

Friday 7th January 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope you all had a healthy, restful break. Thank you all for the lovely cards, gifts and messages at the end of term, they mean a lot.

We have had a lovely first week back. Your children seem well rested and enthusiastic about school, there is so much learning already going on. We will be having a focus on good manners and general behaviour this term. Please support us with this by talking to your children at home about the importance of good listening, manners and behaviour. This week we are thinking about being Respectful, this is supported by Winnie the Pooh. This involves having kind hands, feet and words, working well together and sharing, being helpful and thinking about other people's feelings.

UNICEF Rights Respecting school - information session

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.

CHIPTA meeting - Friday 14 January

Next **Friday 14th January** we will be holding a CHIPTA meeting at 9.00 am in the Studio. All are invited to this and we want as many people as possible to be involved. We are currently looking for a new Treasurer so if you have a few hours to give to the school and you would be interested in this role please get in touch. Again, please wear face coverings.

School Clubs

On Monday 10th January our after school clubs will resume. Our staff run the clubs voluntarily and I am sure you will agree they are a great enrichment opportunity for your children. Please find attached the Spring term Clubs timetable so that you know where to collect your child from, please pick up your child promptly. If your child is doing a Sports club or Forest School club please make sure that they bring trainers or wellies to school if it is wet.

Parent chat dates

We will be holding parent chats this term and expect every parent to attend. Please look out for booking details - Reception parent chats will take place during the week of Monday 31 January and Years 1 & 2 parent chats during the week of Monday 7 February.

Covid update

Thank you for carrying out an LFT on your children before they returned to school on Tuesday, it is so important that we all co-operate to keep the school safe and operating smoothly. We ask that you continue to test your child regularly (twice weekly) and we will very soon have Lateral Flow test kits to distribute to every family. We will keep you posted on when they arrive.

Please find to follow a link with full details of what parents and carers should be aware of with regard to the new Covid guidance.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/what-parents-and-carers-need-to-know-about-early-years-providers-schools-and-colleges-during-the-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreak/step-4-update-what-parents-and-carers-need-to-know-about-early-years-providers-schools-and-colleges>

As you may have already heard, there will be some changes to Covid testing from Tuesday 11 January. Confirmatory PCR tests will be temporarily suspended for LFT results. This will mean that anyone who receives a positive LFT result (if they do not have Covid symptoms) will be required to self-isolate immediately and will not be required to take a confirmatory PCR test. However, anyone with symptoms of Covid must arrange a PCR test as normal. As always, if your child tests positive for Covid please contact the School Office straight away so that we can confirm the date of the positive result with you and your child's return to school date. If anyone in your child's household tests positive please ensure that your child takes daily lateral flow tests for 7 days. If you need additional LFT kits for this purpose please contact the School Office.

Year 2 Junior School application deadline

All of our year 2 families should be aware that the deadline for applying for your child's Junior School place is by Saturday 15 January. Please note that you must apply for your child's place at Coombe Hill Junior School, even though our two schools are paired. Full details are contained in the Primary Schools Admissions brochure as follows <https://www.kingston.gov.uk/downloads/file/225/primary-school-admissions-brochure>.

Year 1 - Tapestry

Tapestry is a wonderful resource and is particularly useful in Reception when the children are settling and we can update you regularly about their activities and learning in school. For year 1 during the first half of term this is also a useful resource to enable communications between the teacher and parents in sharing reading resources etc. However, now, if you need to contact your child's teacher with any general queries or concerns, these should be sent to the School Office email admin@chi.rbksch.org and all messages will be passed to the relevant teacher. Please do not report absences, appointments or any other issues to the Year 1 teachers via Tapestry. Thank you.

Chicken pox

We have several cases of chicken pox in the school at the moment, please see the following link to the NHS website so that you are aware of the symptoms of the illness.

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/chickenpox/>

Spring term menu

Please find attached the school lunch menu for the Spring term, the menu is the same as last term with a few extra Special Menu days.

Friday cake sales

Our weekly Friday cake sales will resume from next Friday 14 January with Tiger class. Your class reps will be in touch with you with the date for your class sale. The teachers are so grateful for the funds raised from the class cake sales last term, thank you again for supporting these - all the money raised has been put to good use within the classrooms towards resources and activities for the children.

Love the Ball / DJR Coaching - Saturday morning football sessions

Please find attached information on Saturday morning football sessions run by DJR Coaching (formerly run by Love the Ball) at Dickerage Park in New Malden, the children will be familiar with some of the coaches who run these sessions from the Love the Ball sessions in school.

Warm regards

Janet Berry