

Friday 1st April 2022

Dear parents,

I am pleased to say that latest guidance from public health has recommended that over the Easter holidays, children should be given chocolate at the start of every day to limit the spread of infection – April fool!

I wish you all a Happy Easter and look forward to welcoming the children back on Wednesday 20th April. Please note our new whole school timings with a start of 8.55am and home time of 3.15pm for all classes.

Adam Khan

Easter Story

Thank you to all who joined us at today's Easter Story Assembly. The choir was amazing including numerous solo performances. Emilia (Y5) recited her Refugee poem which led sympathetically to a collection for Ukraine.



Start and end times

Please note that next term, starting back Wednesday 20th April 2022, the school day will start at 8.55am and end at 3.15pm for all classes. Children can arrive anytime from 8.40am where members of staff will be supervising both playgrounds. KS1 parents are asked to stay with their children till the whistle blows at 8.55am.



Javelin Medal Winner

Well done to William Astley (Y4) who won a bronze medal in turbo javelin on Sunday - he is part of the u11 West Cheshire Team.



Remember we love sharing your out-of-school achievements so please send me a photo and a brief description.

Happy Mothers' Day Reception Mums

Reception children invited their mums into class on Thursday afternoon.



The children enjoyed craft making, potting plants, and eating cake!

Thank you, all the mums who took part, and to Miss Jagota and Mrs Williams for organising.

Great week for Rose!

Congratulations to Rose (Y4) who received her primary tap medal last week – Well done Rose!



She was also picked as gymnast of the week in her gymnastics class so it was a good weekend for Rose!

Helsby Methodist Church

We'd like to pass the word that Rev David Bintliff is starting a new group this Saturday at Helsby Methodist Church. It will be a morning of crafts, science experiments and activities that will be happening monthly.



With this month's topic being around Easter, they hope to cover both religious festivals and other areas of our common life together.

PE Kits

Children should continue to come into school in their PE kits on PE days. Please make sure that children are in the correct PE kit of white t-shirt and blue shorts. They can wear a dark (black/blue) pair of jogging bottoms over their kit but should still be wearing their school jumper or cardigans.

Thank you.

Basketball Trials – message from the cub

My name is Ian Morton and I am a community coach with Cheshire Phoenix Basketball. I am in the process of creating an u11s team for the 2022/23 season.

As your school has been involved in our Hoops4Health programme, I am inviting you to send 3 or 4 pupils from Year 5 and below to trials for the team.

The trial dates are on Thursday 07/04/22 and Thursday 14/04/22 at Ellesmere Port Catholic High School from 6.45pm until 8.00pm, there will be a charge of £4 for the session. Please let me know, or get the parents to let me know, the names of any pupils and which date they wish to attend, so that I can arrange appropriate supervision.

Please email Ian Morton: mr.ian.d.morton@gmail.com

If any pupils in Year 6 are interested in playing basketball, there are separate open trials as detailed in the flier below:

A flier for 'Open Trials - 9th April' for Cheshire Phoenix Juniors. The flier has a dark blue background with white and yellow text. It includes the Cheshire Phoenix Juniors logo at the top left and right. The text reads: 'Open Trials - 9th April', 'Yr7 - Yr9 - 1-3pm', 'Yr10-Yr13 - 5-7pm (as at 1st Sept 2022)', 'Ellesmere Port Sports Village', '£5 per player, pre-booking required.', and 'Email: cheshirephoenixjuniors@gmail.com'. There are three small photos on the right side showing children playing basketball. At the bottom, there are two larger photos showing basketball games in progress. The bottom right photo has 'PIC•COLLAGE' written in the corner.

Dodgeball Leaders

Mrs Moore would like to thank I would like to thank the dodgeball leaders for running the Y5&6 dodgeball club after school.



These volunteers have should super maturity, fun, kindness and enthusiasm and done a fantastic job!

Free Youth Mental Health Training

Cheshire Community Action is a community support charity that specialises in providing services to rural communities. It has been granted funding by Cheshire West & Chester Council to provide free, online mental health first aid and awareness training aimed at helping parents/adults working or living in rural parts of Cheshire West.



This project was borne out of a recognition of the increasing mental health support needs of young people that has been exacerbated by the pandemic. As an organisation with a special interest in rural communities, it is also recognised that mental health support is harder to access in rural areas where there are less locally based services if not, none at all.

If you, would like to participate in free youth mental health training, please complete this link:

www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/YMHTraining

(please respond by close on the 7th of April 2022) where people can register their interest in one or both of these two free online training offers:

Youth Mental Health Aware (Free – normally £125) –May 2022
Youth Mental Health First Aid (Free – normally £300) – May 2022



Helsby Hillside Celebrates The Queen's Platinum Jubilee

Next term, we will mark the very special occasion in history of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. More details will be sent out after the Easter break but we are currently trying to gather resources. To that end, would anyone be able to loan us a couple of mannequins / dressmaker's dummies please?

We are also looking for

Unwanted teddies for a jubilee tombola

Any red, white and blue bunting or fabric to make bunting – *if you would like to make some bunting at home that could be used to decorate school, we would be thrilled to receive it!*

2 unwanted white plates and cups and saucers (that could be painted) and an unwanted white teapot, sugar pot and cream jug (that could be repainted)

Unwanted costume jewellery that could be repurposed for craft projects

A "velvet" cushion or "velvet" fabric

Please let Mrs Potts and Mrs Porter know if you can help with any of these items (year1@hillside.cheshire.sch.uk)

The Helsby Community Celebrates The Jubilee

Rev Michael Mills is hoping that St Paul's Church will be able to lead a village celebration of Her Majesty's jubilee on **Sunday 5th June**. He is trying to reach all community groups in the village to take part in an informal service on that day and / or produce a "stone" for his "Helsby Hill" mural that advertises their group in the village – for example Scouting, Guiding, football teams, nurseries etc etc. If anyone is interested, Mrs Potts can give you his contact details or you can contact him via Helsby FaceBook page.