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Term 2 2020-2021 – Week 4

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are about to welcome Christmas cheer into school and have had to think differently, this year, on how to do this. Our aim is to keep as much as we can of our usual festivities but they have had to be tweaked to meet Covid guidance. It is really important that we keep this time of year special and we hope the children will enjoy it. There is further information in this newsletter about what is coming up!

ATTENDANCE

Congratulations to Underwater for their attendance of 98.8% last week and again to Underwater class for their attendance of 98.2% this week. Please note that any children self-isolating do not affect our attendance as they are recorded as learning from home.

REWARDS

Congratulations to the following children who have received their next Pupil Point certificates.

500 Point – Bugs – Ida - Thea

500 Points – Bugs – Franklin - High Peaks – Hannah – Jungle - Flynn

700 Points – Bugs – Ila - Jungle - Finlay

900 Points – High Peaks- Dora

THIS IS ME 2!

This week the children from Years 1-3 brought home a copy of 'This is Me 2!', the result of the children's and role-models' combined efforts during lock down. We would like to extend our thanks to everyone involved, from those behind the initial idea, the role-models themselves and to local printers Chilli Graphics. Both Laughton School Association and Friends of Firlie School Association kindly donated funds for the design and printing of the booklets, so our thanks are of course extended to them also.

We hope these booklets serve as a positive reminder of what the children and role-models achieved, despite the challenges of 2020. Should any member of the school community and beyond wish to obtain copies of this booklet, please contact the school office. The cost of these booklets are £3.00 each.

I HAVE DREAM

The children in Jungle class have been writing their own speeches inspired by the whole school topic. They are fantastic, full of careful thought and consideration. I was completely blown away by this one from Louie S.

“I have a dream. It is a dream with reasons intertwined with the world’s most prominent issues. I have a dream that one day life may include holidays so that people could see new places, have new experiences. A dream that little children may play together again, have fun together again, get in trouble together again. I have a dream that my generation and generations to come may live in a world not affected by floods and fires but in a world where trees are being planted. A dream that important events may go ahead and not be cancelled due to extreme weather. I have a dream today.”

Diary

December

3rd – LSA Christmas Shop

4th – LSA Christmas Shop

4th – No Uniform Day for raffle prize

9th – Christmas Dinner

11th Christmas Jumper Day

14th– LSA Christmas Shop

18th – End of Term

January

4th – INSET

5th – Children return to school



ECO UPDATE

I have visited all the classes this week to talk to the children about applying for the job of Eco Warrior for this year's Eco group. We are looking for 2 Eco Warriors per class whose job it will be to promote eco friendliness in their classes like turning off taps and lights when not in use, recycling everything possible and so on.

The Eco meetings will be held every other Wednesday at 8.15am. We will announce the first meeting date in advance and parents will always receive an email reminder before each meeting. The children will be given a hot breakfast snack at each meeting. Forms must be handed into class teachers by 1st December where I will have the difficult job of deciding which 2 applications from each class get the job! We will announce the Eco Warriors to each class as soon as I have decided and hand out their Eco Warrior badges. We will then share this with you all in the next newsletter! We have attached the Eco rep form with this week's newsletter.

Eco Ernie went to Bugs last time for amazing recycling. This time Eco Ernie is awarded to High Peaks for excellent eco friendliness where ever possible.

CHRISTMAS CARDS

Due to current restrictions, we are trying to avoid Christmas cards being brought in and circulated around school. We do however recognise that children will still want to wish their friends a happy Christmas.

The LSA are therefore providing the opportunity for children to purchase an A3 sheet, with a choice of 5 different designs, which they can then write their messages on. Children can then bring these in to school where they will sit for 72 hours before being displayed in the school hall for everybody to see.

The sheets are a minimum donation of £1 each which will raise funds for the LSA. If you would like to purchase one for your child then please can they bring in their money in a named envelope and we will let them choose their preferred design to bring home. Many thanks.

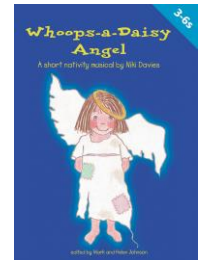
KS1 NATIVITY

KS1 will be performing their nativity play, Whoops-a-Daisy Angel, on the following dates:

Underwater - Tues 8th and Wed 9th 2.30pm

Bugs - Thurs 10th and Fri 11th 2.30pm

Children have been allocated parts over the last 2 weeks, and have begun to learn their lines at school. Exact details of how this will be performed (within current restrictions) will follow. It will be shared either with a social distancing performance or filmed to go on the class learning platform (which requires a log in to access).



PANTOMIME

Although this year is a bit different, we are pleased to say that the children will still get to enjoy a pantomime. We have booked an online pantomime – Jack and the Beanstalk that the whole school can watch in their own classes.

PARENT PAY

For parents and carers in key stage 2 who pay for school meals, please can you ensure that you have sufficient funds on your parent pay account for your child/rens school dinners. Last week we found we had £500 in arrears and it took Mrs Miller a long time to work through and inform everyone with outstanding debt. It is your responsibility to check your account as we cannot provide credit. When your child moves to secondary school they will not be given a meal if there is insufficient money on their account. We would not do this but it would be great not to have to spend time chasing up payments, many thanks.

CHRISTMAS TREE DECORATIONS

The classes will once again be getting creative and making tree decorations for the village Christmas tree. We look forward to seeing them displayed from 5th December.

NO SCHOOL UNIFORM DAY

Friday 4th December is a no school uniform day, in return for a hamper item for the LSA Christmas raffle.

Jungle to bring bottles - soft drinks / alcohol / oils

High Peaks to bring jars - jams, pickles or condiments

Bugs to bring chocolates or sweet biscuits

Underwater to bring other nibbles or savoury biscuits

SCHOOL CHRISTMAS DINNER

Our Christmas dinner is on **Wednesday 9th December**. You will find the Festive menu attached with the newsletter which should have been returned today. If you haven't yet replied, please email your child's food preferences to the school office by 8:30am Monday morning. We cannot take any requests after then as the

kitchen need to order their suppliers. If you do not order by then, you will need to provide a packed lunch for your child for that day. Thank you.

CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY

On **Friday 11th December** we will be supporting Save the Children by wearing Christmas Jumpers to school with a voluntary donation of £1.

LSA Christmas Shop

Our Christmas shops will be on **Thursday 3rd** and **Friday 5th December** (during school hours). Each gift will cost £2 each so please send your child in with the correct money and in a named envelope. There will be gifts available for everyone in the family and is an opportunity for your child to buy a gift for Christmas independently.



If you would like to donate gifts to the Christmas shop, please can you do so by Monday 30th November. This will allow us to photograph all gifts and wrap them in advance. If you would like to buy gifts for the Christmas shop please buy a minimum of 5 identical gifts and hand them in to the school office. Gifts can be bought for about £1 but not exceed £1.50 and purchases can be claimed with a receipt if you prefer. Thank you very much.

LSA AGM

The LSA AGM will be held in late January 2021 and we hope that this may be able to be socially distanced, depending on government guidance. If we are not able to meet then it will be carried out via Zoom.

Please have a think about whether you would be interested in standing for any of the following roles:

LSA Chair
LSA Vice Chair
LSA Treasurer
LSA Secretary

The LSA do a tremendous job from running Easter Mayhem, Bake Sales, Christmas Grottos to non-school uniform days and second hand uniform sales. They LSA have supported the school with IT needs, PPE equipment, Underwater's mud kitchen and outdoor learning area revamp, Bugs new garden reading library, High Peaks extension and Jungle's leavers celebrations, as well as Pupil Point badges, class cookery lessons and so much more.

Getting involved is a great way to support our school and see your efforts make a difference.

We will send out a letter in January for you to state your interest for these roles in preparation for the vote at the AGM.

We also have class reps for each year group and their role is to support communication about events and help coordinate year group fundraising ideas for their appointed year group.

CHRISTMAS GIFTS

We know that sometimes children like to make a card/ gift for their teacher or give them something at Christmas. There is never any expectation from staff to receive these and we hope you are all aware of this. We do know however that despite saying there is no need to give them anything some people will. We would therefore like to ask that if you did want to pass anything on to your child's class teacher that it be clearly labelled and put in the box by Mr Herman's shed door so that we can quarantine it before passing it on. Many thanks

Kind Regards
Rachel West, Vicki Brown