



Newsletter

28th November 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Last week started with the news that our Year 4 bubble had to close, due to a case of Covid-19 in the class. On Monday evening we had to contact all of the families in the class to inform them that their children had to stay at home until Thursday of the coming week.

The school was immediately able to put our remote learning plan for a whole class into action. This is the first time that we have needed to do this since we returned in September. The class has been able to have online face-to-face lessons with their teacher on Google Classroom for the majority of the week and will continue to do so until they return to school in the week to come. There have been some technical challenges, but in the main the technology has worked. Although schools are required to provide learning for children whilst they are self-isolating, it does not all have to be face to face and so we are very pleased that what we have set up for Key Stage 2 was able to be tested and it worked.

I would like to say a huge thank you to Lucy, the class teacher, who overnight, started teaching from home. Unfortunately one of the technical issues we discovered was that the slides that Lucy prepared were not visible on all devices and so Lucy had to abandon them. This makes our need for Chromebooks all the more pressing. Thank you also to the Year 4 families, who have been so supportive and understanding over the past week and have taken on the new challenges of home learning. Well done to you all.



Chromebooks

As luck would have it, on Friday we received three Chromebooks from the local authority. This was rather fortuitous as we will now be able to loan a suitable device to some of the children who need to access learning remotely.

These Chromebooks are the result of Camden's fund raising drive to enable access to remote learning for all pupils in Camden.

Clearly, we need significantly more than three Chromebooks, but nonetheless these were welcome, and hopefully we will soon be able to purchase more with the funds you have raised.

Testing for Covid-19

I am aware that when families hear of a case of Covid-19 in the school the temptation is to go for a test. However, if you or your children are not symptomatic, it is likely that you will get a negative test result. If you have a test under these circumstances and this is the outcome, please do not let this give you a false sense of security. Always monitor for the symptoms of the virus – high temperature / persistent cough / loss of sense of smell or taste – as it is possible for the virus to remain latent in our bodies for several days before producing symptoms.

If you decide to have your child tested because you suspect that they may have the virus, they cannot attend school until you receive the negative result of the test. If your child receives a positive result they have to stay away from school for 10 days or until they no longer have a temperature (whichever is the longer). The rest of the family have to self-isolate for 14 days.

As we enter the last 3 weeks of this term, leading up to the Christmas break, we are desperately hoping that all of our families remain safe and are able to join in the activities we have planned up to the end of term.

Please remember to:

Wear a mask at the school gate  -In my rush in the mornings, I some times forget too, but in the main let's all try to remember.

Keep socially distanced 

Christmas Performances

Unfortunately, we have been unable to prepare for our usual end of term performances. However, all of the classes have been thinking of Christmas traditions around the world and each class will be recording a song to share with their families. We cannot share all of the class's performances as we do not have permission from all families to share their children's images.

The Reception Class will be presenting a Nativity tableau and this will be filmed for their parents to view.

Dates for your diaries:

Wednesday 9th December – Christmas Craft Day

This is one of those days when ordinarily we would have liked lots of help from parents but sadly this year it is not to be. However, crafts require lots of resources. If you have any sparkly, shiny bits and pieces or ribbons, buttons etc. that we can use, please bring them in to your child's class teacher by the end of this week at the latest. (We will need to quarantine any donations before we are able to use them.)



Friday 11th December – 'Twas the Night before Christmas' Pyjama Day

Wednesday 16th December – Christmas Meal

(We have asked for the menu to be tweaked slightly for us. We will send it out to you as soon as it is ready)

Thursday 17th December - Christmas Parties



Friday 18th December – The last day of term. There will be an earlier, staggered end to the day (TBA).

Tuesday, 5th January – Children return to school.

Mental Health and Well-being tip of the week

Week 4 - Practice “radical self-acceptance”

“Radical self-acceptance” is the ability to accept everything about ourselves and our lives without question, blame, or disappointment. We are all doing the best we can in these challenging times so it's about time we take some of the pressure off ourselves. This week, let's manage our expectations about what is achievable right now and be proud of all of the things we are doing each day, however small they may seem!

Wishing you all a safe and healthy week ahead.

Let's keep each other safe!

HANDS



FACE



SPACE



three simple words that mean so much.

Yours sincerely,

Anne Fontaine
Headteacher