



# COOMBE HILL INFANTS' SCHOOL

Friday 15 December 2023

Dear Families,

This afternoon we enjoyed the first performance of the Year 1 and 2 Christmas play. Your children have worked so hard and it was lovely, we were very proud of them all. We look forward to seeing them perform again on Monday afternoon with our year 1 parents. We will also enjoy the Reception dress rehearsal on Monday morning and then the actual performance on Tuesday at 9.30am. Just a reminder that pre-school children and babies are welcome to come to the dress rehearsal. I am sure that you will join me in saying thank you to our wonderful staff who work so hard to give your children the best possible experiences all year round.

**Next week** we will be continuing to remind the children about being:-

**Responsible** and **safe** like Kanga- *We look after ourselves, each other and our school* and

**Respectful** like Winnie the Pooh - *We are gentle, kind and helpful.*



## **Last day of term - Christmas parade and early finish**

We break up for the Christmas holiday on Thursday 21 December, and school finishes one hour earlier than usual - 2.05pm for Reception and 2.10pm for Years 1 and 2. Connections finishes at 5pm on this day. Please collect your children promptly at these times. Children are welcome to come into school on Thursday wearing festive clothes and hats or festive colours for a special Christmas parade in the morning.

## **Christmas lunch menu**

Also on the last day of term, Thursday 21 December, the children will enjoy a traditional Christmas lunch together, and the menu that was to be served on this date (beef lasagne or jacket potatoes) will now be served on Wednesday 20 December instead. Please see the menu to follow:



## 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)

## SEN cake sale



We are so grateful to everyone who donated to our SEN (Special Educational Needs) cake sale today. We are particularly grateful to those parents who also gave their time to run the sale. Mrs Heard (our SENCO and Inclusion Manager) is delighted to hear that £231.50 has been raised for new resources, this is a wonderful amount. We received so many donations that we have enough to run **an extra cake sale next Wednesday after school**, again for SEN resources, please remember to bring some cash to school at pick up time and support the sale - thank you very much. We have also raised over £80 from the after school book sales and this money will also go towards SEN resources in the school.

Thank you for your support for all of the cake sales this term, to the class reps who have co-ordinated them, to everyone who donated items and to those who gave their time to sell on the day. The money raised from these sales is put directly towards classroom resources that all of your children benefit from. The sales will resume in January (all classes have one cake sale per term), the dates will be shared with you in the new year.

### School clubs

Thank you for paying for your children's school club places promptly. 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. 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 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 have a large amount of second-hand uniform available in the school foyer, please come and have a look. Please feel welcome to come in and take what you need at any time between 8.15am to 4.15pm, we are not charging for these items and would like to see them put to good use. We have an optional charity collection box on the front desk for you to put a small donation in should you wish. We hope to be able to start accepting donations of Coombe Hill branded second-hand uniform after Christmas. We will gladly accept Coombe Hill fleeces and any jogging bottoms now. 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.

## Vomiting and diarrhoea

Please pay particular attention to the rules around vomiting and diarrhoea as this is very infectious and spreads quickly among small children. In fairness to everyone **please ensure that your child remains at home for at least 2 days/48 hours after their last bout of vomiting or diarrhoea**. Please strictly observe the 48 hour quarantine period. Thank you for your co-operation with this and please ask the school office for advice if in doubt.

## Giving antibiotics in school

We would like to remind you that if your child is prescribed antibiotics we can only give these in school for the following reasons;

- if they have been prescribed **4** times a day
- if a doctor has given a very specific hourly timeline between doses
- if your child attends Connections (and therefore the time between doses is too long)

Otherwise, if your child has been prescribed antibiotics three times a day you should give them to your child before they come to school in the morning, when you collect them and before bedtime.

## 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:

- **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>
- **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 relaxing 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.*

# **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](#)