



## COOMBE HILL INFANTS' SCHOOL

Thursday 21 December 2023

Dear Families,

As this very long Autumn term draws to a close I would like to thank you all for your continued support, we all feel so grateful to work within such a wonderful community. Many thanks from all of the staff for the kind messages, gifts and cards.

Your children have worked so hard and been very busy, I am sure that they will all benefit from a good break. Seeing your children perform this week brought the Christmas message of light and hope home to us all. They worked together beautifully showing respect and kindness, this gives us great hope for the future. Our school values of tolerance and respect have never been more important.



### Festive parade

Everyone enjoyed the Christmas parade in the hall this morning!





### Christmas dinner

We are grateful to Chef Marco and his team for preparing a delicious Christmas dinner for all 270 children and our staff today. It was a lovely way to finish the term.







### **Coombe Hill parents choir Christmas entertainment**

We are very grateful to the Coombe Hill parents choir who entertained our children on Wednesday morning with Christmas carols and a singalong.



### **Christmas carols at Coombe Hill Manor care home**

We were delighted to take our year 2 singers to Coombe Hill Manor care home on Tuesday to perform for the residents who enjoyed a variety of traditional carols and Christmas songs, led by Mr Collyer on the piano. Thank you to Mr Collyer and to Miss Roe who have run the singing sessions with the children in school in preparation. The care home staff and residents complimented our children on their beautiful voices and their good manners. It was a special afternoon for everyone and we were very proud of the children. We hope you enjoyed their singing at the school gate this afternoon.



### **Reception theatre visit - "The Littlest Elf"**

Reception classes were fortunate to enjoy a visit from the Little Elf this week. Pip the elf entertained the children with her stories and songs about how she wanted to help Santa despite being the smallest and not as fast as the other elves. We wiggled, giggled, and opened magical boxes to help us ride Santa's sleigh and make a final gift to save the day.





### Spark! Book awards



and Facebook.

As you know, some of our lovely children helped us film the introduction videos for the Spark!Book Awards longlist - [The Twelve Books of Christmas](#) - the Picture Book Category. Take a look at the 12 videos which will be on our website next week and learn more about each of the books. You can also find the videos on the Spark! Book Awards social media - Twitter, Instagram

### OPAL outdoor play and learning



**OPAL Outdoor Play And Learning project (with CHJ).**  
PLEASE CAN YOU HELP!

We need donations (second hand or new) to help resource our play areas: [small world toys - dinosaurs, cars, animals, trains, trucks, natural building blocks etc](#) cable reels, pallets, kitchen utensils like pots, pans, wooden spoons, spatulas etc. Please leave your donations in the school office entrance. Thank you for your help! For more information about OPAL see [www.outdoorplayandlearning.org.uk](http://www.outdoorplayandlearning.org.uk)

### School clubs

The Spring term clubs registers have now been finalised. Please note that the school clubs start from the **second week** of the Spring term (from Monday 15 January onwards). No clubs will run the first week - all children must be collected at the usual time. Connections will resume from Monday 8 January, the first day back after the holidays.

### Reporting absences

We are very grateful to all parents who report the absence of their children by 9.15am on every day of their child's absence, it helps our office staff to complete the morning registers accurately and promptly. If we do not hear from you we have to make contact with you to find out why your child is not attending school, we have a legal duty to do this. Please help us by reporting your child's absence as early as possible and definitely by **9.15am**, you can do this in one of the following ways:

- call the school office on 020 8942 9481 from 8am to speak to a member of staff
- leave a voicemail on our absence line on 020 8942 9481, this is available 24 hours a day
- send an email to [admin@chi.rbksch.org](mailto:admin@chi.rbksch.org) by 9.15am
- drop in and tell a member of the office staff (if you happen to be on site dropping a sibling off)

Thank you for your continued co-operation.

## **Primary school admissions for September 2024 - children moving to Year 3 and starting Reception**

A reminder to our Year 2 parents and those families who have children due to start Reception in September 2024 that **you must apply for your child's school place by Monday 15 January 2024.** Year 2 parents must all apply for your child's year 3 place at Coombe Hill Junior school, even though we are partner schools. Families with younger siblings due to start Reception in September must also apply for their child's place, making sure that you state that you already have a sibling in our school (or the Junior school if they are transferring to year 3). Full details of the admissions process and important dates are contained in the Primary School Admissions brochure here: ['Admission to Kingston's primary schools for September 2024 entry'](#)

## **Second hand uniform**

We will be grateful for any second hand uniform items after Christmas to replenish our stocks in the office entrance. There is a collection bin next to the clothes racks, please leave any items in there. Please come and have a look and take what you need at any time between 8.15am to 4.15pm, we are not charging for these items (there is an optional charity donation tin on the front desk) and would like to see them put to good use. Thank you.

## **Childhood illness**

At this time of year children can suffer more with seasonal illnesses. The NHS has a useful page in understanding whether your child should attend school or not if they seem unwell. Please see <https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>. There is advice here for chicken pox, coughs, cold, earache, raised temperatures, conjunctivitis etc.

## **Wraparound childcare programme - survey on behalf of Achieving for Children**

Achieving for Children acts as the children's services for Richmond, Kingston and Windsor and Maidenhead. The organisation is inviting you to complete their survey in connection with the Wraparound Childcare Programme. Further information about the programme with links to FAQs may be found in the survey, link below. The survey should take 5 minutes to complete. If you have any queries/questions, please contact [laurie.davidson@achievingforchildren.org.uk](mailto:laurie.davidson@achievingforchildren.org.uk). Link to the survey:- [https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdKlFKzL6vBJzS1T\\_IAb9FUfc4RagzEmZUKVoHaNB\\_dJ9kMig/viewform](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdKlFKzL6vBJzS1T_IAb9FUfc4RagzEmZUKVoHaNB_dJ9kMig/viewform)

## **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. Please complete the attached link and your status will be re-assessed <https://forms.gle/yrUZKUVsunMns7yc9>.

## **Spring term - important dates**

We will share the important dates for the Spring term with you when term starts again after Christmas.

## **Community and other information**

We hope you find the following information useful:

- **Achieving for Children - Positive parenting course** starting Thursday 11th January 24 from 10:00am - 12:00pm for five weeks at Chessington Children's Centre, KT9 1JE. The course is particularly suitable for parents with children up to the age of five, covering topics such as wellbeing, child development, routines, choices and consequences, and a parenting toolkit (please find further information below).
- **The HENRY programme**, which supports healthy family lifestyles, are running programmes and workshops locally from January (please see further information below). Topics covered include understanding children's behaviour, parent wellbeing, supporting children eating a wide range of foods, screen time, being active, self-esteem, sleep etc.

Wishing you all a very happy and restful Christmas holiday. We look forward to seeing all of the children back in school on Monday 8 January at 8.40am.

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.*

### **Support during the festive period**

This time of year can often be stressful for families and this year more so than ever.  
We have attached some details for support if needed.

- The National Domestic Abuse Helpline - 0808 2000 247
- Kingston Foodbank - <http://kingston.foodbank.org.uk>
- Kingston Children's services - 0208 547 5008 (in an emergency call 999)

# Positive Parenting Course



**Thursday 11 January 2024,  
10:00am – 12:00pm, five-week course,  
Chessington Children's Centre,  
Buckland Road,  
Chessington, KT9 1JE**

Every parent finds parenting tough at times. Take some time out to meet other parents, share experiences and pick up some tips that may make life a little easier.

Topics covered:

Your Wellbeing, Child Development, Routines, Choices and Consequences and our Parenting Toolkit.

We hope to see you there.

**Booking link:**

<https://forms.gle/sb755GKo5e8dQwz49>

**Contact: 020 8397 2006/ 07784 006661**

[sarah.alexander@achievingforchildren.org.uk](mailto:sarah.alexander@achievingforchildren.org.uk)

[Siobhan.meacher@achievingforchildren.org.uk](mailto:Siobhan.meacher@achievingforchildren.org.uk)



**achieving  
for children**



# HENRY Newsletter for Parents

November 2023



## Update from Kingston's HENRY Coordinators

Hello from the Kingston HENRY Team, and a warm welcome to the next edition of the HENRY newsletter. HENRY continues to grow within Kingston and we are delighted to be able to offer FREE Healthy Families Group programmes, 1:1 programmes and workshops.

### Face to Face programme:

We are pleased to share that next term we will be offering a face to face programme alongside our normal online programmes.

We have been able to secure a great venue at the Queen Mary Hall in Cambridge Gardens. This venue is in a great location with good transport links and parking available. Dates and times of this are below.

## What is HENRY all about?

We know that everyone wants the best for their children, but it can be hard to ensure a healthy lifestyle for the whole family. The HENRY team offer 8-week programmes and one-off workshops for parents and carers of children between 0-12.

HENRY is for everyone, and topics covered include understanding children's behaviour, setting boundaries, parent wellbeing, healthy lifestyles, supporting children eating a wide range of foods, screen time, being active, family routines, sleep, self-esteem, and much more.

The programme and workshops are **FREE to attend for parents/carers** of children attending Kingston Schools. You can self-refer by clicking [here](#) or via the QR code or to find out more please feel to email us on [henry@yourhealthcare.org](mailto:henry@yourhealthcare.org)

## Upcoming HENRY Programmes and workshops

### Healthy Families Growing up (5-12's) Programme - Face to Face

**Venue:** Queen Marys Hall, Cambridge Gardens

**Day/Time:** Wednesdays 10am-12pm.

**Dates:** 24<sup>th</sup> January - 20<sup>th</sup> March

**Break:** February half term

Interested in attending or want to find out more? Use this QR code to fill out the referral form and a member of our team will be in contact.



## Healthy families

- **What do parents say who have already accessed HENRY?**
- I enjoyed that I was not being 'told what to do', but instead we had discussions around what would work for my family.
- The possibility to talk and listen with other parents, getting ideas to cope with difficulties.
- The food boxes are brilliant

[yourhealthcare](#)