

CUMWHINTON SCHOOL



*...inspired by Cumbria, ready for the world...*

Cumwhinton School

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Headteacher: Mr Jon Stewart

Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December 2023

Dear Cumwhinton School Community,

Welcome to the latest edition of our school's weekly newsletter, a window into the heart of our vibrant educational community. As we delve into the exciting happenings, achievements, and upcoming events, we invite you to join us on this journey of learning, growth, and shared experiences. This newsletter serves as a testament to the collective spirit and dedication that define our school, highlighting the diverse talents and accomplishments of our pupils and staff. Together, let's celebrate the milestones and navigate the exciting opportunities that lie ahead in our shared pursuit of knowledge and excellence.

### **Christmas Jumper Day**

We are thrilled to share the resounding success of our school's Christmas Jumper Day, a festive celebration that brought our entire school community together in the spirit of joy and giving. The school grounds were transformed into a sea of vibrant colours and cheerful patterns as pupils and staff proudly adorned their most festive and creative Christmas jumpers. The enthusiasm and participation were truly heart-warming, creating an atmosphere of unity and festive cheer. Thank you to everyone who contributed to making our Christmas Jumper Day a remarkable success, spreading warmth and happiness throughout our school.

### **Anne Frank Trust - Years 5 and 6**

We are delighted to share the enriching experiences of Year 5 and Year 6 pupils who actively participated in workshops conducted by the Anne Frank Trust this week. The workshops focused on crucial topics such as racism, prejudice, stereotypes, institutional and systemic racism, and discrimination. It was inspiring to witness our pupils engaging in thoughtful conversations, displaying a remarkable level of confidence and knowledge on these complex issues. The maturity demonstrated by our pupils during these discussions was truly commendable, highlighting their deep understanding of the importance of fostering inclusivity and combating discrimination in all its forms. As a school, we take immense pride in the conscientious attitudes our pupils displayed, underscoring the significance of such educational initiatives in shaping compassionate and informed individuals. A heartfelt thank you to the Anne Frank Trust for their invaluable contribution to this essential aspect of our pupils' education.

## **New staff**

We are delighted to announce the newest additions to our school team, Miss McVittie and Miss Gibson, who will be joining us as Teaching Assistants. Miss McVittie brings her expertise to our Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS), fostering a nurturing environment for our youngest learners. Simultaneously, Miss Gibson will be contributing her skills to the dynamic learning atmosphere in Year 1. Their dedication to education and commitment to supporting our students make them valuable assets to our school community. Please join us in extending a warm welcome to Miss McVittie and Miss Gibson as they embark on this exciting journey with us. We look forward to the positive impact they will undoubtedly have on the growth and development of our pupils.

## **Christmas Church Service**

We are delighted to announce the upcoming festive highlight in our school calendar: the Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 Christmas Church Service. This heart-warming event will take place at St John's Church in Cotehill, with Years 1, 3, and 5 attending on Tuesday 12th December, and Years 2, 4, and 6 on Wednesday 13th December. Reverend Isaac will be leading the service, promising a meaningful and joyous celebration. A special thank you goes to the Church committee for their collaboration in making this event possible. The doors will open at 9:45 am, with the service commencing at 10 am. Following the service, our dedicated PTA will be serving refreshments, providing a wonderful opportunity for our school community to come together in the spirit of joy and camaraderie.

## **School Choir - Carlisle Cathedral**

We are delighted to announce a musical treat for our school community and beyond! Our talented school choir will be performing a free concert at Carlisle Cathedral on Tuesday 12th December, at 2 pm. This 45-minute musical extravaganza promises to showcase the incredible vocal talents of our pupils and celebrate the joy of Christmas. We invite everyone to join us for an afternoon of enchanting melodies in the majestic setting of Carlisle Cathedral. In the spirit of giving, we will be accepting donations during the event, and all proceeds will directly contribute to the purchase of musical instruments for our school. Your support will not only enhance the musical education of our pupils but also resonate with the Christmas spirit of generosity. We look forward to sharing this musical journey with you and creating beautiful memories together.

## **Reception Nativity**

We are excited to announce the much-anticipated Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) Nativity performances, scheduled for Tuesday 12th December, and Wednesday 13th December, both starting promptly at 2 pm. Our youngest stars will take the stage, bringing the magic of Christmas to life with their adorable portrayal of the Nativity story. Each performance will last approximately 30 minutes, providing a perfect opportunity for parents, family, and friends to witness the charm and creativity of our budding performers. Following the Nativity, we invite the audience to stay and mingle over refreshments. It's a wonderful way to come together, share in the festive joy, and celebrate the talents of our youngest members. We look forward to seeing you there and creating cherished memories during this special time of year.

## **Christmas Hamper**

As we embrace the spirit of giving this festive season, we are excited to announce our annual initiative for class Christmas Hampers. This tradition allows our school community to come together and support our school community. We kindly ask parents and guardians to contribute to the Christmas Hampers by donating a wide selection of items. The deadline for these thoughtful donations is Wednesday 13th

December. Please ensure that all items are handed directly to your child's class teacher. Thank you in advance for your support, and let's make this season of giving truly special for everyone in our community.

### **School Christmas Lunch**

Get ready to deck the halls and indulge in the festive spirit as we eagerly anticipate our annual school Christmas lunch on Friday 15th December! This cherished tradition is a delightful opportunity for our entire school community to come together, share laughter, and enjoy a delicious meal in celebration of Christmas. Our talented kitchen staff has been hard at work preparing a scrumptious feast that promises to be a true festive treat. From traditional favourites to festive delights, there's something to please every palate. The atmosphere will be filled with joy and camaraderie as pupils and staff gather to create lasting memories.

Any questions regarding Christmas Lunch please get in touch with the school office [admin@cumwhinton.cumbria.sch.uk](mailto:admin@cumwhinton.cumbria.sch.uk)

### **PTA Christmas Activity Day**

Get ready for a jolly end of the Autumn term as our fantastic Parent-Teacher Association (PTA) has organised a festive extravaganza - the Christmas Activity Day on Monday 18th December! This promises to be a day filled with enjoyment, fun activities, and joyous moments for our pupils. The PTA has planned an array of engaging and festive activities that will not only bring smiles to the faces of our young learners but also create a sense of togetherness in the spirit of Christmas. From crafts to games and perhaps a surprise visit from a certain someone in a red suit, the Christmas Activity Day is set to be a highlight as we countdown to the Christmas break. A big thank you to our dedicated PTA for adding an extra dash of magic to our school's festive celebrations. We can't wait to see the joy unfold on this merry occasion!

### **Rachel from NISCU**

We're excited to announce that Rachel from the Northern Inter-Schools Christian Union (NISCU) will be visiting our school on Monday 11th December, to lead special Christmas workshops for all classes. These engaging sessions will bring the festive spirit to our classrooms, offering pupils a unique opportunity to explore the meaning of Christmas through fun and interactive activities. We're grateful for NISCU's collaboration in creating memorable learning experiences, and we look forward to a day filled with valuable insights for our pupils.

