

### HEAD TEACHER'S MESSAGE

The children have returned confident and raring to go with their learning. There is a real buzz of enthusiasm and effort in every classroom. One of my personal highlights this week was seeing the look of excitement and happiness on Year 4's faces when they visited the Wentworth swimming pool. It was the first school trip out in over a year and it really brought home how much they have missed outings and visits.

We are really hoping that we continue the term without any Covid cases however if we do have to close a bubble, I've added some useful guidance at the end of this flyer on how claim up to £500 if you have to take time off work to care for your child while they are self-isolating.

To help staff with a manageable work life balance, the expectation is that they will only check Class Dojo messages during the school day. Please limit these messages to feedback about hearing your child read. If you need to contact school urgently out of hours e.g.: to report your child has Covid symptoms then please send me a message on Class Dojo messenger. For any other enquiries, please email the school office or phone the school. Thank you for your support with this.

Have a lovely weekend everyone.  
Mrs Overton



Well done to this week's Dojo  
Certificates holders

Reception: Frankie – ambitious

Year 1: Maisie - ambitious

Year 2: Nick - ambitious

Year 3: Emily - curious

Year 4: Oliver - confidence

### Exciting Learning



Year Two have been learning about Italy and had a fantastic time making



Year 4 have been testing different ways to make a tall tower in science, looking at how folding, rolling, joining and overcoming gravity would strengthen their towers.



A snap shot of the Design and Technology lesson in Year 3 this week – learning about ingredients used in cold drinks, their nutritional value, taste, texture and appearance – they absolutely loved making their own fruit mocktails!



Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> April

Earth Day

Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> May

Bank Holiday Monday – school closed

Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> May

Class photos

Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> May

Reception & Year 1 Storyteller

Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> May

National Numeracy Day

Friday 28<sup>th</sup> May

Break up for half term

Monday 7<sup>th</sup> June

Return to school

Friday 11<sup>th</sup> June

Year 3 to visit Hexham Middle School

Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> July

Transfer Day – Year 4

Friday 16<sup>th</sup> July

Break up for Summer Holidays

Monday 6<sup>th</sup> September

INSET day

Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> September

Autumn Term begins



**Stay safe**  
@ Hexham First

### **Financial support for Parents/Guardians who must take time off work to care for their child while they are self-isolating**

Parents or guardians who are on a low income and need to take time off work to care for their child while they are self-isolating may be eligible for financial support from their local authority through the Test and Trace Support Payment scheme. The Test and Trace Support Payment scheme is open to people who live in England and who meet the following criteria:

- They are the parent or guardian of a child or young person in the same household and need to take time off work to care for them while they self- isolate; this is limited to one parent or guardian per household for the child or young person’s self-isolation period
- Are employed or self-employed
- Are unable to work from home while undertaking caring responsibilities and will lose income as a result
- They are currently receiving or are the partner of someone in the same household who is receiving at least one of the following benefits: Universal Credit, Working Tax Credit, income-based Employment and Support Allowance, income- based Jobseeker’s Allowance, Income Support, Housing Benefit or Pension Credit

Discretionary payments are also available for people on low incomes who are not on means-tested benefits but who may still face hardship as a result of the requirement to self-isolate. Your local authority may have additional eligibility criteria in place for discretionary payments.

Those eligible will receive a £500 payment from your local authority in addition to any benefits and Statutory Sick Pay they receive currently.

To allow the Council to process these applications a check must be made with the child’s education or childcare setting to verify that they have been instructed to self-isolate.



**Weekly attendance is fantastically high in school. Well done and thank you everyone**

<b>Week 1</b>	<b>98%</b>
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### **WEATHER FORECAST**



The weather for the week ahead brought to you by Lacy and Ava in Year 4.

The week starts off warm with a gentle breeze with highs of 14C. The rest of the week will be rather chilly with lows of 2 and 3C in the morning, coats will be needed.

### **Earrings**

Just a polite reminder - please can we remind you that the children are not allowed to wear earrings at school for safety reasons. This policy is well supported by parents however we have noticed a very small number of children who have come to school with earrings in. We will be asking them to remove their earrings and put them in their school bag to take home if they forget to take them out.

Thank you for your support with this

## **Useful Websites of the Week**

**This is a new section on our Friday Flyer where we will signpost useful websites for children and parents**

**White Rose** – <https://whiterosemaths.com/for-parents/maths-with-michael/> **Maths with Michael** explains how we teach maths in school with film examples

**Hexham First School** - <http://www.hexhamfirst.northumberland.sch.uk/website/home/421788> Full all sorts of useful information

**Toppsta** <https://toppsta.com/> is packed with inspiring ideas to support reading for pleasure & full of book recommendations for children aged 0 to 14, with reader reviews, book lists for different ages, stages and subjects, featured books, giveaways and inspiring ideas to help your child enjoy reading.