

Friday 21st January 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

What a wonderfully creative week we have had. Year 2 and the Reception classes were fortunate enough to have the amazing Matrix theatre company come and do workshops with the children around the themes covered in their year groups. Reception have been looking at traditional tales and this was brought to life for the children as they acted out the tale of Cinderella. Everyone had a part to play and got to wear some fabulous costumes. Year 2 have been studying Florence Nightingale and were able to immerse themselves in the story and really bring it to life. One child who played Mary Seacole said "it was so much fun and I loved the bit where I helped the soldiers get better". Thank you to all the parents who contribute to our school voluntary fund, the money we receive goes towards enrichment activities such as this and we are very grateful.

Learning Behaviours

This week we have been celebrating World Winnie The Pooh day. Your children have been reading the stories, learning songs and they have been thinking about all of our learning behaviours - Resilience, Respectful, Resourceful, Readiness, Reasoning and Resourceful. Our Jigsaw theme continues to look Dreams and Goals, and how this is linked to resilience.

DBS and safeguarding

The safety of your children is our absolute priority and we work hard to make sure that all of our systems follow guidance. We are very keen for parents and carers to come in to school and work alongside us, however all volunteers must have a valid DBS check. If you do want to come in and don't yet have a DBS check please ask the office for more information. If anyone is kindly co-ordinating the help of volunteers for their class please request that all volunteers have a valid check in place. We do make allowances for some volunteers depending on the activity, however we do need to carefully risk assess each activity. The last thing we want to do is to turn people away who are giving their time generously.

Covid update

Unfortunately we have seen a sharp rise in Covid cases this week in the school and children have tested positive across all classes. We are working hard to slow this rise in cases in line with government guidance. We cannot emphasise strongly enough how important it is that you test your children regularly, children who are not being tested regularly may be carrying and spreading the virus without realising it. Those children who have tested positive this week have very mild or no symptoms and it certainly seems that a tummy ache is a symptom in children. Please help us by testing your child twice weekly and definitely on Sunday evening, or ideally Monday morning. Thank you to every parent who is being vigilant and testing their children regularly and being alert to the symptoms, we are so grateful.

CHIPTA Diversity Committee

Please find attached a letter from the new CHIPTA Diversity Committee (the letter has been translated into several languages so as to welcome as many parents as possible). The

committee aims to celebrate and find ways to bring together our wonderful diverse community, including regular coffee mornings with the first being on Wednesday 26 January from 9-10am at the school. We hope to see many of you there.

UNICEF Rights Respecting School

The meeting planned for Friday 21st January has now been cancelled due to the rising Covid cases within school. We have attached the power point and the parent leaflet. If you would like to know more about this initiative please contact me, it is something we are very enthusiastic about and hope that the principles become embedded within our community. Each week we will let you know which of the Children's rights we will be focusing on.

School Meal Supervisor vacancy

Are you looking for part time work in our school? Are you interested in supporting children at lunchtime and in their play? We are looking for an enthusiastic, energetic person to join our lunchtime team from 11.45-1.00pm every day. Please contact the School Office if you are interested.

Celebrating birthdays at school

We love to celebrate your child's birthday with them in school and a way to mark this is to donate a book to your child's class for the teacher to share and for all the children to enjoy. We are always grateful to parents who do this and we can write the name of your child in the book with a special birthday message. We have birthday books at the School Office for you to buy to donate. Please note that we cannot put any birthday sweets or treats into the children's school bags or give out sweets for birthdays at the classroom door. Thank you.

Toilets after school

The children are encouraged to use the toilet during the afternoon but if they need to use the toilet when you pick them up please take them to the toilets at the back of the Studio (the portakabin on the Year 1 playground), these are unlocked. Please do not bring them round to the School Office as we cannot let you into the school and our staff are unable to accompany them to the toilets at that time of the day, thank you.

Year 1 Football festival

We are very proud of our Year 1 football team who represented our school at a local tournament with Christchurch Infants' and Corpus Christi schools this week, thank you to . Please see below a link to a match report, and many thanks to Coach Rudy who accompanied them.

<https://www.coombehillininfants.com/news/?pid=0&nid=9&storyid=52>

School Health Team - Virtual drop in

Please find attached details of a virtual drop in session that has been arranged by our local School Health Team, this will take place on 31 January 2022 between 9-10am. The school health team cover areas such as daytime/night-time wetting, soiling, nutrition and healthy lifestyles, behaviour, emotions, language development and sleep. Appointments must be booked by 26 January via the school team at ku19-schoolhealth@yourhealthcare.org. As

always, please do speak to us at the school if you would like to discuss anything about your child.

Spark! Book awards - discounted book offers

Our school is involved in the Spark! Book Awards with the winners due to be announced at an online awards ceremony on 30 June 2022. If you would like to buy copies of the books, you have access to a 30% discount until midday on Friday 28 January, please go to your ParentPay account to order. You can find out more about the Spark! Awards by following them across a range of social media: [Website](#) | [Twitter](#) | [Facebook](#)

Wishing you an enjoyable weekend.

Warm regards

Janet Berry