



COOMBE HILL INFANTS' SCHOOL

Learn together, grow together

Friday 3 May 2024

Dear Families,

The school year is flying by and it is important to stop and reflect sometimes. Your children are making great progress, not only academically but also socially and emotionally. Each week in assembly we think about how we are feeling. At first, your children found this difficult, they are now able to verbalise how they feel and how to help themselves if they feel sad or worried. We use the Zones of Regulation in each classroom. This helps to identify how we feel and how to change our mood. Please ask your child about it, it may be something useful for you to try at home.

Next week we will be thinking about being Respectful, supported by Winnie The Pooh.



Winnie the Pooh teaches us how to share, work with others, and think of the feelings of others.

How parents can help

Encourage children to

- say please and thank you
- open the door for others
- take turns in games and conversations
- listen to others

All of our Learning Behaviours link to the UNICEF Rights of the Child. Next week, we will be focusing on Article 31 - "every child shall have time to play and time to rest when we are tired".

Technology and Young Children

Smartphone-free Childhood

We are all aware of the enormous challenges technology poses to parents of young children. A recent survey from Ofcom revealed some startling, and worrying, statistics. I have added a summary of the report;

- *Around a quarter of 5-7-year-olds (24%) now own a smartphone, while three-quarters use a tablet (76%).*
- *Compared to a year ago, a higher proportion of 5-7s go online to send messages or make voice/video calls (59% to 65%) or to watch live-streamed content (39% to 50%).*
- *Similarly, overall use of social media sites or apps among all 5-7s has increased year-on-year (30% to 38%), with WhatsApp (29% to 37%), TikTok (25% to 30%), Instagram (14% to 22%) and Discord (2% to 4%) seeing particular growth in this age group.*

- Online gaming among 5-7 year-olds has also seen a significant annual increase – 41%, up from 34% – with more children of this age playing shooter games than ever before (15%, up from 10%).
- While around two in five parents of 5-7-year-olds (42%) say they use social media sites and apps together with their child, a third (32%) report that their child uses social media independently.
- Compared to last year, parents of these younger children are more likely to say they would allow their child to have a profile on social media services before they had reached the minimum age required (30%, up from 25%).
- It follows that more children of this age now have their profiles on YouTube or YouTube Kids (48%, from 39%), WhatsApp (11%, from 7%) and Instagram (9%, from 5%) than a year ago.
- A third (32%) of 8-17s say they have seen something worrying or nasty online in the last 12 months, but only 20% of parents of this age group report their child telling them they had seen something online that scared or upset them in the same time frame.


The full Ofcom report can be found at

<https://www.ofcom.org.uk/news-centre/2024/a-window-into-young-childrens-online-worlds>

With this continued increase in children accessing the online world at an earlier age, it is so important that as a school we keep a key focus on online safety. [Internet Matters. Org](https://www.internetmatters.org/) has a huge amount of information and resources for parents and carers to access. Several of our parents are interested in discussing this concern as a group and they are thinking about how parents can support each other in monitoring and restricting the use of phones, iPads, etc. Please look out for a meeting date.

Maths Workshop for Parents

Thank you to those parents/carers who were able to attend Mrs Gray's Maths Workshop. We have had requests to share the slides for those who couldn't make it. If you have any questions, please ask your class teacher or email Mrs Gray via the office.

 Supporting Early Maths - for newsletter

TCS Mini London Marathon

We had a brilliant morning completing the Mini Marathon on Wednesday. All of your children really embraced the run and it was great to see them cheering each other along and the teaching staff too! We hope enjoy this video of the event <https://youtu.be/6RvqkNavf7k>, and for more information about the mini marathon please see

<https://www.tcslondonmarathon.com/the-event/tcs-mini-london-marathon-in-schools>



Islamic Centre trip

On Tuesday last week, all 90 year 1 children visited the Surrey Islamic Centre in Norbiton. The children learned about the Islamic religion and saw many artefacts and photographs. They also had

the opportunity to ask questions. Many of our children regularly visit the centre, so it was so nice for them to be able to share their experiences. The trip was wonderfully arranged by Sarah, mum of Abbas—many thanks to her and to the many parents who helped on the day.



Year 2 Gymnastics competition

On Monday, Year 2 held their annual Gymnastics Competition. All children have been learning the basic skills of balance, strength, and posture. They then learned a 10-step routine. 3 children from each class were selected to represent their class in a grand final, judged by Ms Robertson and Mrs Hoepfl. All the children did a tremendous job!



Last week Year 1 held their competition and they were cheered on by our friends from Coombe Hill Manor care home.



Swimming

We are delighted to tell you that the swimming pool is ready for us to begin our sessions next week. Thank you to everyone who has donated money to help with the refurbishment and also donated towards lessons and the general running of the pool. Thanks also to our fantastic PTA who continue to raise money and to Mr Doyle and Mr Pozella, our site assistants who have been working hard to get things ready for your children.

Please could we remind you that all items of clothing must be named, including shoes, underwear, towels, and costumes. Children must wear a swimming hat and we recommend the cloth hats which are available on Parentpay. They cost £2.50, and are now available for purchase on Parentpay, we will put the hat into your child's bag after you have placed your order on Parentpay. If your child has long hair please ensure that this is tied up for swimming, it is very difficult for them to put on their hat if their hair is long and untied.

Layla, mum of Albie, is kindly organising the rota for us. So many of you have volunteered which is great. *Unfortunately, we will have to cancel a session if we don't have enough parent help. We are currently concerned that the first session for year 2 on Tuesday 7 May will be cancelled if more volunteers do not come forward. It will be a huge disappointment for the children if we have to do this but we have to ensure that the sessions are managed safely with enough adult supervision. Please offer your help where you can and please sign up if you can to help with another class's volunteering session where there are gaps.* If we have to cancel a session we will inform you during the day. Fingers crossed for some good weather, it is always lovely to swim when it is sunny. We do however still swim if it is colder or raining as our pool and changing rooms are heated. We will immediately cancel swimming if there is a chance of thunder and lightning.

Owls photo order

Please check your child's blue bag for their photograph taken with one of the owls who visited us last week, we hope you like this memento of a memorable morning for the children. Please return all photo orders to the School Office **by Friday 17 May at 9.00am** at the very latest - orders will be collected later that morning by a courier (if you order after this date you will need to post the order yourself with a £4 admin fee), it is not possible for you to place orders online. Full ordering information is on the proof card.

Year 2 trip to RHS Wisley Gardens

Year 2 parents will today have received details about our upcoming trip to Wisley Gardens on Monday 3 June, please make payment by Monday 20 May on Parentpay. The trip takes place on the first Monday back after half term so please let us know if you have any questions well in advance, many thanks.

Junior and Infants School - Sibling photos

On Tuesday 7th May we will be taking sibling photos for Junior and Infant school siblings. The proof will come home with your Junior school child, and from that you can order any photos you would like. Please ensure your child is in school uniform and looks neat and tidy.

Please note: *This session is not for siblings within the Infants school (these photos are taken in September).*

Fundraising for our swimming pool

Thank you to everyone who has donated towards our swimming pool fundraising appeal, we are grateful to every family who has supported us in this. You will still be able to make a donation over the Summer term, via Parentpay:

If you would prefer to make a payment directly from your bank account, please use the following details:-

Bank: Lloyds

Account name: Coombe Hill Infants School Parent Teachers Association (or CHIPTA)

Sort Code: 30-94-77

Account number: 02647567

Reference to put on your payment: "pool - and your child's name"

Perhaps you might also complete a Gift Aid declaration with your bank payment instructions, allowing us to claim an extra 25p for every £1 donated. If you are happy to do so and can comply, please complete and submit this Gift Aid declaration to us, thank you:-

<https://forms.gle/xd8ci6S33JTThVh78>

Our target fundraising amount just for the pool is £45 per child, but of course, any contribution no matter how great or small, is very gratefully received.

Summer term - important dates

Please see the link to the list of summer dates here [1 Summer term dates 2024.docx.pdf](#). Other events are being planned and we will confirm these with you as soon as they are finalised, in particular some visits for Reception. If you would like a paper copy of these dates please let us know and we can put one in your child's blue bag. We have also attached these dates at the end of this newsletter.

Road Safety and Parking issues.

This week in assembly we talked about the importance of crossing the road safely. We discussed using the pedestrian crossing. I am pleased to say that your children took this very seriously. Please support this by talking to your children and teaching them about road safety, it is such an important skill for them to learn. Last week we were made aware of a very near miss on Crown Road. A child was using a scooter on the pavement and a car reversed out of a resident's drive, the car very nearly hit the child. Please could we remind you to supervise your children when they are on bikes or scooters as they can pick up speed very fast down the hill and may not be able to stop in time, and do not let them cross driveways without you.

Many families use the car to drop off and pick up children before and after school, and the majority of you park sensibly. However, we are increasingly concerned about the parking on Crown Road, Lord Chancellors Walk, and also on Warren Road (a private road). A minority of parents continue to park over driveways and park on double yellow lines. We are also aware that several parents are using Warren Road to park. This week we have had a complaint that one of our parents abused the parking warden at the Warren Road gate and drove aggressively towards him. We have advised him to call the police as he has a photograph of the car registration. This is not acceptable behaviour and is not only unsafe but is also setting the worst example for your children. Please let us know if you witness this type of behaviour.

Lost property - please name all of your child's clothing



Last week we sorted through our lost property box and found nearly 50 good quality unnamed school jumpers that had been put in there since the Easter holiday. We cannot return any unnamed items to the children and therefore we have had to take home and wash all of these jumpers so that they can be added to our second hand uniform stock (rather than being thrown away). The children take their coats and jumpers off on warmer days and with 270 children in the school if an item is unnamed it is impossible to return it. **Please name every item of clothing that your child brings to school** - especially with swimming starting - to save our time in sorting through items and to save you from having to replace your child's clothing. Thank you for your support in this.

Volunteering in school - DBS checks

If you would like to help with swimming, trips or any other activity in school and do not yet have a DBS check through the school, please come to the school office to collect the application forms, or you can email admin@chi.rbksch.org and we will put them in your child's blue bag. If you have

completed a DBS check with us and have received your certificate in the post, we must see the certificate for our records, to complete the process. Please bring your certificate to the school office as soon as you receive it for us to take a copy. We also encourage you to sign up for the DBS update service (free to volunteers) within 28 days of receiving your certificate, [DBS Update Service - GOV.UK](#). DBS certificates are valid for three years, if you need to check if you still have a valid certificate with us please contact the school office.

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

- **“Music in Kingston”** - join the Kingston Music Service and a host of the most exciting music makers in the Royal Borough of Kingston Upon Thames for an afternoon of performances, workshops, and exhibitions, 12.00-15.00 on Saturday 18th May. Held in the glorious surroundings of All Saints Church, Kingston, this is an opportunity for young people and adults alike to explore a breadth of what the borough has to offer, from listening to short performances, to taking part in free workshops, or even having a go at a brand new instrument. Entrance is free, and more information can be found on our website: <https://www.kingstonheritage.org.uk/musicinkingston>.
- **“Helping children with.....” series of webinars from Achieving for Children** are available for booking, upcoming topics cover challenging behaviour, screen time and sleep. Full details were attached to this newsletter cover email.
- Jill Anderson from the **Family Information Service and Kingston Children's Centres** will be hosting an online **Family Information session** on Monday, 13th May from 12:00 to 13:00. This workshop aims to provide advice and support regarding current childcare entitlements, expansion to childcare entitlements for eligible working families, how and when to apply for entitlements, options when choosing a Childcare Provider, how to find a Registered Childcare Provider. Please see the poster at the end of this newsletter for details.
- Please find to follow the **Summer term programme for Kingston Children's Centres**, <https://tinyurl.com/KCCsSummer2024>, for any families with children under 5 years old.
- **New Malden Fire Station on Burlington Road** are holding their annual open day on Sunday 30 June from 12 - 4pm, everyone welcome to come along, see the flyer at the end of the newsletter.

Wishing you an enjoyable long bank holiday weekend.

Warm regards

Janet Berry

Headteacher

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.

Summer term 2024 – Important dates

Date	Event	Description
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Monday 15 April	Start of the Summer term	All children to attend school from 8.40am. No school clubs this week (Connections will run from today as usual).
Thursday 18 April & Thursday 25 April 9.00 - 10.30am	Parent workshop “Strategies for Managing Behaviour in a Positive Way”	Hosted by our Education Wellbeing Practitioner, Shazia Yakoob-Ajmal, in the staff room. The workshop is free of charge and will be held over two one and a half hour sessions.
Friday 19 April 3 - 3.30pm	OPAL cake sale	We are grateful for donations of cakes, biscuits, cookies etc from all parents , to raise money for the school’s Outdoor Learning & Play (OPAL) resources.
Week starting Monday 22 April	School clubs start this week	Please collect your children from their club classroom promptly at 4pm (Drumming club and Forest/Science club collection at 4.15pm)
Tuesday 23 April 9.30 - 11am	Year 1 visit to the Surrey Islamic centre	The children will walk to the Surrey Islamic centre in Norbiton where they will learn more about this important place of worship which links to the RE curriculum.
Wednesday 24 April during the school morning	“Night Owls” visit to school	“Night Owls” will be visiting the school and the children will see the birds fly. They will also have the opportunity to have their photo taken with an owl that you can then purchase.
Friday 26 April 9.00am	Maths Workshop for parents	Find out more about how we teach maths in school and how you can support your child at home. Parents often say how things have changed since they learned maths at school. The workshop will be led by Mrs Gray, our Maths Lead, and Mr Morris, our Year 2 Lead.
Friday 26 April 3 - 3.30 pm	Tiger class cake sale	We are grateful for donations of cakes, biscuits, cookies etc (no nuts please) from Tiger class parents, to raise money for Tiger classroom resources.
Monday 29 April 9 - 9.30am	Swimming Information meeting for parents/carers	Please come to the hall straight after morning drop off to find out more about Swimming sessions in school that are due to start from Tuesday 7 May, this is particularly important for Reception parents
Wednesday 1 May 8.45 - 9.45am	CHIPTA Summer Fair planning meeting	In the staff room. All welcome to come along to see how you can help with our upcoming Summer Fair - one of the biggest fundraisers of the year.
Friday 3 May 3 - 3.30 pm	Lion class cake sale	We are grateful for donations of cakes, biscuits, cookies etc (no nuts please) from Lion class parents, to raise money for Lion classroom resources.
Monday 6 May	MAY BANK HOLIDAY	National Bank Holiday - no children in school
Tuesday 7 May	Proposed date for Swimming sessions to start	We are aiming to start swimming from this date. More details to follow. We require many parent volunteers, it is essential that you have a DBS check conducted by the school to volunteer - please contact the school office for the registration forms.
Tuesday 7 May	Photographs for siblings in the Infants and Junior school	A chance for your children to have a joint photograph together if you have children in the Junior school and the Infants school. This session is not for siblings within the Infants school (these photos are taken in September)
Thursday 9 May 10.00 - 11.30am	Otter class trip to Kingston Library	Otter class will visit Kingston Library, travelling by bus, accompanied by their classroom staff and parent volunteers.
Friday 10 May 9 - 10am	CHIPTA events meeting	In the staff room, everyone is welcome to attend and we hope to see many of you there.
Friday 10 May 3 - 3.30pm	Leopard class cake sale	We are grateful for donations of cakes, biscuits, cookies etc (no nuts please) from Leopard class parents, to raise money for Leopard classroom resources.
Wednesday 15 May 9.30am	CH hi IPTA Celebrating Diversity Walk & Talk in Richmond park	All welcome. After morning drop off, meet outside the school at 9am and we will walk up Warren Road to Ladderstile Gate and enjoy a walk through Richmond Park together (or meet us at 9.30am at Ladderstile Gate). Younger children and dogs welcome!

Friday 17 May 3 - 3.30pm	Otter class cake sale	We are grateful for donations of cakes, biscuits, cookies etc (no nuts please) from Otter class parents, to raise money for Otter classroom resources.
Wednesday 22 May 9 - 10am	CHIPTA "Celebrating Diversity" coffee morning	In the staff room, all welcome for a chat over coffee/tea and biscuits
Wednesday 22 May 3 - 3.30pm	Swimming Pool cake sale	We are grateful for donations of cakes, biscuits, cookies etc (no nuts please) from parents across the whole school, to raise vital funds towards the refurbishment and ongoing maintenance of our school swimming pool.
Thursday 23 May 3.05pm or 3.10pm	School finishes for half term	Please collect your children at the usual finish time.
Friday 24 May	INSET DAY	No children to attend school
MAY HALF TERM - Monday 27 May to Friday 31 May		
Monday 3 June	Summer term re-starts	All children to attend school from 8.40am.
Monday 3 June	Year 2 visit to RHS Wisley Gardens	Year 2 will enjoy a visit to Wisley, travelling by coach and accompanied by year 2 staff and parent volunteers, to learn more about the plants displayed there
Friday 7 June 3 - 3.30pm	Squirrel class cake sale	We are grateful for donations of cakes, biscuits, cookies etc (no nuts please) from Squirrel class parents, to raise money for Squirrel classroom resources.
Wednesday 12 June	Class group photographs	Children should come to school in full uniform for their whole class photograph
Friday 14 June 3 - 3.30pm	Hedgehog class cake sale	We are grateful for donations of cakes, biscuits, cookies etc (no nuts please) from Hedgehog class parents, to raise money for Hedgehog classroom resources.
Tuesday 18 June 9.15am onwards (finish approx 11.30am)	Sports Day	All parents are invited to attend our annual school Sports Day. Please bring a picnic rug and make your way to the school field after morning drop off.
Wednesday 5 June	Coombe Hill Infants' Pet Day	More details to follow!
Friday 21 June	Collection of donations of chocolate and bottles for the Summer Fair tombolas	We would be grateful for donations of chocolates and bottles for our tombolas at the Summer Fair. There will be a collection point at school drop or you can drop items at the school office from 7.45am and throughout the day
Saturday 22 June 12 - 3.30pm	Coombe Hill Schools Summer Fair	Held jointly with the Junior school, one of our biggest CHIPTA fundraising events of the year. Please get involved to make the event a success, every class will be allocated a stall to run and we are grateful to everyone who gives their time and effort.
Week starting Monday 24 June	Last week of Summer term clubs	All clubs run this week for the final time, apart from Drumming club which finishes on Tuesday 2 July.
Tuesday 25 June	Reserve Sports Day	Sports Day will be held on this date if the weather is too hot or wet on Tuesday 18 June.
Tuesday 25 June 9 - 10am	CHIPTA "Celebrating Diversity" coffee morning	In the staff room, all welcome for a chat over coffee/tea and biscuits
Wednesday 26 June All day	Year 1 trip to Painshill Park	Year 1 will travel to Painshill Park by coach where they will spend the day enjoying activities such as den building and being plant detectives.
Thursday 27 June 9 - 10.30am	Year 1 parent workshop "Responding to children's worries"	Hosted by our Education Wellbeing Practitioner, Shazia Yakoob-Ajmal, in the staff room. The workshop is free of charge, please let the school office know if you are interested in attending.
Friday 28 June 3 - 3.30pm	Bee class cake sale	We are grateful for donations of cakes, biscuits, cookies etc (no nuts please) from Bee class parents, to raise money for Bee classroom resources.
Monday 1 July	INSET DAY	No children to attend school

Wednesday 3 July	Transition Day	The children will visit their new classrooms for next year (Reception to Year 1, Year 1 to Year 2, Year 2 to Year 3)
Friday 5th July 9:00am - 10:00am	SEND Coffee morning	Please come along for an informal chat with our SENCO Jacqueline Heard. We will share ideas on how to support your child with transitions and change.
Friday 5 July 3 - 3.30pm	Butterfly class cake sale	We are grateful for donations of cakes, biscuits, cookies etc (no nuts please) from Butterfly class parents, to raise money for Butterfly classroom resources.
Tuesday 9 July 9.15 - 10.45am	Summer concert	All parents are invited to attend our annual school Summer concert. Please bring a picnic rug and make your way to the school playground after morning drop off.
Friday 12 July 3 - 3.30pm	Ladybird class cake sale	We are grateful for donations of cakes, biscuits, cookies etc (no nuts please) from Ladybird class parents, to raise money for Ladybird classroom resources.
Monday 15 July 9 - 10am	CHIPTA "Celebrating Diversity" coffee morning	In the staff room, all welcome for a chat over coffee/tea and biscuits
Tuesday 16 July 6 - 8pm	Year 2 Leavers' evening event	An fun evening of activities for our year 2 children in the school grounds to celebrate their time with us
Friday 19 July 3 - 3.30pm	SEND cake sale	We are grateful for donations of cakes, biscuits, cookies etc (no nuts please) from parents across the whole school, to raise vital funds towards SEND (special educational needs and disabilities) resources in the school.
Wednesday 24 July 9.15 - 10.15am	Year 2 Leavers' assembly	All Year 2 parents and carers are invited to the Year 2 Leavers' assembly. Please bring a picnic rug and make your way to the school playground after morning drop off.
Wednesday 24 July	School finishes for the Summer Holiday	Please collect your children one hour earlier than usual. Reception children should be collected at 2.05pm and Year 1 & Year 2 children at 2.10pm. Connections closes at 5pm.
SUMMER HOLIDAY - Thursday 25 July to Tuesday 3 September 2024		
Monday 2 September 2024	INSET DAY	No children to attend school
Tuesday 3 September 2024	INSET DAY	No children to attend school
Wednesday 4 September 2024	Start of the Autumn 2024/25 term and academic year	Year 1 and Year 2 children to attend school from 8.40am
<i>Start dates for our new Reception children will be confirmed and communicated separately</i>		

Additional events may be added, we will communicate these to you via Mrs Berry's Friday newsletter or school email, please always read our communications with you, thank you



MUSIC IN KINGSTON

Performance | Workshops | Exhibition

12.00-15.00, 18th May 2024





OPEN DAY

New Malden Fire Station

Sunday, 30 June 2024 12pm – 4pm

- Your chance to meet local firefighters and get fire safety advice.
- Watch rescue demonstrations with our latest fire service equipment.
- Family activities, BBQ, live music and a charity raffle.
- Early opening for neurodiverse needs between 11am – 12pm

180 Burlington Road New Malden KT3 4RW

For more info contact Zak Abram:

T 0208 555 1200 x84557

E zak.abram@london-fire.gov.uk



LONDON FIRE BRIGADE

Information session –

Understanding your childcare options and the expansion to childcare entitlements

Monday 13 May 2024 12:00 - 13:00

Jill Anderson from Family Information service will be running a free, informative online session on:

- Current childcare entitlements
- Expansion to childcare entitlements for eligible working families
- How and when to apply for your entitlements
- Your options when choosing a Childcare Provider
- How to find a Registered Childcare Provider

To sign up please fill in Google form:

<https://forms.gle/KZuTZ2vZKGxV2bxH7>

For further information call:

Siobhan – 07784 006661

Or email:

Siobhan.meacher@achievingforchildren.org.uk



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