

Friday 22nd October 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope that you all have a relaxing, healthy half term break. Your children have had a very busy few weeks and are coping really well. Our youngest children in particular find this time of year most difficult. They have to adjust to so many new things and it can sometimes be a little overwhelming for them. Please talk to us if your child is worried about anything. It is so important that they enjoy school life and feel comfortable in their environment. Many children struggle with sleep and bedtime routines and this can have a significant impact on their ability to stay focused and happy at school. We have attached some information on a sleep workshop, which we hope you find useful and more information can be found here <https://thesleepcharity.org.uk/national-sleep-helpline/>.

Covid update

I am sure you are all aware that local and national infection rates for Covid are on the increase. We are just beginning to see a few cases amongst our children and staff and we are concerned that next half term will present some challenges. Please continue to be vigilant and supportive of how we are managing this situation. If your child has a cough or a temperature we will expect you not to send them in to school. If they develop a cough or a temperature during the day we require you to pick them up as soon as you can and then take them for a PCR test. We know that this can sometimes feel like an inconvenience or even an overreaction, however our priority is to keep everyone safe and we feel that this overrides everything.

Staff have requested that you wear masks when talking to them at the door or when on the school grounds - please respect this and co-operate with us. We have also considered reducing things like whole school assemblies to avoid further spread and will continue to monitor the situation carefully after half term. Thank you for your continued support. The following link shows how cases are building in our community [Local Covid cases](#).

Over half term please let us know if your child tests positive for Covid so that we are aware of all cases within our school community and can take any necessary precautions. Ideally we would like all children to take an LFT before they return on Monday 1 November so that any asymptomatic cases can be identified and isolated, we would appreciate your help with this.

Parent chats

It was great to see almost all parents at the parent / teacher meetings this week. It is so important that we work in partnership with you. We will follow up on any families who were unable to meet the teacher after half term.

School Menus after half term

The children will start back after half term on the week 2 menu. There is a slight amendment to our week 3 menu after half term - on Wednesday of the week 3

menu chicken sausages will be served, rather than pork. We will be having a special Diwali Bonfire celebration menu on Thursday 4 November - the menu for this is attached.

School Governor

On Monday 1st November we will be sending out details on how you can become a school governor. If you would like to find out more about the role please come along to a question and answer session with our chair of governors on Thursday 11th November. There will also be an opportunity for you to ask some of our current governors questions on Friday 5th November after school. I am also more than happy to answer any questions on this.

Golden Fireworks event, Sparkly mufti day and Diwali

We are all excited about our Fireworks display on Thursday 4th November. Please buy your tickets soon to avoid disappointment as they are selling fast, tickets can be purchased here <https://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/CH-Fireworks>. On that day (Thursday 4 November, not Friday 5 November as previously mentioned) your children can come to school dressed in their own clothes. We are suggesting warm, colourful and sparkly clothes. We will also be celebrating Diwali on that day with an assembly and a special menu (please see attached). If you would like your child to wear their special clothes for Diwali that will be lovely.

Second hand uniform sales

Our wonderful CHIPTA team are planning some second hand uniform sales after school after half term, please look out for information on this.

Summer term end date change

Please note that there is a change to the end date of the Summer term next year. Term will end on Thursday 21 July 2022. Friday 22 July will now be an INSET day for our schools because the additional bank holiday for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee falls during the May half term week.

Community Learning newsletter

Please find to follow a link to the latest Community Learning newsletter from Kingston Adult Education. This includes workshops on wellbeing, health and fitness and helping your child to be a good friend

- https://drive.google.com/file/d/1tB3F8hWRf_9HwQjcuC6NaiNuL9f14nl/view

We hope you all have a good week and look forward to seeing you all back on Monday 1st November.

Warm Regards

Janet Berry