



# COOMBE HILL INFANTS' SCHOOL

*Learn together, grow together*

Friday 13 September 2024

Dear Families,

As we reach the end of our first full week back at school we are so pleased with how your children are settling into their new routines. Particularly our youngest children. They are a delight and they have settled so well already. They seem happy and ready for their school journey. Please don't be alarmed if, after a straightforward start, they have a wobble about coming into school. This is perfectly normal, they will be tired and possibly overwhelmed a few days in. Please ensure they get plenty of rest and stay as positive as possible, even if they feel less happy about coming to school. It will all settle very soon. We are all here to help with this process, please let staff know if your child is worried about anything. Our partnership with you is so important, in addition, staff will contact you very quickly if your children are finding any aspect of school difficult.

## **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.

## **Year group meetings**

As you will have seen from the list of dates circulated earlier this week our welcome/curriculum meetings for each year group will be held as follows:

- **Reception welcome meeting** - Wednesday 25th September at 9.00am
- **Year 1 welcome meeting** - Thursday 26th September at 9.00am
- **Year 2 welcome meeting** - Friday 27th September at 9.00am


Please come along to these meetings, you will be given lots of important information about the year ahead about how you can support your child.

## **Flu vaccinations in school on Tuesday 17th September**

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.


## **Introducing our Educational Wellbeing Practitioner**

On **Thursday 19th September at 9.00am**, 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 this 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](#)

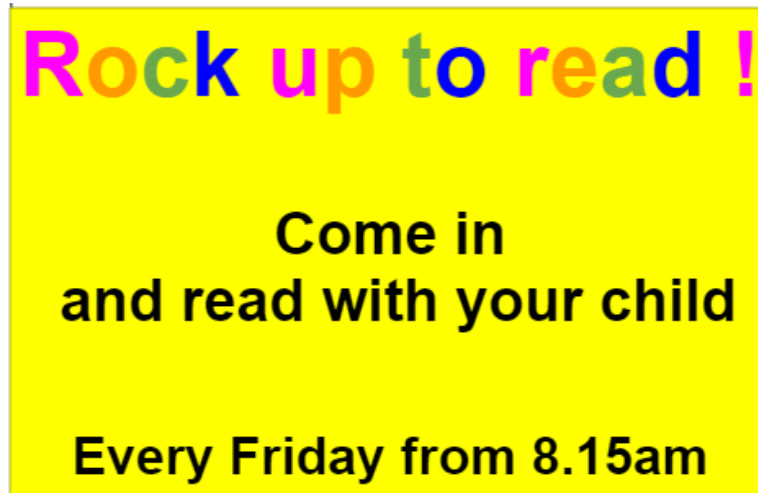
We also can offer you access to an excellent selection of webinars as part of the "Helping Children with ..... " Series. The topics include- worries, resilience, friendships, challenging behaviours,

screen time, 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](#)

### Rock up to Read! - every Friday

Every Friday morning at 8.15am, we open our Library doors and invite you in to read to/with your child. Parental engagement in children's reading is so important and what better way to start the day than sharing a story with your child - "A love of reading is the biggest indicator of future academic success" - OECD (The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development). So come along and join us at Rock up to Read!



### Important dates for this term

Please find attached the link we sent to you earlier this week with the important dates for the Autumn term;

[https://docs.google.com/document/d/1p5F4FOdx9kFvbxXiLlteogemMch5jUA8U\\_xGaucnMk/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1p5F4FOdx9kFvbxXiLlteogemMch5jUA8U_xGaucnMk/edit?usp=sharing)

These dates are subject to change and we would like to highlight the following changes already at this stage:

- The CHIPTA meeting on **Friday 20 September** has been replaced with a "Walk and Talk" in Richmond Park with our "Celebrating Diversity" group - everyone is welcome to join, including babies, toddlers and dogs. A new CHIPTA meeting date will be communicated to you in due course.
- We have added some additional dates for our "Celebrating Diversity" group to meet, both at the school and for walks in the park.

### School photographs

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).

Please register for your photo orders **now** by following these three simple steps:

1. Visit <https://order.fizz-photography.co.uk> on your phone, tablet or computer
2. Enter code: JRDZF9RMZY
3. Enter your child's name, and your contact details

Please register **BEFORE** the day of the photo shoot. Once registered, you'll be notified when photos are available for viewing and ordering, directly receiving your child's photo(s) via email/SMS (your details are used solely for sharing your child's personal gallery securely with you, and you can learn more about Fizz Photography's data protection practices here:

<https://order.fizz-photography.co.uk/privacy-policy/>).

### Clubs for Years 1 and 2

We will run our Autumn term clubs for our year 1 and year 2 children as usual this term. Reception children are offered clubs from the start of the Spring term, not this term. We aim to send out the

clubs timetable and booking details on Monday or Tuesday next week and the clubs booking date and time will be **Friday 20 September at 10.00am**, in the usual way. Clubs will run from the week beginning Monday 30 September to the week beginning Monday 25 November and we aim to offer at least one club to every child who requests a club at the booking time (depending on availability and the number of requests).

### **OPAL (Outdoor Play and Learning)**



For more information about OPAL 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.

### **Reception children family photographs**

A reminder to our Reception parents/carers to send in a photo of your child and their family that we can share with the class, this might include siblings, grandparents, cousins, pets, etc. We will be framing these with the children and sharing them in the classroom. You may send photos to [admin@chi.rbksch.org](mailto:admin@chi.rbksch.org) or give your photos to your child's teacher.

### **Year 1 and Year 2 Google classrooms**

Please contact the school office if you have any questions about logging in to your child's google classroom. We expect all parents/carers to sign up to their child's google classroom and check this regularly as important information will be regularly communicated to you in this way. Reception parents/carers will receive information about their google classrooms in due course.

### **Routine childhood vaccinations - NHS information**

When your child starts or returns to school, they will have increased contact with other children. If they are not up to date with their routine immunisations, they may be at risk of catching preventable diseases, including measles, whooping cough, meningitis, diphtheria and polio. Please check that your child is fully up to date with their routine immunisations. You can check if your child is up to date with immunisations by checking their Red book or contacting your GP surgery. For a full checklist of vaccines and when they should be given please visit - [NHS vaccinations and when to have them](#). For further information on Immunising primary school children please see this link [Postcard](#).

### **Tesco "Stronger Starts" scheme**

A reminder that **until Monday 30th September**, if you make any purchase from the Tesco stores listed below, please make sure to request a handful of blue tokens and put them into the Coombe Hill Infants section of the large plastic box. It will be situated close to the till area. As you know we are raising money for our OPAL (Outdoor Play & Learning) initiative. By being listed as one of 3 schools and charities, we are guaranteed to be awarded £500 by Tesco to put towards new OPAL items for our children. However, if Coombe Hill Infant School receives the largest number of blue tokens across the branches below, we could be presented with £1,500 and then entered into a larger draw to receive £10,000. Thank you to everyone who has participated in this so far.

- **Norbiton Express**, KT1 3RT (at the Triangle)
- **New Malden High Street Express**, KT3 4DQ (under the bridge by New Malden train station)
- **Kingston Thames Express**, KT2 5EB (opposite Kingston train station and cinema)
- **Hook Express**, KT9 1EL
- **Tolworth Express**, KT6 7DQ
- **Chessington Express**, KT9 1SG
- **Surbiton Hook Road Express**, KT6 5AR
- **Worcester Park Express**, KT4 7NW

### **ASDA "Cashpot for Schools"**

Parentkind – the charity that supports school PTAs - have teamed up with ASDA, who are making millions of pounds available to donate to primary schools across the UK through their 'Cashpot for Schools' initiative. All you have to do is opt in through the Asda Rewards app, choose our school and shop and scan in store or shop online at <https://www.asda.com/cashpotforschools>, between 2nd September and 30th November 2024. Asda will donate 0.5% of the value of your shop to our PTA. Also, every time somebody opts in, Asda will give an additional £1 to the school Cashpot. Asda are also giving £50 to every school to get them started. One of our parents has said "My personal cashpot for the school is £69.92, it's amazing, it quickly adds up!"

### **Easy Fundraising scheme**

Coombe Hill Infants School has raised £2.1k so far through the Easy Fundraising scheme. You are able to support this every time you shop online at no extra cost. Sign up today to easyfundraising and raise free donations when you shop online with over 8,000 retailers. All the big names like eBay, Argos, Marks and Spencer, John Lewis & Partners, Etsy, Tesco and Just Eat are ready to donate. Join today and we could win a £100 bonus donation:

<https://join.easyfundraising.org.uk/coombe-hill-infant-school-kingston-upon-thames/ydh9x7/s2s/FZ9Up2Ac/SE870/whatsapp>

### **Donations of school uniform**

We have been given many donations of good quality second hand uniform which we are very grateful for. Please come to the school office entrance and take any uniform that you may need.


### **Term dates 2024/25**

Please find attached a link to the term dates for this academic year, please note the INSET dates when children are not required to be in school.

[Term Dates](#)

### **School Staff list**

Please find attached the current list of our school staff for 2024/25.

 [Our-Staff-September 2024.pdf](#)

We do not give out contact details for individual members of staff so if you have a message please send it to [admin@chi.rbksch.org](mailto:admin@chi.rbksch.org) and we will forward this on.

### **Community Information**

- The Grow Programme is funded by the UK government to help mothers prepare to re-enter the workplace, this includes a £50 Job start bonus, free accredited training and the award winning Grow App. There is a welcome event every month in central Kingston, starting on Monday 23 September, further details at the end of this newsletter.

Wishing you all a restful 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.*

## 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](mailto: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.

- **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.

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**. It can be very unsettling for your child if they are not collected with the rest of their classmates from their classroom.

- **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.

- **Vomiting and Diarrhoea**

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. 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**

The school car park is for staff/visitor parking only, we are unable to offer parking for parents at drop-off and pick-up times. Please walk or cycle to school whenever possible. If you need to drive please park considerately, and do not park over driveways, on the pavement on Coombe Lane West and not on the double yellow lines. Traffic wardens regularly patrol the roads.

- **Labelling items**

Please check that every item of your child's school uniform is clearly labelled, including each of your child's shoes, as well as their coat, hats, scarves and each glove when the weather becomes cold. Please also ensure that water bottles and lunch boxes are all clearly named.

- **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.

## COMMUNITY INFORMATION

**GR•W**  
Get ready for work

The Grow App  
Your community is here

Funded by UK Government **KINGSTON**

**GR•W**  
Get ready for work

**Autumn 24**

### WHY JOIN GROW?

- £50 Start Work Bonus.
- Free Accredited Courses
- One to one support
- Help to apply for jobs.
- Get a reference
- Learn what it takes to be self-employed
- Access to the award-winning Grow App
- Get a weekly job bulletin with local part-time jobs
- Online events with expert speakers

And lots more!

**FIND OUT MORE**

*I joined Grow and now I have a plan*

*Give Grow a go!*

*GRoW motivates me!*

*Grow helped me get a job. Now I earn my own money*

### ARE YOU BRINGING UP KIDS AND WANT TO WORK?

Grow is here to help you get a job, start training, build confidence and give you the support you need to succeed.

We specialise in supporting mums just like you, who want to train, retrain, and get into work.

Join us: make new friends and a fresh start in the Grow Community.

We are an award winning London project that makes a difference.

**Registration and Welcome Sessions run monthly at Everyday Conference Centre Kingston KT1 1RP**  
Use this [LINK](#) to book on

[getreadyforwork.org](https://getreadyforwork.org) [info@belinagrow.co.uk](mailto:info@belinagrow.co.uk) [@belinagrow](https://twitter.com/belinagrow)

**GR•W**  
Get ready for work

The Grow App  
Your community is here