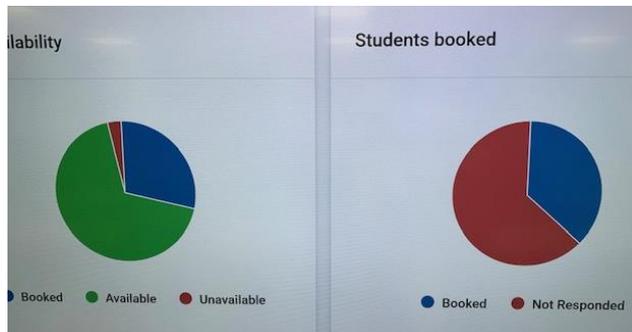




# Great Wood News October 2021

This month's value is Understanding

Have you booked your Parent Teacher Meeting?



There has been a great sense of things being normal this last month – long may it last. We have had just 7 confirmed pupil Covid cases in school to date, mainly in upper juniors. If your child has a temperature and a cough or other Covid symptoms, we urge you to book a PCR test for them as well as keeping them off school and keep us informed.

Although school lunch menus have been impacted by the delivery problem, the organisation of the school day is back to normal. The new menus are out and will be going ahead after the half term break. There are three main course choices each day.

Our Star of the Week assemblies are taking place, however, only with one third in the hall and everyone else joining in virtually.

As well as there being determined efforts to get all children “back on track” in basic skills in the classrooms there have been visits and lots of fun activities too. This week Year 4 are going to the World Museum in Liverpool, Year 3 are off to Hadrian's Wall and Year 6 are having their last visit to Morecambe Bay Academy's music room.

School has received some financial assistance for 'Covid Catch Up' and this is being used to staff additional support mainly in the afternoons, sometimes teachers directing teaching assistants' work with children and sometimes by supply staff releasing the class teacher to work with

pupils needing support. Thank you to all at home who are supporting DAILY reading at home, asking questions too; practice, little and often, really makes a difference.

A massive thank you to all involved in the sponsored Walk to be Wowed. We really appreciated the chaperone support and are thankful for the funds that the PTA are raising through the event. It would be great to have all the forms and money in by Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> October. If you are using parent pay, it is still good to send in the form if sponsors have indicated they will support Gift Aid.

Star of the Week Photographs are being taken this week. A few years ago we did a parent consultation and found that parents liked the option of being able to buy the digital copy of the photograph taken in school (£5 at the school office after November 8<sup>th</sup> - a form will be sent out) This way, you are not limited by the packages provided by school photography companies who tend to be expensive and parents felt with cameras on phones there was less demand for the formal portraits.

## Introducing Mrs Longhorn

As some of you may be aware, our fantastic EYFS leader, Mrs McPartlin, is pregnant. I'm sure you will all join me in sending her huge congratulations at this wonderful time.

I am pleased to announce that we have appointed an enthusiastic and experienced



teacher, Mrs Jemma Longhorn, to teach Chestnut class during Mrs McPartlin's maternity leave. Mrs Longhorn will be joining Mrs McPartlin for the parent teacher meetings this Thursday evening. Mrs Longhorn says

she thrives on ensuring that every child in her class reaches their potential and we are glad she'll be part of our team

## House Captain Election Results

Well done to the following pupils who after hustings with the upper juniors about why they should represent their school house, were voted in by those in their houses.

	Captains	Vice Captains
Phoenix Red	James Coxhill Anya Skelcher	George Korab Molly Drury
Dragon Green	Zak Welsby Poppy Pritchard	Dylan Hay Abigail Nutt
Gryphon Yellow	Max Dillon Mya Tomlinson	Steven Walker Gracie George
Unicorn Blue	Isaac Smith Eloise Laird	Owen Horton Libby Lynch

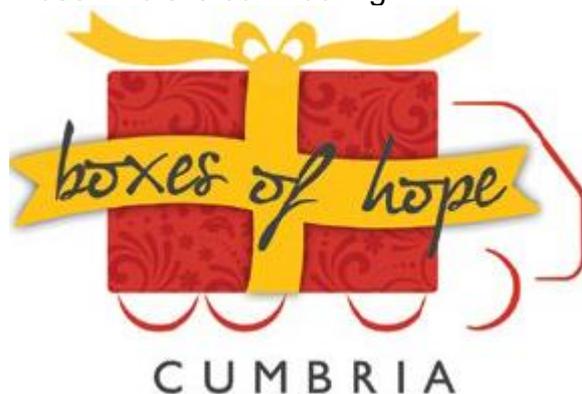


## Parent Governors

Mr Phil Little, (parent of Theo Moore, Chestnut) has been elected by default as a Parent Governor. Mr Morland, a former parent governor has been co-opted onto the governors. We also have Mrs Teresa Moore and Mrs Janet Penn who are parent governors and Mrs Bisgrove -Peel who is a co-opted governor. We are thankful for the support of these five parents in helping the school in the relevant areas (accountability, critical friend, strategic planning.)

## Boxes of Hope

Our stack of Boxes of Hope destined for Romania has started to grow. Thank you for those who are contributing.



<https://tinyurl.com/Great-Wood-Boxes-of-Hope-2021>

## Look For A Book

Please see the attached and join in with this local initiative to promote children's reading-recycling too.



Choose a book that you no longer use and are happy to give away.



Write a note to go with your book for the person who finds it e.g. I hope you enjoy reading this book as much as I did.



Remember - Take care not to include personal details such as surnames and addresses.



Include the name of the Facebook page on your note – 'Lancaster and Morecambe Look for a Book' – so that the finder can share a picture of the book on this Facebook page.



Wrap the book and the note in a plastic bag that is sealed so that it won't get wet if it rains.

Hide the book in a place where a child may find it in the local area.

## Year Six,

Applications for high schools have to be completed by October 31<sup>st</sup>. We are able to go into the system and see that MORE THAN HALF of our Year 6 families have NOT uploaded their preferences. 11+ test results are out (Well done to the 10 boys and 3 girls who passed) so this level of applications is somewhat concerning at this point. Parents of Year 6 may want to check that they selected the right Great Wood, the one in Morecambe. Alternatively, Mrs Logue has a list of families who have submitted to date and can be contacted to confirm submission is recorded.

**GREAT WOOD**  
**HALLOWEEN**  
**SPOOKTACULAR**

**WEDNESDAY 20<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER**  
**4:30–5:15** (KS1 and EYF5)  
 AND  
**5:30–6:30** (KS2)

**£2 ADMISSION**  
**DJ NATASHA BUTLER**  
**FREE JUICE AND 'SPOOKY TREAT'**

**FANCY DRESS OPTIONAL**

Please note: For the children's safety no adults will be allowed in the school, whilst the disco is on, unless you are a pre-arranged designated helper

### Disco Reminders

How you drop off the children and pick up will be different to past years so please read carefully. It could be raining and since parents who usually bring the children's coats won't be coming into the hall we have to plan where the coats will go etc.

Infant Disco - ENTER through the link corridor, dropping your £2 coin into a tub. Parents can't come inside (unless PTA volunteer.) Reception children will hang up their coats on the hooks in the link corridor (they use these at lunchtimes) Years 1 and 2 will hang their coats in the cubbies.

EXIT – Reception children will be taken first down to their classroom and will exit through their classroom into the play area.

Year One and Two will exit from the link corridor.

We will have an adult on the gate near the bike shed and the gate near Bare Lane and no child will be allowed through the gate without an adult.

It would be good to tell your child where you will meet them – eg by the tall slide, particularly Year 2 parents, rather than all gathering around the link corridor exit.

Junior Disco - ENTER from the main entrance – dropping £2 coin into a tub. Parents can't come inside (unless PTA volunteer.) Coats will be hung in the Year 3 and 4 corridors.

EXIT will be from the hall side door onto the junior playground. We will have an adult on the two Beaufort Road exits to check no child leaves without an adult. The gate between the front of school /car park and the junior playground will be locked so please enter from the 2 gates.

If you are allowing your child to go home unaccompanied by an adult at 6:30 the child must have this in writing.

### Relevant to Year Two and Reception

Traditionally at Great Wood Reception children prepare a Nativity based performance and Year Two prepare a Christmas related performance for the rest of the school and families. They are performed in school hours and the proposed dates are in Diary Dates. Due to Covid risk assessment, we have not had large numbers of visitors in school. We aim to have the performances filmed so that even if we can't have an audience, families at home will be able to enjoy them.

We will limit the number in the audience to 60 which with two performances, this will equal two tickets per child. As any system we set up at the school office or through parent pay will lead to a first come first serve problem, we will send two colour coded tickets home, one for each performance with each child at the beginning of November. Parents will be able to swap or pass on tickets if you wish to come with partners, let grandparents come instead etc.- However, at the performances it will be correct ticket entry only. Thank you for your understanding.

### Considerate and Safe Parking

There have been a few contacts by local residents concerned about parking around school at drop off and pick up. Please be aware that if cars are parked on both sides of Redwood Road, it blocks access for emergency vehicles and with a number of elderly residents, it is a concern. Please leave access to driveways, too.

## Diary Dates

Tues 19 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Y3 Trip to Vindolanda
Wed 20 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Y4 Trip to Liverpool World Museum
Wed 20 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Disco KS1 4.30pm-5.15pm KS2 5.30pm-6.30pm
Thurs 21 <sup>st</sup> Oct	Parents Evening Online
w/c 25 <sup>th</sup> Oct	School Closed for Half Term
Mon 1 <sup>st</sup> Nov	School Re-opens
Wed 3 <sup>rd</sup> Nov	Y1L Trip to Judges Lodgings Lancaster
Thurs 4 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Y1V Trip to Judges Lodgings Lancaster
Wed 10 <sup>th</sup> Nov	PTA Bake Sale 3.15pm
Fri 12 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Shoe Box Appeal Final Day
Mon 15 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Skip4Fit Whole School Event
Thurs 18 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Y5 Ancient Greece Visitor in School
Thurs 2 <sup>nd</sup> Dec	Whole School Nasal Flu Vaccinations
Wed 8 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Reception Christmas Play for Parents 9.15am-10.15am
Thurs 9 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Reception Christmas Play for Parents 9.15am – 10.15am
Thurs 9 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Y2 Christmas Play for Parents 2.15pm-3.15pm
Fri 10 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Y2 Christmas Play for parents 9.15am -10.15am
Fri 10 <sup>th</sup> Dec	PTA Non Uniform Day - Chocolate Donation
Wed 15 <sup>th</sup> and Thurs 16 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Whole School Trip to Dukes Theatre
Thurs 16 <sup>th</sup> Dec	PTA Christmas Fair 3.30pm
Fri 17 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Last Day of Term

## 22/23 Calendar now approved

The image displays a grid of 12 monthly calendars for the 2022-2023 school year, from September to August. Each calendar shows the days of the week and dates, with some dates highlighted in green or blue to indicate school events or holidays.

The school calendar and lots of other school related useful information is on our website – use the search facility and explore.



