



Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> October, 2017

### October Half Term Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers,

As the half term holiday arrives, here is our latest newsletter of news to celebrate and some important information and reminders to share with all parents and carers. Everyone has settled in well to their new year groups and classes, especially our fantastic new Reception class! We have already enjoyed many exciting events and activities in our busy Autumn Term so far and achieved lots of great learning!

#### Staff news

**Mr Cooper** has been on secondment as Acting Head teacher at Brough Primary School this term. As Brough have recently been unsuccessful in their recruitment of a new Head for the rest of this academic year, our Governors have agreed to release Mr Cooper to continue in this role until the end of the Summer Term. While we will miss his experience and teaching skills, this is an excellent leadership opportunity for Mr Cooper and also enables us to develop our own staffing in different ways this year, as well as help to contribute our expertise to the wider schools system. **Miss Harrison** will continue as Class 4 teacher until the end of July. We will also now be able to continue to employ our **additional teaching assistant staff** across school: Miss Fisher in Class 3 on Wednesdays and Friday afternoons (as well as teaching Class 3 on Thursdays and Friday mornings), Miss Davies in Class 4 on Mondays and Class 2 Tuesday morning, Ms Dunstan in Class 3 on Thursday mornings and Miss Ramsbottom in Class 2 for 12.5 hours over the week.

Sadly, **Rebecca Hodds** has decided to leave her post of **School Administrator** after half term to focus more on her work as a teaching assistant. She has been an excellent support to us all in the office and we will miss her friendly smile and welcome as our first point of contact as well as her super organisational skills! However, she will remain part of our staff team as Class 4 teaching assistant on Tuesday mornings and is continuing as one of our Governors. Following a full recruitment process over the last few weeks, we are very pleased to have appointed **Mrs Angela Cowen** as our new School Administrator. Angela has recently moved into the area with her family, is a parent of 2 pupils who joined our school at the start of October and brings a wealth of experience in admin from her previous employment in London. She has been working alongside Rebecca for some time this week and will begin in post after the holiday.

#### Pupil news

A very special welcome goes to more new pupils and families who have joined us during the last few weeks. **Milo and Bryn have started in Reception; Jacob is new in Y2 and Joshua in Y1.**

#### Parents' evenings

Many thanks to all of you who came to our **parents' information evenings**: in September, to share details about your child's **new class and/or year group**. In early November, we are holding **parents' consultation evenings**, which are another good opportunity to meet staff in school and share your child's progress. Please **see the letter coming home tomorrow** for more information, including a reply slip to choose dates/times and return school straight after half term – thank you.

#### Other important events coming up next half term...

**Please see the attached updated diary dates** for reminders, some date changes and new events. ... there is a lot to fit in before Christmas!

### **Special events news from the last half term...**

We have been so busy, the term has flown by so far! As well as getting down to work in the classroom, pupils' learning has been actively inspired by many exciting visits and events. These are all beautifully documented on our school Facebook page (which can also be accessed via the school website at [www.oldhuttonschool.org.uk](http://www.oldhuttonschool.org.uk)), but highlights have been visits to the **Westmorland Show** (including a meeting with Prince Charles!), **Beamish Outdoor Museum** as part of Class 3's Victorians topic and the **South Lakes Pupil Parliament** where 4 of our school council pupils took part in a debate led by speaker of the House of Commons, John Bercow! We enjoyed a lovely **Harvest Festival** service in church on this term's Christian Value theme of Responsibility, ably led by our Collective Worship Committee and providing a huge amount of food gifts for local charities as well as a collection to begin our fundraising project for **Senegal** this year – to raise enough for a generator to boost the new electricity supply in our link school and provide more facilities, such as computers, for our twin pupils to use; a big thank you to all who contributed. Lots of our KS2 pupils participated with great enthusiasm in the **Kendal Torchlight Festival** (creating a fantastic gang of rats for our Pied Piper fairytale entry!) and **QKS Cross-Country Races** – including achieving several top 10 places, despite coming from one of the smaller Kendal schools! Many thanks to all staff and parents who helped to organise these visits and events and came along to support us.

### **Sports, music and extra-curricular clubs**

We have a record number of pupils **learning to play musical instruments** this year, especially since introducing new strings and singing lessons this term – keep it up everyone and a huge thank you to our excellent music staff for encouraging and teaching them all so well! In class weekly, we are also learning **recorder and singing** with Mrs Yvonne Hulme in Class 3, **keyboard** with Mrs Sylvie Heath in Class 4 and having some **wonderful musical learning and fun in Y1/R** with Mrs Kate Thomas! Our sports lessons, after-school and lunchtime clubs have also been very popular this term keeping everybody active! They have included KS2 **Dance/Street Jazz** Club and weekly R/Y1 lessons with Jess Smith of Motion Dance, Y2 Dance sessions with Ashley of The Brewery, KS1 'Fun-damentals of **Sport**' club and Class 4 weekly **games skills** sessions led by Mrs Jill Eccleston, weekly KS2 **Football Club** kindly run by Simon Gray, KS1 weekly **football/ball skills** with WFC coaches and Class 3 weekly **rugby/games skills** with KLRUFC coach Scott as well as weekly gymnastics with Laura Smith. Mrs Thomas and **our popular new Y2-6 Choir** have been providing some beautiful singing on Friday lunchtimes. Our exciting **Warhammer Club** also continues this term, led with great enthusiasm by Y5/6 pupils John, Ed and Tom. Huge thanks to everyone involved in organising all these excellent curriculum enrichment opportunities for our children.

**Next half term**, please note that our after school sports club on Monday and dance club on Wednesday swap key stage age groups; so **Mondays will become a new sports/running club for KS2 pupils**, still run by Jill Eccleston and **Wednesday dance club will now be for KS1**, run by Jess Smith.

### **Car parking issue and safety reminder**

I would like to assure everyone that as a priority, school is actively seeking ways to help improve our current parking difficulties outside school. We discussed different ideas at our Governors' meeting this week and a working group has been established to take these further. In the meantime, please can we remind everyone to show consideration to others, including our neighbours in the village, by **driving slowly and cautiously in the school vicinity** and **avoiding parking in front of all the private properties opposite the school. It is dangerous and illegal to park on the yellow zigzag lines in front of school.** Please try your best to park sensibly and always take extra care of the children and yourselves when getting in and out of vehicles, crossing the road and walking to and from school at the busy start and end of the school day. Thank you.

### **Broadband internet news**

We are very excited to report that we now have a **connection established to receive our broadband internet via the new local B4RN system.** Final work will be completed during half term

and then our new connection will be live! We should see huge improvements in terms of internet speeds and quality as well as a fantastic reduction in costs to the school, saving over £3000 per year! It is also great to be part of this local community initiative to bring internet improvements to rural areas in the north. A huge thank you to Simon Gray and all who have been involved in this project.

### **PTA News**

Many thanks to all parents and friends who were able to attend the **PTA meeting** in September, where our many achievements from last year and future plans for the year ahead were discussed. This half term we are very grateful to the PTA for funding our Beamish trip coach, KS1 football sessions and half of our soon-to-be installed new Class 1/2 resources store shed! Don't forget the **film night** after school today and the usual end of half term **Friday cake stall** after school tomorrow!

**With best wishes from,**



**Andrea Walker**  
Head teacher

### **Dates for your diary October/November/December 2017**

<b>Monday 30<sup>th</sup> October:</b>	After School & lunchtime clubs start Claire Griffel talk about Senegal - AM Sports Club KS2 – 3.30-4.30pm
<b>Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> October:</b>	NO FOOTBALL CLUB
<b>Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> November:</b>	Open the Book in Church – 2.50pm – ALL WELCOME! Warhammer Club 3.20 – 4.30pm Dance Club KS1 – 3.30-4.30pm
<b>Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> November:</b>	Choir - Lunchtime
<b>Monday 6<sup>th</sup> November:</b>	Sports Club KS2 – 3.30-4.30pm Parents' evening – Class 3 – 2.00 – 5.00pm Class 1, 2 & 4 – 3.45-5.00pm
<b>Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> November:</b>	Football club KS2 – 3.30-4.30pm
<b>Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> November:</b>	Open the Book in Church – 2.50pm – ALL WELCOME! Warhammer Club 3.20 – 4.30pm Dance Club KS1 – 3.30-4.30pm
<b>Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> November:</b>	Remembrance service in Church – 10.45am (Date Thu/Fri TBC) –ALL WELCOME!
<b>Friday 10<sup>th</sup> November:</b>	Remembrance service in Church – 10.45am (Date Thu/Fri TBC) –ALL WELCOME! Choir - Lunchtime
<b>Monday 13<sup>th</sup> November:</b>	Sports Club KS2 – 3.30-4.30pm Parents' Evening – All classes 5-6.30pm
<b>Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> November:</b>	Flu Nasal Immunisations – Rec to Yr4 - AM Football club KS2 – 3.30-4.30pm
<b>Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> November:</b>	Open the Book in Church – 2.50pm – ALL WELCOME! Warhammer Club 3.20 – 4.30pm Dance Club KS1 – 3.30-4.30pm
<b>Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> November:</b>	Children In Need Day – TBC PTA Movie Club – 3.30-5.15pm
<b>Friday 17<sup>th</sup> November:</b>	Boxes of Hope being collected Kendal Mountain Festival visit – Class 4 - TBC Choir - Lunchtime

<b>Monday 20<sup>th</sup> November:</b>	Sports Club KS2 – 3.30-4.30pm
<b>Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> November:</b>	Football club KS2 – 3.30-4.30pm
<b>Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> November:</b>	Open the Book in Church – 2.50pm – ALL WELCOME! Warhammer Club 3.20 – 4.30pm Dance Club KS1 – 3.30-4.30pm
<b>Friday 24<sup>th</sup> November:</b>	Choir – Lunchtime
<b>Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> November:</b>	Church Christmas Fair – village hall
<b>Monday 27<sup>th</sup> November:</b>	Sports Club KS2 – 3.30-4.30pm
<b>Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> November:</b>	NO FOOTBALL CLUB
<b>Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> November:</b>	Aladdin in Lancaster – KS2 - AM Warhammer Club 3.20 – 4.30pm Dance Club KS1 – 3.30-4.30pm
<b>Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> November:</b>	Whole School Multi faith event – Light Christingle Service in Church – 2.45pm – ALL WELCOME! PTA Christmas Disco – 3.30-5pm
<b>Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December:</b>	Choir - Lunchtime
<b>Monday 4<sup>th</sup> December:</b>	Sports Club KS2 – 3.30-4.30pm
<b>Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> December:</b>	The Snow Dragon – Brewery Arts Centre – KS1 - AM Football club KS2 – 3.30-4.30pm School Christmas Fair – Village Hall - 5-7pm
<b>Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> December:</b>	Open the Book in Church – 2.50pm – ALL WELCOME! Warhammer Club 3.20 – 4.30pm Dance Club KS1 – 3.30-4.30pm
<b>Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December:</b>	Choir – Lunchtime
<b>Monday 11<sup>th</sup> December:</b>	School Christmas Production: Oliver! Rehearsals – New Hutton V Hall – All Day. Sports Club KS2 – 3.30-4.30pm
<b>Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December:</b>	School Christmas Production: Oliver! – New Hutton Village Hall Matinee & 6.30pm performance – ALL WELCOME! Football club KS2 – 3.30-4.30pm
<b>Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December:</b>	Warhammer Club 3.20 – 4.30pm Dance Club KS1 – 3.30-4.30pm
<b>Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> December:</b>	PTA Christmas hat crafting
<b>Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December:</b>	Choir – Lunchtime Christmas Nativity – KS1 – TBC PTA Cake Stall
<b>Monday 18<sup>th</sup> December:</b>	Christmas Parties - TBC Sports Club KS2 – 3.30-4.30pm
<b>Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December:</b>	Christmas Carol Service in Church – 1.15pm – ALL WELCOME! <b>TERM ENDS AT 2pm</b>
<b>Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> January:</b>	Spring Term Starts.

### **School Term dates – 2017-18**

*Please note that school ends at normal time for half term holidays but at 2pm at the end of full terms.*

#### **Spring Term 2018**

Thursday 4 January- Thursday 29 March

**Half Term Holiday:** Monday 12 February – Friday 16 February

#### **Summer Term 2018**

Monday 16 April – Friday 20 July

**Half Term Holiday:** Monday 28 May – Friday 1 June

Early May Bank Holiday: Monday 7 May