



# COOMBE HILL INFANTS' SCHOOL

Friday 17 November 2023

Dear Families,

Thank you to everyone who is supporting our focus on good behaviour choices. This week we have been thinking about being resilient, which for young children means ignoring distractions and trying hard. This isn't always easy for young children. We have been emphasising how important it is to let others learn and not distract each other - please talk to your children about this at home.

Next week, we will be thinking about being responsible - about keeping ourselves and others safe. It is also our Road safety week so we will be thinking about how to be responsible when we are outside school as well. In our assembly on Monday, we will be talking about how to cross the road safely. Please could you support this by using the crossing directly outside school.

## Diwali

This week we enjoyed a wonderful assembly celebrating Diwali, which many of our families also celebrated at home. Your children enjoyed telling us how they enjoy Diwali by eating special food, wearing beautiful clothes and spending time with family and friends.



## Remembrance Sunday

Six of our year 2 children represented our school on Sunday at the Remembrance parade and service at the War Memorial in New Malden, we were very proud of how well they represented us and showed respect. Thank you to everyone who supported the Poppy Appeal collection in school, we will let you know how much we raised as soon as we can.



### Playtimes

It is great to see so many children now bringing in wellington boots to wear at playtimes. The playground is very muddy and waterlogged at the moment. Please could we ask that all shoes and wellies are clearly name labelled. Do let us know if you are unable to bring boots in, we do have a small stock of them which your child is able to use.

### Upcoming phonics and reading information sessions

Thank you to everyone who attended the Reception and Year 1 phonics sessions today and last week, we always appreciate your support and hope you found the sessions useful. Next Friday there will be a **Year 1 and Year 2 reading meeting from 9.00 - 9.30am**, again in the hall, we encourage all parents from those year groups to come along.

### Google classroom

We would like every family to have signed up to your child's Google classroom. This is where you will find out what your child has been learning about this week and it will help you understand how you can support them at home. You will also receive any additional notifications about upcoming trips, forest school sessions, home activities or support we need in class. 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](#). I am aware that some parents are being really helpful and sharing the information via Whatsapp, we would however urge parents to use their own login information as there are lots of further links etc. Thank you.

### School clubs - please note

School clubs finish for years 1 and 2 at the end of November. The last week that clubs will run is the week starting Monday 27 November, clubs will run as usual this week and then finish (**no clubs from Monday 4 December onwards**). Please make a note of this if your child attends clubs. Booking information for the Spring term clubs will be sent to you later this term, and Reception parents will also have the opportunity to book a club for their child.

### Lost property - Please label **ALL** items clearly

It is so important that **all** of your child's clothing items are clearly named, with 270 children in the school things can easily be misplaced. We spent a lot of time this week clearing through the lost property box and the photo below shows the amount of unnamed items that we currently have. All of these items are in good condition but cannot be returned to their owners as they are unnamed. We cannot store items for long so they will be taken to charity if uncollected. If you have bought second hand items from us please erase the previous owner's name to save confusion. The lost property box (shown below) is in the year 1 playground, please take a look for any missing items.



Please label all water bottles, lunchboxes, jumpers, fleeces, PE kit, coats, hats, individual gloves, scarves, school shoes and PE trainers, wellies, any other item of clothing that your child brings to school for non-uniform days/forest school sessions etc. We greatly appreciate your help with this, thank you.

#### **A message from the Christmas Fair committee**

***“Just 2 weeks to go until the Christmas Fair! From Monday 20th November we will be grateful for donations from the whole school of:***

- ***Filled jam jars for the Jolly Jam Jar tombola (also clean empty jam jars and any small toys/sweets etc which can be used by the class to fill jars). Please leave these in the INFANTS' office***
- ***Pre-loved children's books IN GOOD CONDITION. Please leave these in the JUNIOR office.***
- ***Please note, we are NOT accepting donations of infants school uniform AT ALL, as there is already enough for the second hand uniform stall.***

***We are also looking for donations of prizes which can be used in the Sports tombola, for the Pamper board, or for the main raffle! Please email [chiptachair@gmail.com](mailto:chiptachair@gmail.com) if you can offer any of these and we can put you in touch with the relevant class.***

***If you are able to offer food for the international stall on the day of the fair, please contact Izzy at [chiptadiversity@gmail.com](mailto:chiptadiversity@gmail.com). Food can arrive when you do, it does not need to be there for the start, as we need a supply of hot food arriving between 12 and 2pm.***

***Thank you for all your efforts!  
Christmas Fair Committee”***

#### **Parentpay donations for the raffle**

The Christmas Fair committee has also asked us to remind you that Monday is the last day for parentpay donations for the raffle. All donations, however small, are appreciated.

#### **CHIPTA “Celebrating Diversity” committee meeting**

Everyone is warmly invited to come for a tea or coffee on **Thursday 23 November from 9 - 10am** at school with the Celebrating Diversity committee. Come along for a chat and to get to know other parents.

#### **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](http://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).

### Fireworks celebration

We were so disappointed to have to postpone our Fireworks celebration again. All tickets that were bought for the original event are again valid for the new date, **Thursday 8 February 2024**. If you cannot make the new date, then please email [chiptachair@gmail.com](mailto:chiptachair@gmail.com) to arrange a refund. We hope that many of you will keep your tickets as we make the event a special celebration of the Chinese/Korean new year. The fireworks celebration is a big fundraiser for our school and we thank you for your patience and support.

### Sports for Schools event



A HUGE thank you to everyone for your generous support of the Sports for Schools event we ran in October. The final numbers have been totalled and you have raised a collective **£2,320.50**. This means we will be granted a voucher for **£1,149.30** to spend on sports equipment for our school which is just incredible. A special mention to Squirrel class for raising the most money of all classes and to Zara in Leopard class as the biggest individual fundraiser, well done Zara! We hope the children all enjoy the gifts which have been given out this week in recognition of their fundraising efforts.

### Next week - Road Safety week



Hopefully you will have begun to notice the posters supporting this event which runs through all of next week. The theme for this year's campaign is 'Let's talk about speed.' We have lots of activities planned for the children, beginning with an assembly on Monday talking about Road Safety. Please do encourage your children to share their learning and use it as another reminder about the importance of us all making safe journeys.

### Parent volunteers and DBS checks

If you have completed a DBS check with us we must see your certificate for our records, to complete the process. Please bring your certificate to the school office as soon as you receive it. We also encourage you to sign up for the DBS update service (free to volunteers) within 28 days of receiving your certificate, <https://www.gov.uk/dbs-update-service>. DBS certificates are valid for three years, if you need to check if you still have a valid certificate with us please contact the school office.

### Flu immunisations - Wednesday 29 November

A reminder that the consent form for your child to have the flu immunisation in school must be completed by Monday 27 November - the immunisation team cannot accept any late requests. Please also complete the form even if you do not want your child to receive the vaccination or if they have received it elsewhere. If you have any queries please contact the School Immunisation team directly on [HRCH.ImmunisationTeamKingstonMailbox@nhs.net](mailto:HRCH.ImmunisationTeamKingstonMailbox@nhs.net) or 020 3691 1027 / 1043.

**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>

Wishing you all a good 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.*