



COOMBE HILL INFANTS' SCHOOL

Learn together, grow together

Friday 6 September 2024

Dear Families,

It has been lovely to see your children return to school looking so healthy and relaxed. Welcome to our new families who have joined Year 1 and Year 2 and to all of our new families joining Reception. The Reception children have managed so well with our transition days, and we look forward to getting to know them and beginning their school journey with them. Please remember that we work in partnership with you and that we have an open-door policy. Mrs Jakob and I will be at the gate each morning, please talk to us if you need to share anything or have any worries. Class teachers and teaching assistants will also be available for a very quick discussion first thing in the morning. If you require a longer meeting with any of us, please email the school office to arrange a convenient time.

[Who do I talk to about?](#)

Whole school Welcome Meeting

We look forward to seeing you at our whole school welcome meeting on **Wednesday 18th September at 6.00pm**. We will be sharing lots of information with you and it is a great opportunity for you to find out how you can become involved in the life of the school and our wonderful community. Next week we will send out a list of important dates and events for the rest of the term.

Introducing our Educational Wellbeing Practitioner

On **Thursday 19th September at 9am**, Shazia Yakoob-Ajmal, our Educational Wellbeing Practitioner, would like to invite you to a coffee morning to find out what kind of support you would like next year. In the last few years, Shazia has run parent workshops on a variety of topics. Please click on the link to see the invitation and read more about the MHST support.

[Coffee Morning Invite at CHI - 19th September 2024](#)

We also can offer you access to an excellent selection of webinars as part of the "Helping Children with" Series. The topics include- worries, resilience, friendships, challenging behaviours, screentime, sleep - if there is something else you would like help with, please talk to Mrs Jakob or join Shazia for a coffee on the 19th.

[Helping Children Series 24-25.pdf](#)

Flu vaccinations in school

Please respond to the message that was sent earlier this week regarding flu vaccinations that will be given in school by the school immunisation team. **The online form contained in the letter must be completed by midnight on Sunday 15 September** whether or not you wish your child to receive the vaccination or not. Please read the information contained in this message carefully and contact the school office if you have any questions.

School photographs - a date for the diary

The children will have their individual school photographs taken on **Wednesday 25th September**. Siblings within the Infants school will also have their photograph taken together (there will be an opportunity later in the school year for siblings across the Infants and Junior school to have their photographs taken together).

Google classrooms

Year 1 and year 2 children will receive their year group letter via google classroom today, please check for this. Reception parents will receive information about joining the Reception Google classroom over the next week or so, this is the platform where the year group teachers will send you information about the week ahead, reminders and details of upcoming events. If you have any questions about this please speak to your child's teacher.

OPAL (Outdoor Play and Learning)



For more information please click on the following link [Outdoor Play and Learning](#)

Please can you help us by donating any unwanted construction toys eg duplo, wooden blocks etc and any wheeled toys eg scooter, pushchairs, wheelbarrows to help us resource of play times. Click on the link to find out more about the benefits of play.

Our processes and procedures

As we start the school year, we would like to remind you of a few important procedures which enable us to work smoothly together for the benefit of your child.

- **Reporting your child's absence**

Please report your child's absence in the following way:

- email admin@chi.rbksch.org any time **before 9.15 am** every day of your child's absence
- call 020 8942 9481 any time **before 9.15 am** every day of your child's absence, you can leave a voicemail on our system at any time, we always check this
- if you are dropping off a sibling at school, please come to the school office and report the absence

All absences must be reported to the school office team, not to teachers on the classroom door or to other school staff. Thank you for your co-operation, we are grateful to every parent who reports their child's absence to the school office by 9.15 am.

- **Morning punctuality**

Classroom doors open at **8.40am** for all year groups, when learning starts. We expect all children to be in their classrooms by 8.50am at the latest. The classroom doors then close. If your child's classroom door is closed you should make your way to the school office where we will ask you to complete a late form and our school office staff will take your child from you to their classroom. If you arrive late this is noted on your child's attendance record, with the reason for lateness and number of minutes late, we monitor this carefully.

Please leave more than enough time for your morning journey to school, there is always very limited parking around the school site and the roads are always heavily congested.

- **Afternoon collection**

All Reception children should be collected from their classroom at 3.05pm and year 1 and 2 children at 3.10pm. Again, traffic is always heavy at this time of day with limited parking near the school. It can be very unsettling for your child if they are not collected with the rest of their classmates from their classroom, they will be taken to our busy school office to wait for you. In fairness to our staff please avoid this happening.

- **Illness**

Please find attached the following guidance from the NHS on common childhood illnesses and when your child should or should not attend school, we hope you find this useful.

<https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>. If you have any questions about this please contact the school office.

In particular we ask you to strictly observe the 48 hour rule regarding **vomiting and/or diarrhoea**. It is so important that your child does not attend school for a clear 48 hours after

a bout of either of these symptoms, in fairness to other children and our staff as tummy bugs can spread extremely quickly among young children. Please contact the school office if you are at all unsure about when your child can return to school. Even if your child has a single bout and then appears well they must remain at home for the full 48 hour period. Thank you for your co-operation with this.

- **Parking around the school**

Unfortunately, we are unable to offer parking for parents at drop-off and pick-up times. The school car park is for staff/visitor parking only. If possible please walk or cycle to school, it is so beneficial and gives your child a good start to the day. If you need to drive please park considerately, avoid parking over driveways, and not on the double yellow lines. Traffic wardens regularly patrol the roads. Please be aware that the streets around the school become very congested so parking a little further away and then walking may be easier. Unfortunately, we have already seen parents parking on the pavement on Coombe Lane West just outside the school. Please do not do this as it is extremely dangerous for our children.

- **Labelling items**

Please check that every item of your child's school uniform is clearly labelled, including each of your child's shoes and coat.

- **Coats**

Please make sure that your child wears a named coat to school every day at this time of year. The children play outside several times during the day and must have weather appropriate clothing. We have a few second hand coats available in the school office entrance if you would like to have a look.

- **Dogs on the school site**

Please do not bring dogs onto the school site.

Donations of school uniform

We have been given many donations of good quality second hand uniform which we are very grateful for. However we won't be able to accept any more at the current time as we are running out of storage space. We may request donations in the future and will let you know. Please come to the school office entrance and take any uniform that you may need.

Wishing you all an enjoyable 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.