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**Headteacher – Mrs H.F. Richardson**  
**Deputy Headteacher – Mr N. Stoker**

8<sup>th</sup> July 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am writing to provide some important information for the coming weeks and months.

### TRANSITION VISITS

As you should already now know, transition visits for children still learning at home have been organised for this week and next week. You should have received a letter and email inviting your child to a visit at school to meet their new teacher and some of their new classmates.

As the transition arrangements are rather different this year and the usual Induction Meetings are not able to take place, the teachers have prepared some information for you to look at with your child about the arrangements for next year, as much as we know them at the moment. This information will be distributed with this letter and also posted on the website and ClassDojo. I hope you will be able to spend some time looking through this with your child.

The teachers will also be putting one last work pack onto the DropBox for the last week of term. This is a Transition Project to help your child look forward to the new school year. We hope you will find it useful. This will be available from Monday 13<sup>th</sup> July.

### YEAR SIX LEAVERS

As we approach the end of the summer term and the time when we would normally have been celebrating the years the year 6 children have been at Castle Park with a summer musical, special assembly and Leaver's BBQ, we want you to be assured that we will not let this time pass without a special occasion for you, even though it may not be on the normal scale. It will be an event using the internet, and we will be in touch with more details soon.

### SUMMER HOLIDAY CHILDCARE

We have received notification from the Local Authority that schools will not be open during the school holidays to provide childcare. However, Sunny Brow at Castle Park will be offering their usual Summer Holiday Club for any parents needing childcare while they are at work. If you need childcare during the summer holiday, please contact Jane Faulkner on 01539 729437 or email [janesunnybrow@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:janesunnybrow@hotmail.co.uk) to book a place for your child.

### CLASSDOJO

I hope you are all enjoying using ClassDojo with your child and have managed to access this platform successfully. If you are having any problems, please contact school office [admin@castle-park.cumbria.sch.uk](mailto:admin@castle-park.cumbria.sch.uk) and we will be pleased to help you. Please note that ClassDojo will only be operational during term time and will be suspended during the school holiday period, from 4.00pm on the last day of term (Friday 17<sup>th</sup> July 2020) until the new school year.

### HELP WITH MEALS DURING THE SUMMER HOLIDAYS

If you need help with providing meals for your family, please let the school know. We may be able to help you access support during the summer holiday period from local charities and Food Banks. If you need help, please ask.





## SCHOOL MEALS

We are hoping to resume hot school meals in September, as was the provision up until the end of March (school has only been able to provide packed lunches since reopening to more pupils last month). Unfortunately, due to rising costs, the school meal providers have increased their charges for school meals and the cost of a school meal will rise to **£2.70 per day** from September. The cost of a nursery school meal will also be increasing to **£2.10 per day**. This does not affect either the Universal Free School Meals provision for all reception, year 1 and year 2 pupils or children who receive income-related free school meals, who will continue to receive a free school meal every day.

If your personal circumstances have changed over the last few months and you think your child may be entitled to free school meals (even if they already access a universal free school meal) please apply for this entitlement for your child. If you are registered for Free School Meals (FSM), your child will receive extra funded support in school as well as other benefits that will last for 6 years after they have been registered for FSM. Please search for free school meals on the Cumbria County Council's website or look on the school website for more information. If you need any support with this, please email the school office.

If your child is already entitled to Free School Meals and you have been receiving vouchers over recent months, this will continue during the summer holiday. You will receive one voucher for the whole holiday period (rather than every week as has been the case recently).

## END OF TERM ARRANGEMENTS

School will close for the summer holiday on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> July 2020 at the end of the school day 3.00pm, 3.10pm or 3.20pm (depending on what time the school day ends for your child's class bubble). Please note that there is **no after school childcare** on the last day of term.

## AUTUMN TERM PLANS

The governors are planning for a full re-opening of the school as normal in September according to government guidance. The school will probably still be operating in bubbles with staggered start and finish times and lots of handwashing and safety measures in place. Plans for September are still in the early stages and will be communicated to you in more detail after the 18<sup>th</sup> August. The government may change their guidance for schools during the school holiday period but will not do so after that date. Therefore, the school will confirm specific details e.g. routes into school, gates to be used, where children should enter school buildings and at what times etc. after the 18<sup>th</sup> August (by email and letter to your home). I am sorry that I cannot be more specific at this time, but the new school year is 8 weeks away and, as we have discovered over the last few weeks, things can change overnight!

## BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL CLUB IN SEPTEMBER

Many working parents already access the school's Before and After School Club. I am delighted to inform you that this is being further expanded in September for all children at the school including Early Years pupils. The Before School Club will open at 7.45am and the After School Club will be open until 5.30pm. The clubs are staffed by our own Teaching Assistants and provide high quality educational activities including learning opportunities, games, special projects, sports, arts and crafts, IT and cooking to name just a few. If you would like to know more, please contact the school office.

Yours sincerely,

*Mrs H F Richardson*  
Headteacher



Artsmark  
Silver Award  
Awarded by Arts  
Council England

