



# COOMBE HILL INFANTS' SCHOOL

Friday 19 January 2024

Dear Families,

This week we had an assembly which focussed on good manners, your children responded so well and we have all noticed that manners are already improving. Please ask them about this at home and I am sure they will love to tell you about it. Next week we will be focussing on being Resilient, supported by Tigger. We will be thinking about working hard, learning from mistakes and trying to avoid distractions. This is linked to the Unicef Article 28 ***'Every child has the right to an education.'***

Today I had a very productive meeting with our Prefects and the Year 1 and 2 School Council. Your children have lots of ideas and they are helping us to continue to improve the playground offering. The Prefects support behaviour and they are role models for the younger children. This experience really helps them to gain confidence and responsibility. Next week we will be choosing children from Year 2 to take on the role of Rights Respecting Ambassadors. Each week we will focus on one of the Unicef rights of a child and think about how this applies to us.

## **Punctuality**

We are seeing an increasing number of families who are arriving late in the morning. Even being slightly late can make a child feel unsettled, it also means that our office staff have to spend a lot of time escorting children to their classrooms. In addition, we are seeing more children being picked up late at the end of the day. Again this makes your child feel worried, it also means that someone has to supervise them until you arrive. I will be monitoring this in the next few weeks.

## **Spring term - important dates**

A reminder of the events we have planned for the Spring term, please read and note these, further dates may be added throughout the term and we will let you know.

[https://docs.google.com/document/d/1Z8ZlgSO-CXv-p\\_ODNoPb2XyZyTUpMcDI/edit?usp=sharing&oid=109721753956510019087&rtpof=true&sd=true](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1Z8ZlgSO-CXv-p_ODNoPb2XyZyTUpMcDI/edit?usp=sharing&oid=109721753956510019087&rtpof=true&sd=true)

## **CHIPTA Celebrating Diversity meeting and walk in Richmond Park**

The CHIPTA Celebrating Diversity team would like to invite you to two events over the next two weeks. There will be a coffee morning on **Tuesday 23 January from 9 - 10am** in the staff room, come along for an informal chat over coffee/tea and biscuits. On **Tuesday 30 January**, everyone is invited (including younger children and dogs!) for a walk in Richmond park, meeting at the school at 9am or at Ladderstile gate at 9.30am.

## **CHIPTA meeting**

We would like to invite you all to our Events and Fundraising committee meeting on **Thursday 1 February at 2-3pm** in the staff room. Please come along and find out what is planned and how you can become involved. All are welcome.

## **Reception children - National Child Measurement Programme (NCMP)**

The School Health team is due to visit the school on Tuesday 23 January to weigh and measure all children in Reception. Please refer to the email to Reception parents that was sent on 21/12/2023

for full details, including how to withdraw your child from the programme if you do not want them to take part.

### Theatre visit for Year 2 this week

As part of their History curriculum, our Year 2 children enjoyed interactive workshops with The Matrix Theatre Company, learning about the significance and contributions of the two nurses Mary Seacole and Florence Nightingale.



### Book suggestions

Some parents have been asking us for suggestions for age appropriate books. The Alligator's Mouth bookshop in Richmond Upon Thames runs an annual book Award which celebrates the best books for children aged 6 to 8 years old. Click on the [link](#) to find the Alligator's Mouth Award longlist from 2023. Also, take a look at the [Spark!Book Awards longlist](#) for book ideas.

### OPAL Outdoor Play and Learning



#### OPAL Outdoor Play And Learning project (with CHJ).

PLEASE CAN YOU HELP!

We need donations (second hand or new) to help resource our play areas: small world toys - dinosaurs, cars, animals, trains, trucks, natural building blocks etc cable reels, pallets, kitchen utensils like pots, pans, wooden spoons, spatulas etc. Please leave your donations in the school office entrance. Thank you for your help! For more information about OPAL see [www.outdoorplayandlearning.org.uk](http://www.outdoorplayandlearning.org.uk)

### Children with medical conditions

As you know, if your child has a medical condition you were asked to give us full details of this in the Admissions form when they joined the school. We would just like to remind you of your responsibilities with regard to this. You have a responsibility to:

- tell us if your child has a medical condition
- ensure we have a complete and up-to-date Individual Healthcare Plan for your child
- inform us about the medication your child requires during school hours
- tell us about any changes to your child's medication, what they take, when, and how much
- inform us of any changes to your child's condition

If you have any questions please speak to the school office.

### **Second hand uniform and joggers**

If you need any school uniform items, please come and have a look at our free second hand uniform rails in the school foyer. Feel free to take what you need at any time between 8.15am to 4.15pm. We are not charging for these items and would like to see them put back to good use. There is an optional charity donation tin on the front desk. Aside from this, we are always grateful for donations of jogging trousers which are always useful in school. If your child is sent home from school in any spare uniform or clothing because of an accident we kindly request that these items are returned to us as soon as possible. Thank you.

### **Childhood illness**

At this time of year children can suffer more with seasonal illnesses. The NHS has a useful page in understanding whether your child should attend school or not if they seem unwell. Please see <https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>. There is advice here for chicken pox, coughs, cold, earache, raised temperatures, conjunctivitis etc. It is usually appropriate for you to send children to school with mild respiratory illnesses. This would include general cold symptoms: a minor cough, runny nose or sore throat. However, children should not be sent to school if they have a temperature of 38°C or above. If your child has a temperature in the morning, please do not give them calpol and send them in.

### **Family Concert at the Rose Theatre - Sunday 24th March**

We have been asked to share the following information from the Rose Theatre with our families:  
*"Oompah Brass will entertain their audience with high-octane renditions of well-known rock and pop favourites, as well as introducing the intricacies of each instrument to the children, each member of the group showing off their instrument and its characteristics. The perfect way to start the day!*  
*Oompah Brass are one of the busiest brass quintets in the UK, performing over 100 shows a year, in everything from school classes to Oktoberfest audiences of over 6000 people. They are the original exponents of 'Oompop', the clever re-working of rock and pop classics onto brass instruments and continue to lead the way. Oompah Brass are very keen and active educators, and run many school workshops every year, introducing the next generation to the joys of making music on brass.*  
*Tickets are going fast, so book now at the Rose Theatre website: [Oompah Brass Spectacular - A KMS Family Concert | Rose Theatre, Kingston, London](#)*  
*24th March 2024 - Adults £10, Concessions £6."*

### **Pupil Premium Grant**

When your child was admitted to the school we checked their eligibility for the Pupil Premium Grant. Please get in touch with us if your financial circumstances have changed since your child's eligibility was checked and you think you may now be eligible. Please complete the attached link and your status will be re-assessed <https://forms.gle/yrUZKUVsunMns7yc9>.

### **Community and other information**

We hope you find the following information useful:

- Royal Academy "Young Artists' Summer show" - registration is now open until 27 March 2024. Some of you and your children may be interested in entering the Royal Academy's summer show. In recent years two children from the school have had their work displayed in the exhibition which was a wonderful achievement. You can enter via <https://youngartists.royalacademy.org.uk>

- The Kingston Children's Centres programme for this Spring term can be found via this link: <http://tinyurl.com/Kingston-CCs-Spring-2024>. Families with children between 0-5 years may be interested.

Wishing you an enjoyable weekend.

Warm regards

Janet Berry

### ***Safeguarding***

*Safeguarding our young children is our priority and all staff are trained to keep children safe. However, safeguarding is everyone's responsibility and if you are concerned about a child or young person please call children's services on 020 8547 5008. The South London CAMHS Crisis Line for both children and adults can be reached on 0800 028 8000.*

CHIPTA PRESENTS

COOMBE HILL  
SCHOOLS'

# CELEBRATING DIVERSITY

Everyone is welcome to come and Celebrate Diversity within the school at our monthly coffee mornings and walks through Richmond park. Come for an informal chat where ideas can be swapped, friends made and your thoughts listened to!

TUESDAY

23

JANUARY

## NEXT DIVERSITY COFFEE MORNING

Come and meet us in the Infants' staff room **at 9am** for an informal chat, tea, coffee and snacks! You will need to sign in through the Infant's school reception office.

TUESDAY

30

JANUARY

## NEXT DIVERSITY WALK

After morning drop off we meet outside the school (**9am**) and go for a walk through Richmond park. You can also meet us at 9.30 at Ladderstile gate, Richmond park.

Dogs and small children welcome!

**All are invited** to come and make new friends, learn, discuss important topics, attend themed coffee mornings and help fundraise for the school.