

**From:** Admin at Coombe Hill Infant School  
**Sent:** 12 November 2021 17:01  
**To:** Admin at Coombe Hill Infant School  
**Subject:** Message from Mrs Berry

Dear Parents and Carers,

This half term we are celebrating International Fortnight and our rich multi-cultural community at Coombe Hill Infants'. We - and the children - would love you to visit the class at the end of a day and give a short 'show-and-tell' on a country you know well - perhaps where you were born or have lived/worked extensively. In the past some parents have brought in objects to show or shared 5 or 6 slides of a PowerPoint or a story. If you are interested please speak to your class teacher. On the day of your visit please come in to the school via the Office wearing a mask. Once in class, the mask can be removed. On **Wednesday 17th November** we will be celebrating with an International assembly. Please send your child in clothes which represent a country, this is voluntary of course and even football shirts from different countries will be great.

### **The Poppy Appeal and Remembrance**

Our Year 2 prefects have been busy selling poppies in school this week for the Royal British Legion, thank you to those of you who have supported this. The whole school held a 1 minute silence yesterday on the playground and your children were wonderful and respectful, we have a youtube link to share with you. As always, please do not share this video or any images from on it via social media, thank you. <https://youtu.be/ftaCzmJWMz4>

### **Volunteers and DBS certificates**

Thank you to those of you who are beginning to come in and help, it makes such a difference and we really appreciate the support. It is also a great way for you to become involved in the life of the school and your children love to see you. Please let your class teacher know if want to come in. All regular volunteers must hold a valid DBS certificate. Thank you to those of you who have volunteered to help with our books and library following Mrs Jakob's request. If you applied for a DBS certificate and have received it by post you must bring it to the School Office for us to take a copy, we also need to give you information on how to subscribe to the DBS update service.

### **Second-hand uniform sales**

Our second-hand uniform sales start on Monday and will be held on Mondays and Thursdays throughout this term in the Studio (the mobile portakabin building on the Year 1 playground) from 3-4pm. Please wear a mask when you enter the Studio. You will be able to pay by card or exact change, items will be between 50p and £4. Thank you to the CHIPTA team for organising this and of course all proceeds will come back to the school.

### **Holiday absence**

We are mindful that many of you have family overseas and that you haven't been able to see them for a long period of time. We are sympathetic and understand how important it is to begin to see loved ones again. However we are beginning to receive many absence requests for the weeks leading up to the 2 week Christmas holiday. Unfortunately

we are unable to authorise any requests unless there are exceptional circumstances. Thank you for your support with this.

### **Christmas plays**

This year we will be giving your children the opportunity to perform in their year group Christmas play. These are lovely events where children sing, wear costumes and perform to an audience. Regretfully, following much discussion, we have decided that we are unable to invite parents and carers in. Our school hall is quite small and our numbers are large, it will be impossible to keep the room well ventilated and we feel that the risk of infecting others just before the break is too high. I am sure, although disappointing, you will understand our decision. So many families and staff will be travelling to see family and we wouldn't want to jeopardise these plans for anyone. Your children will still experience performing and we will create a film of the events which will be shared. Thank you for your understanding. We are hoping that we can invite you in for the class assemblies next term.

### **Parent Governor election**

It is promising to see that several parents have expressed an interest in becoming a parent or associate governor. The deadline for applying is **Wednesday 17th November**. If we have more than one application a vote will be held. Please contact us if you have any further questions.

### **Christmas Fair - Saturday 27 November**

Thank you very much for all your generous donations for the upcoming Christmas fair, please continue to bring any donations in to the School office entrance. You should have received information on donations from your class reps - we are collecting books, decorated jam jars, good quality second hand toys, second hand costumes and gifts for the 'secret room' (new or new items for Mums, Dads, Grandparents, siblings etc). Tickets for Santa's Grotto (organised by Leopard class) are now on sale. Please go to <https://tinyurl.com/cuxs4unh> or scan the QR code on the attached poster (please note that 8 tickets are sold per 10 minute slot). The Grotto will be located inside the reading hut in the adventure playground and the children will visit Santa inside and take away a special gift - this popular stall sells out so please book quickly!

Wishing you a good weekend.

Warm regards

Janet Berry