



COOMBE HILL INFANTS' SCHOOL

Friday 22 September 2023

Dear Families,

This week we have been focussing on settling into classroom and school routines and learning more about our expectations of behaviour. Our Relationship and Behaviour policy is on our website. As a staff we have been working hard to create an agreed approach to managing behaviour, again this can be found on our website. We have three very simple expectations which you could talk to your children about, we encourage everyone to be **Ready, Respectful** and **Safe**. We will be arranging a workshop for parents next half term to discuss our approach and to let you know how you can use the approach at home.

We continue to use the Winnie the Pooh characters to support the learning behaviours, this week Tigger has been helping us to be Resilient. For our young children this means that they work hard, they keep on trying, they learn from their mistakes and they avoid distractions. Next week Kanga will be helping us to be Responsible. Again, it would really support your child if you talk to them about this at home.

Our lovely Reception children are continuing to settle well. They are now familiar with their surroundings and are getting used to how things work at school. Last week I talked about the fact that some children enjoy the first week but then can become a little bit tired and emotional. We have noticed that a couple of children are finding it hard to say goodbye to you in the morning and others are becoming tired as the day goes on. This is all perfectly normal and please be reassured that we will talk to you if there are any concerns. Please talk to your child's teacher at the door if you have any concerns.

Raising funds for Coombe Hill Infants School - the Loch Ness Marathon and October Ultra

Please see the message below from Kathryn Moore, one of our governors. Kathryn would like to generously donate all money raised to Coombe Hill Infants. We will send the sponsorship link next week. We will be trying to raise funds to further improve our adventure playground.



"I have been supporting CHI since September 2006 when my eldest child started in reception. I have had two Bees, two Badgers, a Lion and a Leopard and many happy memories of helping out at Christmas and Summer

fairs and in the swimming pool. While both children launched themselves into the physical activities available, I looked on and held the coats. In fact when queuing to take part in the Standing Long Jump at Sports Day one year my 6 year old daughter jumped further than I could manage.

I became a School Governor in November 2011 and have held various roles since that time. I have seen first hand the work and commitment of all those involved with the school and want to give something back before my final Governors' meeting in November 2023.

I started running in 2019 and, I must admit, I didn't enjoy it that much. It was something I felt I should do rather than something I enjoyed. Since that time I have come to enjoy the support, friendship and sense of achievement which comes from getting out in the fresh air, especially in Richmond Park and along the river. I did my first Parkrun in 2020, my first 10K in 2021, my first half marathon in 2022 and am now attempting my first marathon in 2023 on 1st October. Purely by accident I am also signed up to run 10K on the 8th October and 10 miles on 15th October.

We all know how tight school budgets have been over recent years. I am hoping to gain some sponsorship and raise some additional funds, which will help the children to continue to benefit from the additional experiences which make Coombe Hill the unique family that it is.

Wish me luck"

Year Group Information Meetings

We were so pleased to see so many Year 2 parents at the information meeting this morning, and Reception parents at their meeting on Wednesday. Thank you all for coming, we hope you found the information useful. It is so important that we work together. We look forward to seeing our Year 1 parents and carers on Monday. We will share the presentations from these meetings with you next week.

Education Wellbeing practitioner meeting and further support

We were also encouraged to see so many parents at the meeting yesterday with our Education Wellbeing practitioner, Shazia. We hope this was useful. Shazia will now work on a programme of parent workshops in response to the meeting and we will keep you posted on these.

In addition we have planned some parent workshops with Shakira Cutting, a creative therapist in the Kingston Mental Health support team. Shakira will run a workshop for parents "Self-regulate to co-regulate" on Friday 3 November (in-person) and Thursday 9 November (online), we will give you more details nearer the time.

Whole school evening Welcome Meeting

On **Tuesday 26th September at 6.30pm** all parents/carers are invited to come in and meet the staff and find out more about the school, next steps and how you can support your child. There will also be an introduction to CHIPTA (Coombe Hill Infants' PTA) and a second-hand uniform sale afterwards. We look forward to seeing you all there. Refreshments will be provided, we request that the event is for adults only. Thank you.

Individual and sibling school photos

On **Tuesday 26 September** all of the children will have their photograph taken by our school photographer, you will then receive information on how to order. Please send your child in to school in full school uniform, even if it is their PE day. Photographs of siblings within the Infants' school will also be taken (siblings in the Infants' and Junior school may have the opportunity to have their photos taken together later in the year). If your child is absent for any reason on the day of the photographer's visit, their photo will be taken internally to keep our school records up to date.

International evening celebrating our cultural diversity

We are delighted that many of you have requested tickets for our International evening, this is always such a popular and successful evening and looks set to be again. It will be held on **Tuesday 10 October** from **6 - 7.30pm** in the School Hall and we warmly invite you to bring a plate of food, wear traditional dress and to perhaps perform for us (in the past parents and children have played music, recited poetry, displayed artwork, danced and sung traditional songs). Or simply come along and enjoy the evening. Tickets can be reserved via the following link. These are limited so please reserve them quickly to avoid disappointment <https://forms.gle/Aw3eBKNF99HTp6RW7>.

School clubs booking

Year 1 and 2 parents have been sent the school clubs timetable and booking information for the Autumn term. [Please note the booking time of 11am on Monday 25 September](#). Please make a note of this time - places are allocated on a first come first served basis and we always receive a very high volume of requests at 11am. Reception children will have the opportunity to book clubs in the Spring term, from January. The staff run the clubs on a voluntary basis and I am very grateful to them for giving their time to do this.

Coombe Connections Club

New bookings

If you would like to request a NEW booking for our Breakfast and After School provision, Coombe Connections Club, for the second half of the Autumn term 2023, our Booking Request Form will be available on the school Connections Club webpage from 25/09/23. The deadline for new applications is 01/10/23.

We work on a 'first come, first served' basis and availability is limited - see below.

A form is required ONLY FOR NEW BOOKINGS.

Existing Bookings

If you have a Connections booking currently, it will be continued into the second half of the Autumn term and a Booking Request Form is NOT required. If you wish to request a change to your booking you must email Connections by 27/09/23.

Connections email: connectionsclub@chi.rbksch.org

Availability

Breakfast Club - availability every day except Thursdays (but very limited availability on Wednesdays)

After School Club - availability only on Fridays.

Link to the Connections webpage:-

<https://www.coombehillininfants.com/page/?title=Coombe+Connections&pid=110>

Rock up to Read

It was lovely to see some of our parents and carers enjoying books with their children this morning in the ICT suite. Each Friday morning we open our school at 8.15am and welcome you to come in with your child to read books from our fantastic selection. Please come in via the blue side gate (gate code 2626) and use the door next to the ICT suite next to Tiger Class.

Class cake sales

Thank you to our Tiger class parents for organising the first cake sale of the year, it was a great success, raising £202.50 for the Tiger classroom. Thank you to all the Tiger class parents who donated cakes, and to the parents who supported the sale. Miss Roe and the children will decide how to put the proceeds towards valuable classroom resources.

Adventure playground

It is lovely to see so many of you enjoying the Adventure playground after school. Please continue to leave promptly at 3.40pm so that our Connections children can use the playground, we are now monitoring this. Please take all litter home with you and supervise your children all the way to the blue exit gate. Thank you. If you need to come back to the school playground having collected your Junior school child, the gate code is 9876 (do not share this outside our community please). Unfortunately we do not have any toilet facilities on site to offer after school.

Coombe Hill Infant and Junior schools parent choir

You are warmly invited to join the Coombe Hill Infant and Junior schools parent choir. One of our parents, Arani, whose children now attend the Junior school, set up the choir a few years ago. She would love to hear from anyone who is interested in joining. Please see more information at the end of the newsletter along with her contact details.

Pupil Premium Grant

When your child was admitted to the school we checked their eligibility for the Pupil Premium Grant. Please get in touch with us if your financial circumstances have changed since your child's eligibility was checked and you think you may now be eligible. Families entitled to this grant are eligible for free school trips, a termly after school club and other funded benefits including supermarket vouchers for the school holidays to cover the cost of the lunchtime meals that your child would

normally receive in school. Please complete the attached link and your status will be re-assessed <https://forms.gle/yrUZKUVsunMns7yc9>. You can complete this form at any time if you would like us to re-check your status and we will let you know if you qualify for the grant. We are an agency for Foodbank Vouchers and we are able to issue these directly to you. Please email the School Office - admin@chi.rbksch.org - if you feel in need of this support (email will be checked intermittently), all requests will be treated in the strictest confidence.

Community and other information

Please find the following information at the end of this newsletter:

- **Mini and Youth Rugby (Old Emanuel Rugby club)** - Mr Morris would like to share this information with you and he encourages your children to come along and find out more at his rugby club
- **Love the Ball Half term camp** - attached is a flyer for the Love the Ball half term camp at Coombe Hill. Your children know the Love the Ball coaches through their PE lessons in school and the camps are always very popular. Please note 4 year olds can only attend half days - full details via <https://lovetheball.com/>
- **Kingston children centres** - please find to follow the Autumn programme for families with children under 5 <https://tinyurl.com/59tywjwc>
- **Kingston Adult Education** continue to run their most popular courses, including 'Practical ideas for happier living' and 'Reduce anxiety and develop resilience in your child', as well as a new course starting in September called 'Building confidence and self esteem' - see the link for full details <https://bit.ly/CL-NewsJul23>

Save the Dates!

Last week we sent you important dates for the first half of the Autumn term. Please also save two very important dates for the second half, these are two of our biggest fundraising events of the year and we would love everyone to come along and to volunteer their support:

- **Wednesday 1 November 6-8pm - Fireworks Evening at the Coombe Hill schools**
- **Saturday 2 December 12 - 3.30pm - Coombe Hill schools Christmas Fair**

We are also hoping to see many of you at our first CHIPTA Events coffee morning of the year, everyone is warmly welcomed to come along

- **Wednesday 4 October 9 - 10am - CHIPTA Events planning coffee morning**

Wishing you an enjoyable weekend.

Warm regards

Janet Berry

Safeguarding

Safeguarding our young children is our priority and all staff are trained to keep children safe. However, safeguarding is everyone's responsibility and if you are concerned about a child or young person please call children's services on 020 8547 5008. The South London CAMHS Crisis Line for both children and adults can be reached on 0800 028 8000.



COOMBE HILL INFANTS' SCHOOL

INVITATION

An evening celebrating our community and cultural heritage

Tuesday 10th October - 6pm - 7.30pm - School Hall



We would like to invite you, our children, parents and extended families, to an evening of **food, music, dance and socialising**.

This is an opportunity to come together as we start the school year.

We ask that you bring with you a plate of **food** to share, if you can. This may reflect your cultural heritage, if you wish.

No nuts please and we ask that you clearly label the ingredients of your dish, so that those with allergies or dietary requirements are aware

Families might also like to share their cultural heritage and history by wearing **traditional dress**. Please do this if you wish.

Finally, if there are any would-be **performers** out there who would like to do a short (3 minutes) performance, the stage is yours. Perhaps you, or your child, play a musical instrument or sing or dance, or perhaps you might like to rehearse a group of children to perform? Again this could reflect your cultural heritage if you wish.

The Kingston Ballet School and the Coombe Hill Infants and Junior Schools parents' choir will also be performing.

In past years, this event has been a highlight in our calendar. Please help us to once again make this evening a success and join us on 10th October.

Please fill in the google form (link attached) to register your interest
<https://forms.gle/Q7vaEKbs7nHmBkD8>

GET ACTIVE THIS OCTOBER!



When?
23rd-27th October
Where?
Coombe Hill
Schools

October Camp '23 is booking now!
Our multi-sport activity camps have something for everyone!
www.lovetheball.com

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Old Emanuel Rugby Club

Raynes Park Sports Club, Taunton Avenue, West Wimbledon SW20 0BH



OLD EMANUEL
RFC



Coombe Hill Infant and Junior Schools Parent Choir!

We are a small group of parents (both current and alumni) who sing together each week.

Whilst many of us have musical backgrounds and experience of sight singing in choirs, this is not essential. If you love to sing, come and join us! The purpose of the choir is to enjoy singing great pieces together and get to know other parents in the school. It is purely for fun.

We sing mainly four-part pieces (soprano, alto, tenor, bass) from a variety of genres (from renaissance to modern day).

This term, we will be singing at the Infant School International evening and hope to sing again at the school Christmas fair as well as Kingston Christmas Market (which we sing at every year).

We particularly need more tenors and basses but all parts are welcome!

We rehearse on Monday evenings 8.30-9.30pm.

If you are interested in coming along for a session to see if you'd like to join, then get in touch with Arani on arani_c@yahoo.co.uk