

Friday 14th January 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are so pleased that so far we only have a handful of positive Covid cases amongst our staff, although cases in our children are higher. This means that we have been able to continue so far this term without any disruption. It does appear that the local rate of infection is now on the decline, however we are all aware that things can change so easily and so we continue to remain very cautious if any children or staff are feeling at all unwell. Thank you for continuing to wear face masks on the school site and for regularly using lateral flow tests. The cases that have been picked up in the children this week have started with very mild symptoms, or no symptoms at all, and we have also noticed that a tummy ache can be an early indicator. Please test your children over the weekend so that everyone can come back again on Monday safely. Thank you.

You should be aware that from Monday 17 January, people who test positive for Covid can end their self-isolation after 5 full days, as long as they test negative on day 5 and day 6. If your child does test positive on an LFT or PCR test please check with the School Office when they are allowed to come back to school. If anyone in your household tests positive your child do an LFT every day whilst the family member is unwell, thank you.

Learning behaviours

We are continuing to focus on good behaviour choices here at school. Our Learning Behaviour is Resilience (Tigger) this week. For our children this involves keeping going, making right choices, ignoring distractions and learning from mistakes. Some children are finding the playground difficult and their play is too rough. If your child's teacher talks to you about this, please talk to your child at home. Thank you for your support. We are working with very young children who are learning how to socialise and make good choices, some do find this harder than others.

As part of our statutory curriculum we teach PSHE (Personal, Social & Health Education). This curriculum has three strands - health and well-being, relationships and living in the wider world. We use the Jigsaw scheme of work to cover this. The scheme is organised into half termly themes and this term we are thinking about Dreams and Goals. There is a weekly lesson and an assembly which focuses on this, this also ties in with the Learning Behaviours - for example , in order to reach your dreams and goals you need resilience.

CHIPTA events

This morning we held a CHIPTA meeting - thank you to those of you who were able to attend. All parents are invited to these meetings and we would love to see as many people as possible involved. The money raised by parents will support our Drumming teacher, our Forest school sessions and it is also supporting the purchase of a completely new set of reading books. Thanks must go to Maggie Earl who has given us so many hours of her time to organise the books.

Staff would like to send their thanks for the amazing cake sales which take place every Friday. They really appreciate your efforts and will ensure that the money will directly enrich your child's experience at school. Teachers have used this money to purchase visualisers, digital microscopes, science resources, playground equipment and resources for art and games. They will also use the money for additional experiences, e.g. the Matrix theatre. Charlotte, our very efficient treasurer has now moved on from this role and we send our thanks to her. We are hoping that someone from within our school community will step forward and fill this role. Please get in touch if you could help.

We are planning events and activities to mark our 50th anniversary later this year and would like to invite anyone interested to join our 50th anniversary committee, please let us know if you would like to be involved in this, and please contact the office admin@chi.rbksch.org or chiptachair@gmail.com.

UNICEF Rights Respecting school - information session

A reminder that we would like to invite you in to find out about the work we have been doing with UNICEF to become a Rights Respecting school. We currently have the Bronze award and are working towards gaining Silver. We feel that this work is fundamental to all that we do and supports your children in becoming responsible global citizens, we are very excited about it and would like the opportunity to tell you more on **Friday 21st January at 9.00 am** in the school hall. We do need to be careful about numbers so please send an email if you would like to attend. We do request that you wear face coverings and, if possible, have a negative LFT beforehand. We have postponed this meeting several times now due to the pandemic and we are really keen to let you know all about it.

Half term activities - Southbank Centre

Please find to follow to some half term activities for children at the Southbank centre that may be of interest, some of these need to be booked in advance <https://www.southbankcentre.co.uk/whats-on/families?type=family-young-people>

Flu catch up vaccinations

If your child has not had the flu vaccination and you would like them to, there are two final opportunities for this on Saturday 15 January and Saturday 22 January, please see the information attached to this email.

Next week we will be celebrating two special events. On Tuesday 18th January it is World Winnie the Pooh day. If your child would like to draw a picture, write a story or poem about him that would be lovely. On Thursday 20 January we are having a special lunchtime to celebrate the classic children's book "The Very Hungry Caterpillar" - the children will enjoy listening to the story as they eat their lunch (the menu remains the same).

We hope you have a lovely weekend.

Warm regards

Janet Berry