – English, mathematics and science. Years 3 and 6 are the first group to have exams - starting at the end of January. In preparation, these year groups should have revision lists in their bags this evening. Years 4 and 5 will be sent later – please see table below:

	Exam week beginning	Revision lists
Year 3 and 6	Mon 30 <sup>th</sup> January	Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> January
Years 4 and 5	Mon 6 <sup>th</sup> February	Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup> January

Please note revision will take place in school and be set as homework, but of course it is always useful to top up knowledge with a little extra study at home, if you have time. Parent meetings will take place following these exams.

Mrs Wrightson's class have been busy updating their phonics knowledge this week – through dance! They have been swirling and twirling to the 'ir' sound as you can see from the photograph – how learning to read has changed!

Although the weather is against us at present, Mr Hetherington did manage to complete the rugby fixture against Austin Friars at home on Wednesday – to say it was a wet and muddy afternoon was something of an understatement (!), but the children rose to the challenge, and the number of gold awards awarded in assembly this morning is testament to the effort that the team put in.

Unfortunately, Windermere was awash with rain and therefore that fixture was cancelled. Mr Spooner's outdoor education programme is also up and running again after the Christmas break, and the children were very much looking forward to their climbing wall session at Keswick yesterday, as I waved off the minibus.

Since our minibus service started to run along the A66 corridor, demand for it has certainly increased. If you are interested in using this service, or indeed, would like to voice your interest in a service running along an alternative route in the future, please contact Mr White.

Governors have also had a busy week; our finance committee met this morning, and yesterday I met with our newly appointed safeguarding governor Mrs Gemma Bullimore for our first formal meeting. A reminder that I am the Designated Safeguarding Lead in school (DSL), with Mrs Tarrant as my Deputy DSL, with responsibility for early years.

The post for my successor has also gone live this week and it was reassuring to see that within the first 24 hours we had 3 interested parties lodge an interest. Mrs Harling will keep you up to date with further developments on this front.

And finally, we have news! The Hunter Hall community is expanding again - I am delighted to announce that Miss Graham and her partner Sean are expecting their first baby! Huge congratulations to them as they start another chapter of their lives.

Enjoy your weekend.

Mrs D Vinsome



## Parents' Group

### Christmas Fayre update

A huge thank you to everyone who either contributed to or attended the Christmas Fayre. Some of the money raised will be used to purchase some new keyboards for the music department. Thank you again.

Mrs S Hutt

### Date for your diary

Friday 17<sup>th</sup> Feb – Big Pancake Breakfast!

## Sports Club

Miss Ecroyd will be running a netball club this half term for year 5 and year 6 on a Friday afternoon from 3:15-4:15. Please note that cookery club will take precedence, so if children are timetabled for they cookery club that week, they can come to netball club the following week when they are not committed.

## Senior School News

St Bees are offering tours to all year 5 and 6 parents if you would be interested in a place at their school. Please find the links below:

A short video about the school can be found here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gGKpnX02WUo>

And their prospectus here: <https://www.stbeesschool.co.uk/join-st-bees/prospectus/>

# Pre-School News

It has been a brilliant week in pre-school and we have now got back into the swing of our daily routine and joining in with lots of fun activities.

At the start of the week, we finished off our letters to Santa and put them up on our display board, the children are always super proud to see their work on display.

The children have been very keen to dress up this week, we have had the Gruffalo, a dinosaur, a mouse and even Spider-Man join us. They spent a long time trying to catch the Gruffalo and stop him from eating the mouse!

We have also played a huge game of hide and seek, practising taking turns and counting skills. The children came up with fabulous hiding places and it was really tricky to find them!

The children had a great time exploring the musical instruments too, practising their listening skills by following instructions and repeating a rhythm.

In Work it out Wednesday this week we had to rescue the dinosaurs from the ice, where they had become trapped. We thought of many different ideas to try and get them out, such as: trying to break the ice by throwing the ice on the ground, using warm water to melt it, hammering it, and putting it in a warm place. Luckily, we managed to rescue all of the dinosaurs and we celebrated by doing an awesome dinosaur dance!

In the forest we created our own forest pictures. We used sticks to make our picture frame, then created a forest masterpiece using natural objects we found, such as: sticks, stones leaves and pine cones.

Well done pre-school!

*Mrs Parker and Miss Graham*



# Week ahead

## Monday 16 January 2023

	LAMDA (CATCH UP SESSIONS)
09:30 - 11:30	Richard Evans (drums)
14:30 - 18:30	Barbara Gilbertson (voice, violin, 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 17 January 2023

08:30 - 09:30	Ian Butterworth (brass)
10:00 - 11:30	Barbara Gilbertson (voice, violin, piano)
11:45 - 17:15	CSAA County Cross Country Championships Years 4,5,6 @Sedbergh
15:30 - 17:30	Upper School - Exam Prep Year 5

## Wednesday 18 January 2023

08:30 - 09:30	Ian Butterworth (brass)
09:15 - 10:00	Y3 Swimming @ Penrith LC
15:30 - 16:30	Mindfulness colouring
15:30 - 16:30	Lower school - languages
15:30 - 16:30	Upper School - Sports
18:00 - 19:00	U10 Rugby v Penrith RUFC @ Penrith RUFC

## Thursday 19 January 2023

08:30 - 15:30	Barbara Gilbertson (voice, violin, piano)
11:45 - 17:00	Rawthey Run U11 XC @Sedbergh
13:30 - 16:30	Upper School - Outdoor Education- Year 6 - Climbing
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 20 January 2023

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

Please see the notice board or Parent Portal for fixture team lists.