



COOMBE HILL INFANTS' SCHOOL

Learn together, grow together

Friday 9 February 2024

Dear Families,

This afternoon we enjoyed an assembly to celebrate the Lunar New Year. This year is an important one as it is the Year of the Dragon. We wish all of our families a happy new year and we hope you enjoy the celebrations.

新年快乐



We are pleased to tell you that Hedgehog and Otter class have settled well into their new temporary classrooms and the roof replacement work has commenced smoothly. The children have been so sensible and adapted well to the move. The next moves will take place on Thursday 7th and Friday 8th of March. We will send separate emails to those classes involved.

Your children started the week by thinking about the different relationships they have and how important it is to listen to each other, respect differences and to show kindness to each other. They have responded so well to this. Leopard class performed the first class assembly on Wednesday and they reinforced this message. Well done Leopard class. We have also been thinking about keeping respectful boundaries, please reinforce this with your children.

Throughout the week we have been learning our Boundary song. Your children sing it so enthusiastically, please click on the private link to see them perform.

<https://youtu.be/tczu5RHeAfA>



Health and Happiness week

All of the children in Years 1 and 2 had a Wellbeing Workshop with Shazia, our Educational Wellbeing Practitioner where they learned to recognise different emotions and explore ways of keeping calm.

Year 1 have been discussing what makes them feel happy. They drew pictures of things that bring them joy, from playing sports to painting and spending time with family. Year 1 also enjoyed their wellbeing workshop with Shazia! They reflected on their own happy places and how they make them feel calm and relaxed. They loved learning how to do a body scan which brought attention to how their bodies were feeling in the present moment.

Squirrel class enjoyed learning some relaxation techniques.



In Butterfly class - "As part of Health and Happiness week we turned our classroom into a spa for the morning. The children all enjoyed a relaxing yoga session before they carefully chopped fruit which they juiced to create refreshing drinks and sliced cucumbers for their eye treatments. The children then took turns enjoying a relaxing foot bath with accompanying massages. As a healthy post spa snack we worked together to bake bread which we enjoyed at the end of the day"



It has been lovely to see all the children in their choice of clothes today, The theme is "Express Yourself" and the children were invited to wear clothes that they feel expresses their personality. Thank you for your donations to Place2Be which raises vital funds for children's mental health.



Happy..... Dream until your dreams come true sparkle and shine



..... express yourself

Eco conference at Tiffin Girls' school

On Tuesday, a small group of Year 2 pupils visited Tiffin Girls' School for the second annual Eco Conference. They heard from guest speakers about environmental issues such as ocean pollution, unsustainable fishing, and wildlife conservation. They upcycled plastic into bird feeders, pencil pots and vases, planted a pea plant, and made a seed bomb. They felt inspired to share some new 'green' practices with our school.



World Book Day - we will be celebrating books and reading all week!

We are so fortunate to have the wonderful poet, Neal Zetter, visiting us on Tuesday 5th March as part of our World Book Day celebrations! (More details to follow after half term.) Please see below for details on how you can buy signed copies of Neal's books prior to his visit.

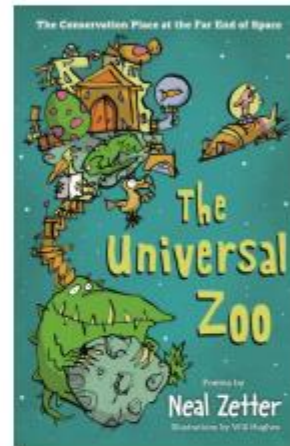
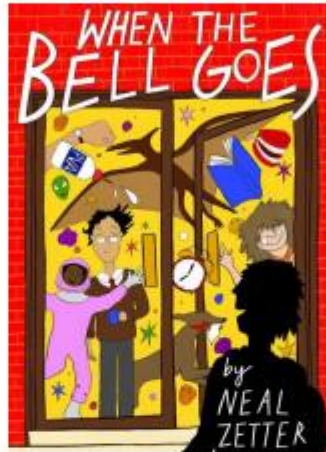
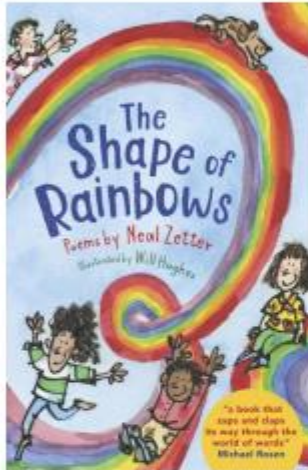
Award-winning poet/author, Neal Zetter, is visiting our school on Tuesday 5 March.

You may buy copies of his books if you wish:

- **by ParentPay until 28 Feb. Your purchased books will be dedicated to your child* and signed by Neal the author**

* (Neal will write your child's name as it appears in your ParentPay account. If you wish Neal to write a different name, buy your book from him in person instead after school on 5th March)

- **or see him after school in the playground on 5th March**
(cash or card only)



All books are for reading ages 6-12 years, but younger children will enjoy many of the poems if they are read to them.

£9: (NEW! NEW! NEW!) The Shape of Rainbows. My first mixed-themed poetry book since 2016 has something for everyone: *Peanut Butter Nutter*, *Police Car*, *Two Mums*, *Living Next Door to a Viking*, *Bad Smells* and *The Day I Ate My School* are just a few of the titles you'll find inside it.

£8: The Universal Zoo (The Conservation Place at the Far End of Space). Fifty funny and a few sad poems – wonderfully and comically illustrated - about a menagerie of mysterious endangered alien creatures all cared for by the robotic Keeper in this special place, a long way from Earth.

£9: When the Bell Goes (A Rapping, Rhyming Trip through Childhood). Jam-crammed with fifty comical poems, plus jokes and silly facts, about Neal's (and your) journey through childhood, school days and growing up.

**Neal's website: cccworkshops.co.uk
Twitter: @nealzetterpoet**



Update on our OPAL Outdoor Play And Learning project (with CHJ).

Please take a look at our OPAL page on our [website](#) for our updates and plans.

Thank you so much for your kind donations to help resource our play areas.

We are still looking for donations (second hand or new):

small world toys - dinosaurs, cars, animals, trains, trucks, natural building blocks etc
cable reels, pallets, wooden spoons, spatulas etc. Thank you for your help! For more information about OPAL see www.outdoorplayandlearning.org.uk

Parent progress meetings - Tuesday 20 February & Thursday 22 February

If you have not done so already, please remember to sign up for your parent progress meeting with your child's teacher. We expect every parent to attend a meeting and your child's teacher will be in touch with you if you have not made an appointment. Please note that we are unable to look after your children whilst you attend the meeting so please make alternative childcare arrangements. We will let you know after half term, before the meetings, how to access the classrooms.

Clubs changes - important to note

PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING CHANGES TO CLUB ARRANGEMENTS THE WEEK AFTER HALF TERM

Monday 19 February

All clubs run as usual

Tuesday 20 February

Year 1 French club will take place in the ICT suite, and Drumming club in the Studio (in the year 1 playground)

Wednesday 21 February

All clubs run as usual

Thursday 22 February

ALL CLUBS CANCELLED

For any child who has a club on this day we will transfer the fee as a refund against another club in the future (Connections will run as usual)

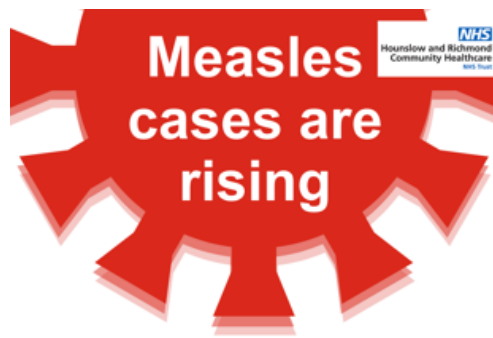
Events and Fundraising (CHIPTA) meeting

Everyone is warmly invited to come along to the next Events and Fundraising (CHIPTA) meeting on **Friday 8 March** at **9am** in the staff room. Whether you are a class rep, or if you have never been involved before, you are very welcome to come along. Tea/coffee and biscuits will be served! We need many volunteers from across the school to help run the events we are planning over the next few months and we have some new plans. All funds raised go straight back into the school to benefit all of your children, please consider coming along and giving a little of your time.

MMR vaccinations and rise in measles

We have been asked by the Kingston schools healthcare team to let you know that there is currently a spike in measles cases across the UK, and a few cases in local schools. The MMR/Polio team are running a series of clinics in the Borough to vaccinate all school age children who are missing one, or both doses of the MMR vaccine. The following sessions are being held soon, most locally, but please check the link for the full list of clinics [HRCH Children's Immunisations webpage](#):

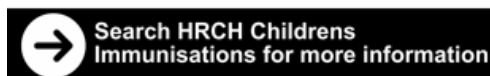
- **Thursday 29 February** - St Saviours Church Hall, SW20 9DL - 3 - 6pm
- **Thursday 7 March** - St Saviours Church Hall, SW20 9DL - 3 - 6pm
- **Thursday 28 March** - Kingston Library - 3 - 6pm



Is your child fully protected?

Your child needs two doses of the MMR vaccine to be fully vaccinated against measles, mumps and rubella.

To book an appointment, call 020 8487 1730



For further information see the following links:

MMR information leaflet - [MMR information leaflet](#)

Measles information from the British Islamic Medical Association - [BIMA Measles information](#)

Rock up to Read

Each Friday we continue to open the ICT suite from 8.15am so that you can come in and read with your child, please come in via the blue gate (code 9876). We hope that this will be a lovely way for you and your child to start the day together. Please take your child to their class at their normal starting time afterwards.

Child safety in the school car park

When you have collected your children from school please leave the school site straight away. We have noticed some children playing and running between parked cars after school has finished, this is dangerous as there are trucks and vans moving around the site after school with the ongoing roof works. It is not safe for your children to play in this area, thank you for your co-operation.

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>.

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_ODNoPb2XyZyTUUpMcDI/edit?usp=sharing&ouid=109721753956510019087&rtpof=true&sd=true

Community and other information

We hope you find the following information useful:

- **"Love the Ball" half term holiday camp** will be held here at Coombe Hill. These holiday sports camps are always very popular and are run by Coach Jon and his team who your children know from their PE lessons and clubs in school <https://lovetheball.com/courses/holidaycamps.html>

- **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>, our school is registered.
- Kingston First and Riverside Walk proudly announces “**Light Up Kingston**”, an immersive light experience which will be held in Kingston town centre during the **February half term**. Numerous local businesses are offering **exclusive discounts and special offers** throughout Light Up Kingston. See [Light Up Kingston](#) for more information.
- Kingston Children's Centres will be hosting an **online Family Information session** on Monday, 19th February 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. <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScYbl6WjbKPKQ2ESUZyq4sT998oq5GIM0T2TmV67PTTSOGChDA/viewform>
- **Richmond Park Discoverers** are holding a free event for families on Monday 12 February at Pembroke Lodge, further information at the end of this newsletter.
- A **Dyslexia coffee morning** will be held on Friday 23 February from 9:30 onwards under the arches of Richmond Bridge at the Tide Tables Cafe (TW9 1TH). For more information please contact Kim Pryde at kimpryde@hotmail.com.

Wishing you an enjoyable and restful half term, we look forward to seeing the children back in school on Monday 19 February.

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.



HOLIDAY CAMPS



LTB
ACADEMY
EST. 2013

Join us
12th - 16th
February
2024



Our holiday camps keep everyone happy!
Book February Half Term Camp now! At Coombe Hill Schools

www.lovetheball.com

BIRDWATCHING FUN

A FREE half-term event for families



*Come and spot woodland birds and have fun indoors
discovering all about the birds of Richmond Park*

*Make a bird treat
to take home!*

Monday 12th February

10:00-12:00

Pembroke Lodge Gardens

Richmond Park



See you there!

Friends of Richmond Park Discoverers

LIGHT UP KINGSTON

8TH – 18TH FEBRUARY 2024

4.30pm - 9.30pm daily

**Lighten up your February and
experience Kingston's new
light installations for free**

Brought to you by
Kingston First
and Riverside Walk:



RIVERSIDE WALK