

Wednesday 31st March 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

As I write the final message of this term I can hear your children playing happily outside in the warm sunshine. What a contrast to the beginning of term when we were forced to close our doors to most of our children and it was freezing cold and dark. Everything feels so much more optimistic and I am sure that happier days are ahead.

We want things to get back to normal as soon as possible and we are planning things for the summer term, including after school clubs. We do, however, need to wait until we have further guidance from the Department for Education on allowing bubbles of children to mix. We will update you early on next term.

Covid reporting over the Easter holidays

It is important that you continue to report to us if your child tests positive for Covid over the Easter holidays - should this happen please email admin@chi.rbksch.org immediately. We are responsible for identifying your child's close contacts in school and we may need to contact other families and staff promptly if there were a positive case. Please also keep us informed if anyone in your child's household tests positive during the holidays so that we are aware of isolation dates which may affect your child's return to school. As ever, please be vigilant for Covid symptoms - do not send your child back to school after Easter if they have any Covid symptoms (raised temperature, new persistent cough or loss of sense of taste or smell) and please book a PCR test via <https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test>. We encourage you to order some LFD home test kits which may be used to test your child if they have no symptoms, just to be cautious before they return to school, these test kits can be ordered here <https://www.gov.uk/order-coronavirus-rapid-lateral-flow-tests>.

CHIPTA events and news

Thank you to our wonderful PTA for continuing to organise events and think creatively about how to offer all of our children some fun activities as well as raising money. Your fundraising currently supports Forest School lessons and Drumming classes for all, so it is very much appreciated. Please see the attached flyer with information about how to grow your own Coombe Hill pound, your child will bring home their plant pot in their blue bag today. Please also take a minute to look at our first ever CHIPTA newsletter. Thank you to Mahvish, Haena, Charlotte and Sapna for coordinating things so well. We are currently looking for new Chairs or co-Chairs. Please get in touch if this is something you may be interested in finding out about. Our current Chairs have brought such wonderful enthusiasm and creativity to the role and we would love for this to continue. We will soon be able to organise larger physical events so it is therefore an exciting time for the school and for CHIPTA. It is a great role if you want to help raise funds, meet lots of people and be involved in the school. It is also a useful thing to have on your CV when seeking future employment.

Parent/Teacher chats

We hope that you have had the opportunity to book a slot for the Parent/teacher chats via the class links that were sent out on Monday. Please contact the School Office if you need

any assistance with this. There is an expectation that we meet with all of you. The meetings will be face to face with your child's teacher after school and we are inviting one parent only to attend - we can look after your child in school whilst you have the meeting but cannot provide care for younger or older siblings. Covid safety measures will be in place and we will give you fuller information nearer to the meetings next term.

School Meals

We are delighted to tell you that all of our children are now eating in the hall. They are all so pleased and will start to enjoy the full dining experience which has been missing for over a year. For the first week back after Easter the children will be served the current Week 1 menu but we aim to launch our new menu the following week, more details on this will follow early next term. As always, please let us know if your child has any new dietary requirements or allergies that we need to be aware of.

Drop off and Pick up next term

Timings for drop off and pick up will continue as they have done this term. Thank you for supporting this so well and for being so punctual. Thank you also for adhering to our request to wear masks when you collect and drop off your child. Please wear your mask for the entire time that you are on our school site (horseshoe and waiting areas as well) and not just outside your child's classroom door. Please could we ask that if you are running late for pick up or drop off you inform the School Office.

Love the Ball and FUEL Holiday Activities

During the Easter break Love the Ball are running a holiday club here at Coombe Hill. Please see the attached flyer. They also run a Saturday morning football club at the local Goals venue, please get in touch with Coach Jon if you would like more information, we can put you in touch. The Easter holiday activities timetable for children who qualify for free school meals has now been published and can be found on the Achieving for Children's [FUEL website](#). FUEL is Achieving for Children's name for the Department for Education funded holiday programme and seeks to provide a range of enriching activities with food for children and young people on free school meals over the school holidays. Please follow the link for the booking form [FUEL e-leaflet](#) if you would like further information please email the programme coordinator at: uel@achievingforchildren.org.uk

Kingston re-developments

Kingston Council is currently talking to residents about plans to transform the Kingfisher Leisure Centre, Cattle Market car park and Guildhall campus. They want to hear from all residents, including children, about what they would like to see on these sites, especially the new leisure centre. Children can get involved by completing a children's survey about what activities they would enjoy in the new leisure centre and are invited to do this by sharing their written ideas or drawing a picture. The Council hopes to display the best artwork on the hoardings surrounding the site, the closing date is 25 April. Please look at the Transform Kingston Website for more information.

Bake Off Competition

Well done to everyone for the wonderful entries to our Bake-Off competition over the last few weeks, we have loved seeing your delicious creations, you have all done so well. The winner of Cake Week was Leo from Ladybird class, congratulations Leo, your rainbow cake was spectacular! All of our winners will be entered into the the grand final, along with the other participating schools. The winner will be announced after Easter. Happy Baking!

We hope you all have a happy, safe holiday and we look forward to seeing you on Monday 19th April when we will also be welcoming some chicks to hatch in school!

Warm regards,

Janet Berry