



# COOMBE HILL INFANTS' SCHOOL

*Learn together, grow together*

*We are a UNICEF Rights Respecting School*

Friday 27 September 2024

Dear Families,

We are delighted that so many of you attended the year group welcome meetings this week, we hope you found them useful. It is so rewarding for us to see such high levels of parental engagement, we know that this makes such a difference to your children.

Thank you for supporting our approach to Relationships and Behaviour. Your children are very young and they are still learning how to make good behaviour choices, they do need help with this sometimes and it's important that we work alongside you. We have an agreed approach to behaviour and several parents have asked how they can find out more. We will hold a meeting to share this information. It will be an opportunity for you to ask questions and find out more about our approach. Please find information further on in the newsletter.

## **Year group meetings**

The meeting slides from the year 1 and year 2 year group meetings will be on Google classroom today and links to the live recordings will be available next week.

## **Reception Google classroom**

We are in the process of setting up the Google classroom for Reception parents and carers, we will let you know when this has been done and provide you with your login details.

## **School photographs**

Following the photos this week, for those who have pre registered, your photos are now available for viewing and ordering. If you **did not pre-register**, you will receive a proof in your child's blue bag next week, from that you can follow the steps to make an order.

## **Clubs for Years 1 and 2**

If your child is booked into a school club please note the following:

- The clubs start next week, on Monday 30 September and finish the week starting Monday 25 November, please note the dates on which the clubs are not running
- Please collect your child promptly from their classroom at 4 pm, or 4.15 pm for Forest School
- Please go to your child's collection classroom via the blue side gate - the code for club pick up is **2158** (please do not share this code with your child or outside of our community)
- If your child is attending any of the Love the Ball sports clubs please send them to school with a pair of named velcro trainers (no football kits, no football boots please, they will not be on the field)
- For Forest school club please send your child into school with named wellington boots and weather appropriate clothing.
- If you have not paid for a club that your child has been allocated to they will not be on the club register and you should collect them at the usual time

The club timetable is available via this link [Autumn term clubs timetable 2024.pdf](#) so that you can check the dates, collection times, and rooms.

### **Macmillan tea/coffee afternoon and cake sale with classroom visits**

Our school will be hosting a Macmillan coffee morning on **Friday 4 October at 2.15pm**. Please come along to the school hall with donations of cakes, biscuits/cookies or healthier refreshments (please no nuts in any items brought into school), or bring donations to the school office at school drop off. At 2.45pm following this, parents and carers, you are invited to visit your child's classroom to see some of their learning this term and to then take them home at the usual time. If there are any cakes left over from the Macmillan afternoon we will sell these outside from 3pm (with proceeds again to Macmillan), alongside the sale of the Fruit and Vegetable costumes.

### **Fruit & Vegetable costume donations please**

We will be holding our annual Health & Happiness week at the beginning of October, as part of this week the children will be invited to dress up as a piece of fruit or vegetable on Friday 11th October. We kindly ask, if you have any fruit & vegetable costumes at home that you no longer need, please donate them to the school office, from the week commencing 30th September. CHIPTA will then hold a second hand costume sale after school on Friday 4th October.

### **Parent workshops and webinars**

Please do share any worries you may have with us. Shazia's first parent workshop of this year is a two-part workshop "**Strategies for Managing Behaviour in a Positive Way**". These will be held from **9 - 10.30 am on Thursday 17th and 24th October**. Please email [admin@chi.rbksch.org](mailto:admin@chi.rbksch.org) to register your attendance.

### **CHI Approach to Behaviour Management**

We have received requests from several parents to run a workshop about our school approach to positive behaviour management and how you can support at home. The workshop will include information about our Learning Behaviours, the Zones of Regulations, Emotion Coaching etc and will be held at school at 9am on **Friday 29th November**.

We can also 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, and sleep - if there is something else you would like help with, please talk to Mrs Jakob.

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

Also, please be aware that we can also refer you to the School Health team for concerns around problems with eating or for day/night wetting - just email the office with your concerns. If you would like some advice about how to keep your child safe online, please look at this useful NSPCC resource. <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/support-for-parents/techosaurus/>

### **Coombe Connections club**

#### New bookings

If you would like to request a NEW booking for our Breakfast and After School provision, Coombe Connections Club, for the second half of the autumn term 2024, our Booking Request Form will be available on the school Connections Club webpage from 30/09/24. The deadline for new applications is 06/10/24. *A form is required ONLY FOR NEW BOOKINGS.*

#### Existing Bookings

If you have a Connections booking currently, it will be continued into the second half of the autumn term and a Booking Request Form is NOT required. If you wish to request a change to your booking you must email Connections by 06/10/24.

We work on a 'first come, first served' basis and availability is prioritised to those with existing bookings.

**Connections email:** [connectionsclub@chi.rbksch.org](mailto:connectionsclub@chi.rbksch.org)

**Link to the Connections webpage:-** [Coombe Connections club](#)

### **Infants' School availability**

<b>Breakfast Club availability</b>	<b>After School Club availability</b>
------------------------------------	---------------------------------------

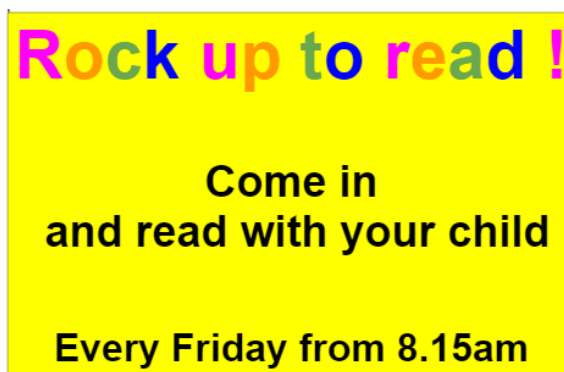
Monday	Plenty	Monday	None
Tuesday	None	Tuesday	None
Wednesday	None	Wednesday	None
Thursday	Little	Thursday	None
Friday	Plenty	Friday	Plenty

### Junior School availability

Breakfast Club availability		After School Club availability	
Monday	Plenty	Monday	None
Tuesday	Some	Tuesday	None
Wednesday	Some	Wednesday	None
Thursday	Some	Thursday	None
Friday	Plenty	Friday	Plenty

### Rock up to Read! - every Friday at 8.15am

Do join us at Rock up to Read in the Library from 8.15am on Fridays, please come in via the blue side gate, the code for Rock up to Read is 2626.



### OPAL (Outdoor Play and Learning)

Hopefully you will have had chance to read the update that we sent earlier this week on OPAL. We hope to see you for the Stay and Play session where you can come and enjoy a lunchtime with your child on **Wednesday 23rd October from 12 - 12.45pm**.

If you are able to donate any of the following items we would be very pleased to hear from you:

- Scooters and tricycles
- Dressing up clothes (in good condition) to fit children aged 4 - 11
- Sand play toys for the sand pit
- Old saucepans and kitchen utensils for the mud kitchen
- Small plastic spades and trowels for digging
- Nail free tyres to help section out areas of the field
- Electric cable reels for creative play
- DUPLO, plastic small animals or people and cars
- Milk or bread crates
- Camping or yoga mats

We have set up an OPAL donation station outside the Infants' school office entrance for you to leave any of the above. For larger items please let us know before bringing them to school. In addition to this, we will soon be creating an Amazon wishlist with resources that children have said they would like to have at playtimes. Your support will be greatly appreciated by the school and the children. For more information please see this [link to our website](#):

### Harvest Festival

Our Harvest Festival assembly is on **Monday 7th October**. The children will be thinking about where food comes from, how it is harvested, what foods keep us healthy and cooking etc. This year we will be supporting **Kingston Foodbank**, so please do bring in any donations you can to school that day, there will be collection boxes outside the school office entrance. Below is a wish list of items they are in desperate need of and would be greatly appreciated.

**HARVEST APPEAL** Help by donating an item or two from our shopping list to support people facing hardship.

**SHOPPING LIST TOP TEN ITEMS**

- Cereal
- Long Life Milk
- Squash
- Tinned Tomatoes
- Tinned Vegetables
- Tinned Meat
- Anti-bacterial all-purpose spray
- Washing machine tablets
- Shower gel

*Don't forget... You can help transform more lives with a financial donation too.*

**Kingston Foodbank**  
[kingston.foodbank.org.uk](http://kingston.foodbank.org.uk)  
 Registered Charity in England & Wales (1177256)  
 Part of Doxa Deo Community Church

### Tiger class cake sale

The Tiger class cake sale held last Friday raised **£185.50** for the Tiger classroom. Miss Roe and the children will be deciding which resources the money will be put towards and we will share this information with Tiger class parents and carers in due course. Thank you to all of the parents who baked and donated cakes and biscuits and to those of you who ran the sale on the day. We will let you know how much the Leopard class sale held this afternoon has raised, next week.

### Please label ALL clothing and water bottles clearly

We have already accumulated a large amount of unnamed jumpers, coats, water bottles and other items. With 270 children in the same uniform, it is not possible to return unnamed items, they will be put into our lost property box (next to Otter classroom) for you to check through. **Every item of PE kit, school uniform, coats, hats, scarves, lunch boxes, water bottles etc MUST be clearly named.** It can be upsetting for your child to lose their coat or jumper during the school day as they need these to go outside to play. If you are missing any named items please also check the lost property box. Please make sure that clothing is labelled very clearly with your child's full name.

### 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. If you arrive late you must take your child to the school office entrance and we will ask you to complete a late arrival slip. 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 with traffic (particularly on rainy days), this is not an accepted reason for lateness. Children who arrive late into their classroom can be confused as they will have missed the teacher's input. It also disrupts the teacher, teaching assistants and the other children in the classroom, please avoid this happening. Afternoon collection is at **3.05pm for Reception children** and **3.10pm for year 1 and year 2 children**. Please do not be late to collect your child, it can be unsettling for them when they can't see you when their classmates are dismissed and are taken to the school office. If children are collected late in the afternoon we also record this for monitoring.

## Attendance

Our overall attendance target is 96%. Our overall attendance this week is **97.7%**. **Squirrel class** have achieved the highest attendance this week with **99.3%**, well done to Squirrel class!

## Attendance Matters



### CHIPTA news

#### Christmas Fair planning meeting

Everyone is warmly invited to a Christmas Fair planning meeting on **Thursday 3 October from 8.45 - 10.00am** in the staff room. The Christmas Fair is one of our biggest fundraising events of the year and we rely on a huge amount of parental support from across the school every year, each class is allocated a stall to run and we would love you to be involved. We'd like to hear from anyone who might have some new ideas for stalls. Please come along and see how you can help at this early planning stage.

#### Sponsored Bounce-a-thon

We are hosting a sponsored Bounce-a-thon on **Tuesday 8th October**. The children always look forward to this annual fundraising event with great excitement. A bouncy castle will be set up in the school hall, giving each child the opportunity to try bouncing 50 times. We would love every child to ask their parents, grandparents, family friends, and anyone else they know to sponsor them. We will place sponsorship forms in the children's blue bags next week. We are grateful for any donations, however, big or small. Thank you for your support in making this event a success. We hope the children have a fantastic time bouncing and raising money for their school.

#### CHIPTA Meeting

Everyone is invited to join us on **Friday 11 October** from **8.45 - 9.30am** in the staff room for a CHIPTA (Coombe Hill Infants PTA) meeting. Please come along to meet the committee and to find out more about the year ahead, and how you can become involved. Being involved with the PTA is a great chance to meet other parents, to become involved with the life of the school, working together to raise money for our children's benefit - we need your support, thank you.

#### Coombe Hill schools Quiz Night

The Coombe Hill PTAs are hosting a Quiz Night on **Friday 11 October at 7pm**. The last Quiz Night was a great success and lots of parents and carers have asked for this to be repeated. Drinks and snacks will be available on the night (cash only please) and tables should be of 10 people or less. Tickets are £7 each, and they are now available on Parentpay. Please note that this event is for adults only, not the children. We are looking forward to a great night again.

#### PTA Fireworks Event

Join us for an amazing firework event on **Thursday 7th November!** 

- ★ Gates open at 4:30pm, with the fireworks display starting at 6:00pm.
- ★ Enjoy tasty hot dogs, popcorn, and candy floss, and there's a bar for adults.
- ★ **Tickets are £6 each and can be purchased on ParentPay now**
- ★ Previously bought tickets for 2023 are still valid. For any questions, please contact [chiptatreasurer@gmail.com](mailto:chiptatreasurer@gmail.com).
- ★ Please note, all children must be accompanied by an adult, with a maximum of three children per adult.

- ★ We are also looking for volunteers! If you can help, even for just 30 minutes, please contact [chiptachair@gmail.com](mailto:chiptachair@gmail.com).
- ★ Everyone is welcome. Don't miss out on the fun!

### Smartphone Free Childhood movement



#CHANGETHENORM

We as a school are in full support of the group of parents who have come together to raise awareness of the Smartphone Free Childhood movement, a reminder of their message below:

*“Some of you may have heard of the Smartphone Free Childhood movement, a parent-led initiative focused on protecting children from the potential drawbacks of early smartphone and social media use.*

*This movement aligns well with Coombe's focus on fostering a distraction-free learning environment, and we know many parents are already involved.*

*For anyone interested in learning more, please review this [one-pager](#) with information and a link to join the Coombe Hill Smartphone Free Childhood [WhatsApp group](#).*

*There is no obligation to join the group, but it can be a valuable resource for parents who share these concerns”.*

[House of Commons Committee report - Screen time: impacts on education and wellbeing- report summary](#)

### Important message from our Governing Body

After half-term we will be holding a **parent governor** election and recruiting new **associate members**. School governors are volunteers who work as a team (governing body) to support the school at a strategic level. The role of a parent governor is no different to any other governor. Governing boards make strategic decisions and work together to:

- develop a vision and strategy for the school
- oversee financial performance and make sure money is well spent
- hold the headteacher to account for the educational performance of the school
- engage with pupils, staff, parents and the wider school community to understand their views

Being a school governor is a commitment to attending governing body meetings which consider these issues. Parent governors offer their perspective on issues being discussed and they are not expected to represent the parent body or act as a spokesperson. Full training and support are also provided for the role. If you are interested to find out more, please come along when we hold our drop-in session on **Friday 18<sup>th</sup> October 9 - 10 am** and have a chat.

### Tesco “Stronger Starts” scheme

A final 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/EZ9Up2Ac/SE870/whatsapp>

### **Previous newsletters**

Our previous newsletters can be found here on our website

<https://www.coombehillinfants.com/page/?title=Parent+Newsletter&pid=225>

### **Community Information**

- Please find to follow information from the NHS about which medical service to access in case of illness, this might be useful to guide you when your child is unwell.

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.*

# Help Us Help You



## Self Care

Stock your medicine cabinet as many minor issues, like coughs, grazes and sore throats are treatable at home.



## Pharmacy

Pharmacists offer medical advice and medicines for minor illnesses like coughs, colds, tummy trouble, rashes and aches and pains, and also give flu jabs.



## GP

Within normal surgery hours your GP should be your first contact with health concerns. GPs provide examinations, advice, prescriptions, vaccinations and referrals.



## 111.nhs.uk

You should visit 111.nhs.uk when you cannot wait to see your doctor. NHS 111 is a fast and easy way to get the right help urgently, 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.



## NHS 111

You should call 111 when you cannot wait to see your doctor. NHS 111 is a fast and easy way to get the right help urgently, 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.



## A&E

A&E departments in hospitals are open for life threatening emergencies like heart attacks and accidents, 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.



# Coombe Hill Infants School

The children will join in with a  
sponsored ~~Bounce-a-thon~~

**Tuesday 8th October**  
**9:00 - 11:15am**



Please support your children by sponsoring them  
- Thank you for any donations, big or small





*Coombe Hill  
Schools'*

# QUIZ NIGHT

---


FRIDAY  
11TH  
OCTOBER

@7pm Junior school hall

Tickets £7 on parentpay

---

drinks and snacks  
available- CASH ONLY!



**WE INVITE YOU TO JOIN US FOR AN  
EXCITING EVENING AT**

**COOMBE HILL SCHOOL'S  
FIREWORKS EVENT!**

**Thursday 7th November -  
Gates open 4.30pm -  
Fireworks to start at 6pm**

**Tickets available via  
ParentPay**

**HOT DOGS-POPCORN-CANDY FLOSS-BAR- LIGHT UP TOYS**