



COOMBE HILL INFANTS' SCHOOL

Friday 1 December 2023

Please note that ALL School clubs have now FINISHED for the term, children must be collected promptly at 3.05pm (Reception) and 3.10pm (Years 1 and 2) from Monday onwards. Connections continues to run as usual for those who attend.

Dear Families,

As we enter the last few weeks of this long autumn term the school is busy preparing for the end of term concert, learning songs, enjoying the new playtimes and continuing with the curriculum. Some children find this term quite overwhelming and need reminding to think about our agreed behaviour codes. Some children are finding it difficult to regulate their behaviour and this can result in rough play. Please could you support with this at home by explaining why this is not a good choice to make. All of the children know that we have to be **Ready, Respectful and Safe** at all times. This week we have been focusing on Relationships. For your children this means being honest, listening well to others and using kind words. Next week we will be thinking about being Resourceful, which means that we will ask your children to think about the best way to learn and to always try our best.

We look forward to seeing you at our Christmas Fair tomorrow. It is our biggest fundraising event of the year and is always such a lovely occasion. Thank you to everyone who has donated and offered to help on the day.

Important dates for the remainder of term and Christmas concerts

We have a very busy few weeks left until the end of term which include our lovely Christmas concerts, the children are all busy rehearsing. Please check that you have noted the performance dates for your children via the following link. All parents and carers are invited into school to watch the performances. If you cannot find childcare for babies and toddlers we ask that you come along on specific dates given (dress rehearsals before the main performances). If you have any questions please contact the school office.

LINK TO IMPORTANT DATES:

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1Q11DJN91r6rggTlK01q382lxW4KCW408/edit?usp=sharing&ouid=109721753956510019087&rtpof=true&sd=true>



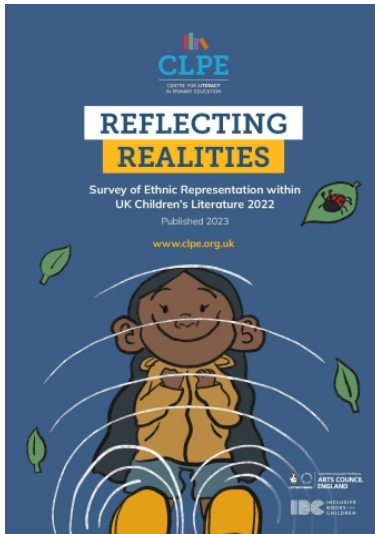
This week some of our lovely children helped us film the introduction videos for the Spark!Book Awards longlist - The Twelve Books of Christmas - the Picture Book Category. The videos will be released on the [Spark! Website](#) and on Instagram (one a day) on the lead up to Christmas starting on Friday 1st December. It was wonderful to see the children's enjoyment of books and reading and the children loved filming like "news readers".



An update on our OPAL Outdoor Play And Learning project (with CHJ).

Thank you for completing the surveys - your views on play and our provision are very important to us. **The survey is still open and can be found by clicking [here](#).** Also, thank you for sending in wellies for the children to use in the playground. We are introducing something new to the children each week and they are thoroughly enjoying playing in new areas of the school grounds and mixing with the junior school children. So far, we have introduced a music stage area, a small world play area and next week the children will find out in our Tuesday assembly! We hope that every family will complete this questionnaire. For more information see www.outdoorplayandlearning.org.uk

CLPE Reflecting Realities Report - [CLPE Survey of Ethnic Representation within UK Children's Literature \(November 2023\)](#) | Centre for Literacy in Primary Education



As you know, we have been working hard to ensure that all the books in school - book corners, library, core texts for The Power of Reading - represent the reality of our current cohort. This is always going to be an ongoing piece of work. CLPE has hugely inspired us in this pursuit and they have just published the 6th CLPE Reflecting Realities Report - click on the link to read the report and press release, covering the key findings.

The publication of the Reflecting Realities survey has been a key driver in the positive and significant changes in children's book publishing in the last six years and there are many more books reflecting the characteristics of children in our world than there were in 2017.

School clubs

We received a very high volume of requests for our school clubs earlier in the week. We are now working hard to place as many children as possible in their preferred clubs but it will not be possible to meet all requests due to the set number of club places we are able to offer. We try to be as fair as possible in allocating club places and spend time considering each request. I am very grateful to all of the staff who give their time to voluntarily run school clubs. You will receive a message early next week letting you know which clubs your child has been allocated and that they are ready for payment (via Parentpay). Payment for our external clubs, French and Drumming, is slightly different and you will receive details separately if your child has a place in these clubs.

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.

*Please pay particular attention to the rules around vomiting and diarrhoea as this can be very infectious among small children, in fairness to others **please ensure that your child remains at home for at least 2 days/48 hours after their last bout of vomiting or diarrhoea.** Thank you for your co-operation.*

Second hand uniform

We have a large amount of second hand uniform in stock that will be sold at the Christmas Fair tomorrow, there is a lot for sale in excellent condition so do stock up. If we still have second hand uniform left after the fair it will be available on clothes rails for you to browse and buy until the end of term in the school foyer. We will operate an honesty box system (cash only box, no change, on the

front desk) for you to make a small donation in return for uniform items. We will let you know when we have set this up.

Google classroom

We would like every family to have signed up to your child's Google classroom. If you need a reminder of your child's login details and classroom code please contact the school office. We would be most grateful if those parents using Google classroom could provide us with some feedback on what you think of the communications by completing [this short form](#).

Accent catering tasting session and parent drop in morning

All parents and carers are warmly invited to a food tasting event provided by Accent Catering, our school lunch provider, on **Friday 8 December** from **9 - 10am** at the school. This will be a chance for you to talk to our chef Marco and his team, and to understand more about the school lunches that your children enjoy, and most importantly for you to taste them as well! For more information about Accent Catering please see www.accentcatering.co.uk. I will also be available for a drop in session at the same time for you to ask me any questions about the school in general and about supporting your children (as always, if you need a longer conversation please make an appointment).

Flu vaccinations catch up clinic

There will be a flu vaccine catch up clinic for any children who missed the vaccine in school this week, and if you would like them to have it. Please see the flyer at the end of this newsletter for details. The clinic will be held on **Saturday 9 December from 9.30 - 12.30pm** in **East Sheen library**. There are no further catch up clinics planned for this season in the area and this is the nearest one.

Punctuality monitoring

Another reminder that we are continuing to monitor morning punctuality closely, we are concerned about a number of children who are continuing to arrive late regularly. Any families who are experiencing difficulties in arriving at school on time should talk to us so that we can support you in trying to improve the situation as soon as possible. Please allow ample time for all of your school journeys and walk, scoot or cycle whenever possible. Thank you for your co-operation with this.

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>.

Community and other information

We hope you find the following information useful:

- Friends of Richmond Park "Discoverers" group who run lovely nature activities throughout the year for children have asked us to let you know about their Christmas 'Crafternoon' on **Sunday 10 December from 1 - 3pm** at Pembroke Lodge, a poster follows below.
- Kingston First have asked us to pass on details of events around Kingston in the run up to Christmas <https://kingstonuponthames.info/christmas-in-kingston>

Wishing you all an enjoyable weekend, and we look forward to seeing many of you at the Christmas Fair tomorrow.

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.



Hounslow and Richmond
Community Healthcare
NHS Trust

presents



Childrens & Young Peoples Flu Vaccinations in Kingston & Richmond 2023- Catch up clinics.

For children and young people that attend school in the Kingston and Richmond borough.

We are inviting children in Reception to Year 11 and include children who live in our borough and do not attend school.

Saturday 09th December 09:30am to 12:30pm
East Sheen Library, Sheen Lane, London, SW14 8LP
(Walk in, no appointment needed)

Please contact the team on:

HRCH.ImmunisationTeamKingstonMailbox@nhs.net
Tel: 0203 691 1043

HRCH.ImmunisationTeamMailbox@nhs.net
Tel: 0203 691 1019



SUNDAY 10TH DECEMBER 1-3PM
PEMBROKE LODGE BELVEDERE
RICHMOND PARK

DISCOVERERS CHRISTMAS CRAFTERNOON

* FREE DROP-IN EVENT * CHRISTMAS CRAFTS *

COME AND MEET SANTA!

