

# Old Hutton C of E School

Old Hutton, Kendal, Cumbria, LA8 0NQ

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Headteacher: Mrs Andrea Walker BA(Hons), PGCE, NPQH LLE



Wednesday 21st October 2015

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have had a great half term. During the first week of school we enjoyed another sun-baked trip to the Westmorland County Show followed by a great night at Kendal Torchlight Festival. The following week Class 3 enjoyed a day at the Celebration of Rugby Festival. The children definitely enjoyed their experience more than the England team fans enjoyed the main tournament! On 21<sup>st</sup> September we celebrated Harvest Festival in church with some fabulous singing and presentations from the children. We then enjoyed a multi-faith activity day in school, full of artwork, crafts, activities and dancing!

At the end of September the whole school watched a touring performance of "A Midsummer Night's Dream" then took part in acting workshops. It was another fabulous opportunity for the children to join in some whole-school learning, it's something the children tell us that they learn a lot from and that we feel make for memorable experiences. The same week, representatives from our School Council attended the South Lakes Pupil Parliament Day at the Netherwood Hotel. It was a chance for the children to meet other School Council members, share ideas and learn more about democracy and making decisions for the school.

On 7<sup>th</sup> October our Year 5 and 6 girls took part in a football tournament at Ghyllside Primary School. They played brilliantly, winning 3 out of 4 matches! The following Monday Years 4,5 and 6 enjoyed a morning looking at the Water Cycle when United Utilities came in to present a fun-packed session of learning. That same week, Year 2 had a great trip to Strickley Farm, whilst Mr Cooper took over half of the Key Stage 2 children to run in St Thomas's CE Primary School Cross Country race.

This week Mrs Hopkins took the remainder of Class 1 to Strickley Farm whilst Class 3 was treated to a visit from Sam Butterworth, as part of their Extreme Environments topic. Sam has been to Antarctica and climbed Mt Everest (wow!) and we were enthralled by all her videos and pictures and captivated by all the equipment she brought in to help us understand how to thrive in such potentially hostile places.

## Staff news

We are awaiting news on Mrs Walker's return. She would like to pass on her heartfelt thanks for all the kind messages, cards and letters she has received. In the meantime, we hope you will all agree, from everything that has taken place so far this term and everything you are about to read, the school is continuing to provide amazing learning opportunities for the children in Mrs Walker's absence.

## SIAMs Inspection

On 8th October we had our Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools. We are proud and pleased to announce that the report judged the school to be outstanding in all the areas that were assessed. The staff team, through Mrs Walker's guidance, worked so hard to achieve this, however the outcome was realised through the time the inspector spent with the children, governors and parents of the school, who were all able to share their perspectives on what an amazing place our school is. We have attached a copy of the report for you to read; it really is a wonderful reflection of our fabulous school, I hope you enjoy reading it.

## **Goodwill**

Can I extend a big thank you to all the parents that have given up their time so far this year to help in school. We have excellent helpers in Classes 2 and 3, assisting us with our guided reading sessions. And of course we wouldn't get to all the trips we organise without the army of drivers that volunteer to collect and return the children.

## **Parents' Evenings**

Appointment slips have now gone out for Parents' Evenings in November. Please note that these are 10 minute slots. If you feel you need more time to discuss your child's learning, please speak to individual class teachers to arrange a time outside of these sessions.

## **Diary Dates for the remainder of the term:**

### **November**

Mon 2<sup>nd</sup> – School reopens

Tue 3<sup>rd</sup> – Parents' Evening – 5.00 – 6.30pm

Fri 6<sup>th</sup> – Last date to return filled shoeboxes for Boxes of Hope

Mon 9<sup>th</sup> – Parents' Evening – 3.30 – 5.00pm

Wed 11<sup>th</sup> – Remembrance Service in church – 10.45am ALL WELCOME

Wed 11<sup>th</sup> – Ski Club restarts

Fri 13<sup>th</sup> – Last date to return Scholastic Book Club orders

Wed 18<sup>th</sup> – Class 3 at Kendal Archive – Wainwright session

Fri 20<sup>th</sup> – Class 3 to The Brewery for Kendal Mountain Festival school event – 10.00am -12.00noon

Wed 25<sup>th</sup> – Yr 5 to Kirkbie Kendal School for Music Service RAF Swing Wing event

Thurs 26<sup>th</sup> – Yrs 3 & 4 trip to Jorvik Centre, York

### **December**

Tues 1<sup>st</sup> – Performance of Cinderella in school for Reception and KS1

Tues 1<sup>st</sup> – School Council Christmas Fair – OH Village Hall, 5.00-6.30pm. ALL WELCOME

Wed 2<sup>nd</sup> – Ski Club

Thurs 3<sup>rd</sup> – KS2 to The Dukes, Lancaster to see Beauty & the Beast – 9.15am

Fri 4<sup>th</sup> - Christingle event – workshop making Christingles in school from 1.15pm followed by a service in church to which parents are invited – 2.45-3.15pm ALL WELCOME

Wed 9<sup>th</sup> – Christmas Production – NH Village Hall – afternoon and evening performances. TBC

Tues 15<sup>th</sup> – Class 1 and Pre-School Nativity in Church – 2.30pm

Wed. 16<sup>th</sup> – Christmas Party

Thurs 17<sup>th</sup> – Christmas Carol service in church – 1.15-1.45pm ALL WELCOME

Thurs. 17<sup>th</sup> – Term ends – 2.00pm

### **January 2016**

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January – Staff Training day

Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> January – spring term starts

Best wishes from,



Acting Headteacher