



COOMBE HILL INFANTS' SCHOOL

Friday 16 September 2022

Dear Families,

A reminder that Monday 19 September is a bank holiday - the school is closed for us to join together with the nation for the state funeral of Queen Elizabeth II. We re-open on Tuesday morning as normal.

As we reach the end of our second week back, your children are now settling back into the routines of school life so well. There is a lot for them to get used to and many will be feeling a little overwhelmed and tired. This is perfectly normal and we are all aware that some children need a little more support, especially in the morning when they are being dropped off. Please be reassured that this will settle down and that we will always let you know if your child continues to be upset or worried.

Welcome Meetings

Thank you to so many of you who attended the Welcome Meeting on Tuesday evening and then the year group meetings on Wednesday and Thursday. The Welcome Meeting presentation is attached to this email and if you are unsure of anything please get in touch. The Year 1 and Year 2 presentations are available on our website under the Teaching and Learning area for each year group. We look forward to welcoming our Reception parents for a meeting on Wednesday 21st September at 9.00am in the hall.

CHIPTA (Coombe Hill Infants' PTA)

On Tuesday evening, we talked about the many ways that you can be involved here at Coombe Hill Infants' School. We would love to hear from you if you are able to help, particularly through CHIPTA. Our first big event will be the Fireworks evening on Wednesday 2nd November. Please could Reception parents fill in and return the form which came home via the blue bags yesterday if you are able to help in any way. We would also love to hear from any Year 1 and Year 2 parents who would like to become involved this year. Our first CHIPTA meeting will be held on **Friday 7 October at 9.00am**. Please come along if you are a class rep, interested in supporting an event or just want to hear about what is going on.

Last year, some of our parents formed a "Celebrating Diversity" group within CHIPTA, aiming to bring together the rich diversity of parents we have in our Coombe Hill community. They have set up a new walking group "Walk & Talk", everyone is invited to come along for an informal walk and chat (younger siblings and dogs are welcome too). The first walk will be on **Friday 23 September** in Richmond Park. Meet at the School entrance at 9.00am, or at

Ladderstile Gate (Richmond Park entrance) at 9.20am, we look forward to seeing you there. Please contact chiptadiversity@gmail.com with any questions.

eBooks

A few parents have asked why we are using eBooks. We read with your children in school and we want your child to read that same book to you at home, so they can celebrate their learning and read to you. We cannot send the physical book home as we are using these books across the whole school. Don't worry, we will send other books home with your child. Your child will also bring home a Bedtime Book (Reception parents, you will hear more about this in your meeting next week) - this will be a high quality text for you to read/share with your child. If you have any questions, please talk to your teacher or Mrs Jakob, our Reading Lead.

Bedtime Books

We ask that Year 1 and Year 2 parents return any books that they may have at home as soon as possible please. We are currently missing around £500 worth of bedtime books as well as the book bags themselves. Please have a look at home and drop the books and bags back to the School Office, thank you very much.

Parking

Parking around our school for drop off and pick up is always a challenge for families. There are very few roads to park on and this can cause stress and occasionally anti-social behaviour. Unfortunately this week we have received calls from residents on Crown Road who have been blocked in by poor parking. Please avoid doing this, it is infuriating for residents who need to be able to drive out to pick their own children up from school, but it also damages the reputation of the school, particularly when it becomes aggressive. We urge you to park responsibly and safely (**not** on double yellow lines). Traffic enforcement officers regularly monitor this situation. Please could we also remind you that keeping your engine on whilst stationary is now illegal.

Parental donations

Thank you for all your kind donations to our voluntary fund. We couldn't offer such a rich programme of extra-curricular events and opportunities without your additional financial help. We are of course, grateful for all donations no matter how great or small. We invite you to make a voluntary donation to our school fund for this academic year if you have not already done so.

In your ParentPay account, you will notice the school Voluntary Fund items, one with Gift Aid and one without, to select as appropriate. You may enter any amount of your choice and the items will remain on your ParentPay account should you wish to make another donation in the future. The items are offered on ParentPay as an alternative method of payment to an online bank standing order, but we don't wish you to duplicate a payment you may have made already - please check whether you have previously set up a standing order within your own bank towards our Voluntary Fund. You may have set this up when you first received the offer of a place at Coombe Hill Infants' School.

Autumn term after-school clubs

Year 1 and Year 2 parents will have received details of our Autumn term after-school clubs earlier today. These clubs are run voluntarily until 4pm by our school staff and I am very grateful to them for giving their time to do this. Please read the timetable and booking information carefully. Reception children will have the opportunity to join our after-school clubs from the Spring term in January. Children who attend Coombe Connections are also welcome to book the after-school clubs and we will ensure that your children attend their club and are then escorted to Connections.

Polio vaccinations

Please find attached a letter with information on the current Polio booster vaccination programme across South West London, we have been asked to share this with you and encourage you to participate.

PE days

Please send your child in to school in their PE kit on their respective PE days. These are as follows:

- **Reception** - Tuesday and Thursday
- **Year 1** - Monday and Tuesday
- **Year 2** - Tuesday and Thursday

Please find to follow a list of upcoming events and dates to half term. Further dates may be added so please read all email messages from the School for updates.

Wishing you a restful weekend.

Warm regards

Janet Berry

Upcoming dates

Reception Information meeting Wednesday 21 September at 9am	For Reception families, in the Hall
Tiger class cake sale Friday 23 September at 3pm	All proceeds directly to the Tiger classroom
Individual School photographs Monday 26 September	All children should come to school in full uniform even if it is their PE day
Cake sale for Macmillan support Friday 30 September at 3pm	Donations and help welcome from all families, thank you
CHIPTA meeting Friday 7 October at 9.00am	All welcome and warmly invited

Lion class cake sale Friday 7 October at 3pm	All proceeds directly to the Lion classroom
Flu Immunisations Tuesday 11 October	Please refer to the email and information sent out earlier this week
Hedgehog class cake sale Friday 14 October at 3pm	All proceeds directly to the Hedgehog classroom
Parent / Teacher progress meetings Week starting Monday 17 October	Further information will be sent out in due course
Harvest Festival & Foodbank Collection Wednesday 19 October	Please bring Harvest donations for Kingston Foodbank in to school where we will have collection boxes, further details will be sent out
Fruit and Vegetable day Thursday 20 October For Health and Happiness week	A Coombe Hill Infants' tradition - send your child into school dressed as a fruit or vegetable!
Squirrel class cake sale Thursday 20 October at 3pm	All proceeds directly to the Squirrel classroom
INSET DAY Friday 21 October	No children in School (Half term from Mon 24 - Fri 28 October)