



# COOMBE HILL INFANTS' SCHOOL

*Learn together, grow together*

*We are a UNICEF Rights Respecting School*

Friday 11 October 2024

Dear Families,

We are very proud to tell you that we have been awarded the

## **Silver Rights Respecting School Award by UNICEF UK**

UNICEF is the world's leading organisation working for children and their rights. The Rights Respecting Schools Award is granted to schools that show commitment to promoting and realising children's rights and encouraging adults, children, and young people to respect the rights of others in school. Silver is given to schools that make excellent progress towards embedding the principles of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child into its ethos and curriculum. A Rights Respecting School is a community where children's rights are learned, taught, practised, respected, protected and promoted.

### **Mental Health and Wellbeing Week**

What a great week we have had! We have sung our Harvest songs, talked about being grateful for the food we have, talked about healthy eating, drawn autumn fruits and vegetables in our Art lessons and we have cooked and eaten food. Year 1 and 2 children had "What is mental health?" workshops with Shazia, our Educational Wellbeing Practitioner. The children learned that it is **important to notice our emotions and how they make us feel so that we can learn to manage them.**



### **Hello Yellow**

We all enjoyed adding a splash of yellow to our day on Thursday - as you can see from the photographs - and we have raised £79 for Young Minds. There is still time to donate if you would like to support this excellent charity. Here is the link to our JustGiving page:

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/sue-jakob-1727900329#supportersList>.

YoungMinds has resources for parents and carers to find help and advice, if you're ever concerned about a child or young person – you can find this on their website: [www.youngminds.org.uk/parent](http://www.youngminds.org.uk/parent). If you have any questions, please let us know.



### **Fruit and Vegetable dress up day**

We had a wonderful assembly today where each class paraded around the hall so we could all admire each other's fruit and vegetable hats and costumes. Thank you for helping the children with the outfits!







### Harvest Festival and Kingston Foodbank collection

We have collected food for our Harvest Festival this week with all donations going to Kingston FoodBank - thank you for your generosity. The staff from the Foodbank were delighted to receive so many donations when they collected them today.



### Bounce-a-thon

The Bounce-a-thon was a great success and the children loved counting how many times they could bounce in 2 minutes - what a fun way to stay healthy, raise our heartbeats and collect money for school resources! Please drop your sponsorship money off in a sealed envelope marked "Bounce-a-thon" to the school office, or pay via ParentPay by Friday 9 November. Please extend our thanks to everyone who has sponsored the children.



### **Year 1 and Year 2 Pupil progress meetings**

Thank you to everyone who has signed up for a pupil progress meeting with their child's teacher. If you have not already done so please make an appointment. If you have any questions or difficulties in signing up for an appointment please contact the school office team.

### **Christmas/seasonal cards fundraiser**

This week, you should all have received your children's artwork which can be printed on cards, mugs, notebooks, wrapping paper, and labels. **Please do think about placing an order** - it's so lovely for the children to see their art reproduced in this way, they make great gifts and it does raise money for school funds. **If you do want to place an order, please follow the instructions with the artwork and then return the order and artwork to your class teacher - we have extended the deadline for this until Monday 14 October for orders, so please have a look over the weekend and return your orders together with the artwork on Monday.**

### **Bookshop Day**

Saturday 12th October is Bookshop Day and Jane Newberry, an author who uses her experience as a music teacher to create wonderful action rhymes for children, will be at [The Alligator's Mouth in Richmond](#). Jane is running a lovely interactive session introducing her new collection, *Big Red Dragon*. The ticket price per child is £5, which is fully redeemable against a Big Red Dragon, hardback £12.99.

### **Illnesses this week**

We have seen an increase in normal childhood illnesses this week and related absences. Please note the following for when your child is ill.

# Diarrhoea and vomiting in children



We ask you to strictly observe the **48 hour rule** regarding vomiting and/or diarrhoea. It is so important that your child does not attend school for a clear 48 hours after a bout of either of these symptoms. This is in fairness to other children and to our staff as tummy bugs can spread extremely quickly among young children. Even if your child has a single bout of vomiting and/or diarrhoea/loose stools and then appears well they **must** remain at home for the full 48 hour period. We understand that this can be frustrating but we must ask for your co-operation. We are grateful to every parent who keeps their child at home for 48 hours and this is recorded as an authorised illness on your child's attendance record. Thank you.

## Raised temperatures

If your child appears unwell in the morning please take their temperature and do not send them into school if their temperature is raised (the NHS define a high temperature as 38c). **If your child has a high temperature do not give them paracetamol (ie Calpol) and then send them into school.** They could have an infectious illness and will feel poorly at school later when the paracetamol wears off. Children should stay at home if they have a raised temperature in the morning and are unwell. They can come back to school when they no longer have a raised temperature and feel well in themselves.

## Reporting absence

We ask you to contact the school office to report your child's absence every day that they are absent **by 9.15am** in one of the following ways:

- Call 020 8942 9481 and speak to a member of the school office team (from 8.00am) before 9.15am
- Call 020 8942 9481 and leave an answerphone message any time in the morning before 9.15am
- Email [admin@chi.rbksch.org](mailto:admin@chi.rbksch.org) before 9.15am

If we do not hear from you by 9.15am we will call a child's parents and emergency contacts if we are unable to get hold of you.

## Coats

We have noticed that some children are arriving at school without a coat. The weather is now chilly and the children all play outside several times a day, including when there is light rain. We ask that every child comes to school wearing a clearly named coat every day please, thank you.

## Athlete visit to school

Yesterday, we revealed the "**Great Athlete**" who will be visiting us on Wednesday 23rd October! **Courtney Orange**, a former national gymnastics champion, will be running a fun fitness circuit, followed by an inspirational assembly and Q&A session with the children. The children will be bringing home a sponsorship form today, so make sure to check their bags for this. There are some fun games on the back of the forms and don't forget to enter the Great Athletes competition by emailing a photo of the completed sponsorship form to [hello@greatathletes.org](mailto:hello@greatathletes.org). If you would like to



sponsor your child, you can bring in cash with the sponsorship form, or you can donate online by following this link and searching for the school name

<https://sportal.greatathletes.org/events/landing>

Please ensure that the sponsorship form and all cash collected is returned to the school office by **Friday 25 October**, online donations can be submitted until 1 week after the event, by **Wednesday 30 October**. Please also make sure that your children come to school on the event day with their PE kits. **The money raised will go towards new sports equipment to improve levels of physical activity in our school.** Alternatively, you can scan the QR code to go directly to the online sponsorship page. Thank you, as always, for your support.

#### **Governor information drop-in session - Friday 18 October**

After half-term we will be holding a **parent governor** election and recruiting new **associate members**. School governors are volunteers who work as a team (governing body) to support the school at a strategic level. The role of a parent governor is no different to any other governor. Governing boards make strategic decisions and work together to:

- develop a vision and strategy for the school
- oversee financial performance and make sure money is well spent
- hold the headteacher to account for the educational performance of the school
- engage with pupils, staff, parents and the wider school community to understand their views

Being a school governor is a commitment to attending governing body meetings which consider these issues. Parent governors offer their perspective on issues being discussed and they are not expected to represent the parent body or act as a spokesperson. Full training and support are also provided for the role. If you are interested to find out more, please come along when we hold our drop-in session on **Friday 18<sup>th</sup> October 9 - 10 am** and have a chat. For more information please email [clerk@chi.rbksch.org](mailto:clerk@chi.rbksch.org)

#### **“Strategies for Managing Behaviour in a Positive Way” - Parent workshop at school**

Our Education Wellbeing Practitioner, Shazia, will hold her first parent workshop of this year in a two-part workshop **“Strategies for Managing Behaviour in a Positive Way”**. These will be held from **9 - 10.30 am on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> October**. Please email [admin@chi.rbksch.org](mailto:admin@chi.rbksch.org) to register your attendance.

#### **Attendance**

Our overall attendance target is 96%. Our overall attendance this week is **95.70%**. **Both Leopard and Otter classes** have achieved the highest attendance this week with **98% attendance**, well done to both classes!



#### **CHI Approach to Behaviour Management**

We have received requests from several parents to run a workshop about our school's approach to positive behaviour management and how you can support them at home. The workshop will include information about our Learning Behaviours, the Zones of Regulations, Emotion Coaching, etc, and will be held at school at 9 am on **Friday 29<sup>th</sup> November**.

We can also offer you access to an excellent selection of webinars as part of the “Helping Children with .....” Series. The topics include- worries, resilience, friendships, challenging behaviours, screentime, and sleep - if there is something else you would like help with, please talk to Mrs. Jakob.

**Helping Children Series 24-25.pdf**

Also, please be aware that we can also refer you to the School Health team for concerns around problems with eating, or for day/night wetting - just email the office with your concerns. If you would like some advice about how to keep your child safe online, please look at this useful NSPCC resource. <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/support-for-parents/techosaurus/>

### **Leopard class cake sale**

Thank you to the Leopard class parents and carers for holding a very successful cake sale on 27 September, you raised **£188.76** for Leopard classroom resources. Mr Morris and the children will decide what to spend the proceeds on and will let you know what they buy in due course.

### **Macmillan coffee afternoon**

We are delighted to tell you that the final total for our Macmillan fundraising afternoon last week was a fantastic **£945.86** which we are delighted to pass to the charity.

### **PTA Fireworks Event**

Join us for an amazing fireworks event on **Thursday 7th November!** 

- ★ Gates open at 4:30 pm, with the fireworks display starting at 6:00 pm.
- ★ Enjoy tasty hot dogs, popcorn, and candy floss, and there's a bar for adults.
- ★ **Tickets are £6 each and can be purchased on ParentPay now**
- ★ Previously bought tickets for 2023 are still valid. For any questions, please contact [chiptatreasurer@gmail.com](mailto:chiptatreasurer@gmail.com).
- ★ Please note, that all children must be accompanied by an adult, with a maximum of three children per adult.
- ★ We are also looking for volunteers! If you can help, even for just 30 minutes, please contact [chiptachair@gmail.com](mailto:chiptachair@gmail.com).
- ★ Everyone is welcome. Don't miss out on the fun!

### **Playworker - School job vacancy**

Do you like working with Children? 'Would you like to join a friendly team at school?' 'Are you enthusiastic?'

We are looking for playworkers to join our Wrap Around Care Club, Coombe Connections. If you are interested in applying or would like more information please see the link below to the advertisement on Eteach. Alternatively, please contact Jill Evans in the Junior school office.

<https://www.eteach.com/job/afterschool-club-playworker-1446938>

### **Goodbye to our school chef Marco**

Today we have said goodbye to our chef Marco, he is leaving the school to relocate and we wish him well. We thank him for his hard work and dedication over the past few years in ensuring that our children are offered a delicious, healthy lunch menu every day. Just two weeks ago our school had a kitchen inspection and received a 5 star hygiene certificate for which Marco and his team can be very proud.

### **ASDA "Cashpot for Schools"**

Parentkind – the charity that supports school PTAs - has teamed up with ASDA, who are making millions of pounds available to donate to primary schools across the UK through their 'Cashpot for Schools' initiative. All you have to do is opt-in through the Asda Rewards app, choose our school, and shop and scan in-store or shop online at <https://www.asda.com/cashpotforschools>, between 2nd September and 30th November 2024. Asda will donate 0.5% of the value of your shop to our PTA. Also, every time somebody opts in, Asda will give an additional £1 to the school Cashpot. Asda is also giving £50 to every school to get them started. One of our parents has said, "My personal cash pot for the school is £69.92, it's amazing, it quickly adds up!"

### **Easy Fundraising scheme**

Coombe Hill Infants School has raised £2.1k so far through the Easy Fundraising scheme. You are able to support this every time you shop online at no extra cost. Sign up today for easy fundraising and raise free donations when you shop online with over 8,000 retailers. All the big names like eBay, Argos, Marks and Spencer, John Lewis & Partners, Etsy, Tesco and Just Eat are ready to donate. Join today and we could win a £100 bonus donation:

<https://join.easyfundraising.org.uk/coombe-hill-infant-school-kingston-upon-thames/ydh9x7/s2s/FZ9Up2Ac/SE870/whatsapp>

### **Pupil Premium Grant**

When your child was admitted to the school we checked their eligibility for the Pupil Premium Grant. Children in receipt of the Pupil Premium Grant receive funded benefits throughout the school year from us as a school and from the local authority. Please get in touch with us if your financial circumstances have changed since your child joined the school and their 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/mN1XwRS174XqDdo39>

### **Previous newsletters**

Our previous newsletters can be found here on our website

<https://www.coombehillinfants.com/page/?title=Parent+Newsletter&pid=225>

### **Community Information**

- Please find to follow details of the “Love the Ball” October half term holiday camp being held here at Coombe Hill. Bookings are now being taken via [www.lovetheball.com](http://www.lovetheball.com)
- Please find to follow a poster with details of an event with Dean Beadle at Latchmere school on **Tuesday 12 November from 6.30 - 8.30pm**, he will be speaking about autism and social/emotional needs.
- Please find to follow information from the NHS about which medical service to access in case of illness, this might be useful to guide you when your child is unwell.

Wishing you all a restful weekend.

Warm regards

Janet Berry

Headteacher

### ***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.*



**GET ACTIVE THIS OCTOBER!**



**LTB**  
**ACADEMY**  
EST. 2013

**When?**  
**28th Oct - 1st Nov**  
**Where?**  
**Coombe Hill**  
**Schools**

**October Camp 2024 is booking now!**  
Our multi-sport activity camps have something for everyone!

**[www.lovetheball.com](http://www.lovetheball.com)**



JOIN US FOR AN EVENING WITH

# DEAN BEADLE

EVENT OPEN TO ALL

*Dean will be speaking about autism and social/emotional needs.*

**TUESDAY**  
12th November 2024



**STARTS AT**  
6:30PM TO 8:30PM



**AT LATCHMERE SCHOOL**  
Latchmere Road, Kingston upon  
Thames, KT2 5TT




**TICKETS ARE**  
£10 per person



**REGISTER HERE**



@deanbeadlespeaker



**WE INVITE YOU TO JOIN US FOR AN  
EXCITING EVENING AT**

**COOMBE HILL SCHOOL'S  
FIREWORKS EVENT!**

**Thursday 7th November -  
Gates open 4.30pm -  
Fireworks to start at 6pm**

**Tickets available via  
ParentPay**

**HOT DOGS-POPCORN-CANDY FLOSS-BAR- LIGHT UP TOYS**



# Help Us Help You



## Self Care

Stock your medicine cabinet as many minor issues, like coughs, grazes and sore throats are treatable at home.



## Pharmacy

Pharmacists offer medical advice and medicines for minor illnesses like coughs, colds, tummy trouble, rashes and aches and pains, and also give flu jabs.



## GP

Within normal surgery hours your GP should be your first contact with health concerns. GPs provide examinations, advice, prescriptions, vaccinations and referrals.



## 111.nhs.uk

You should visit 111.nhs.uk when you cannot wait to see your doctor. NHS 111 is a fast and easy way to get the right help urgently, 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.



## NHS 111

You should call 111 when you cannot wait to see your doctor. NHS 111 is a fast and easy way to get the right help urgently, 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.



## A&E

A&E departments in hospitals are open for life threatening emergencies like heart attacks and accidents, 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.