**Cartmel Priory School, December 2020**

Christmas arrived early in Cartmel Priory School. The tree, kindly donated from the Holker Estate went up on the 1st December to create a festive atmosphere for the students and staff alike. Cavendish Hall looked particularly festive with the tree and lots of twinkly lights. It brought a sense of normality in these very unreal times.

Classes continued apace with staff and students finding creative ideas to adapt to the new ways of learning, whilst continuing to follow our risk assessment. The curriculum has continued to be adapted regularly and staff have continued to work extremely hard to support students’ learning. The school will continue to operate the bubbles and split lunches in the Spring Term. We want to thank all of our parents and carers for the support they continue to offer us. Our students have adapted brilliantly.

The school has continued with fundraising efforts, supporting charities like Genes for Jeans and Guide Dogs for the Blind with students raising enough money to be able to fund a goat for the Children of Hope charity in Uganda. We continue to look at new ways to promote our charity efforts, utilising Facebook as much as possible to promote and share information.

Cartmel Filling Station, our school dining room, has continued to evolve under our innovative catering team. We were unable to offer our normal sit down Christmas dinner but did incorporate festive menus throughout December as a “takeaway” format for students, including a full Christmas dinner in a Yorkshire Pudding, pigs in blankets in a fresh baguette and Christmas dinner pizza.

During the last week of term students had the opportunity to participate in a virtual talent show, which was shared with the school community on the last day of term. We look forward to the New Year – hoping that 2021 will be more positive, less virtual and hopefully, in the near future, a return to normal.