



Dear Parents

I think it would be fair to say that we have had a lot of wet weather in the last few days. By 3.15pm on Friday afternoon I was being reminded of the saying, 'There is no such thing as bad weather, just inappropriate clothing'. I think that making sure that I have my waterproof trousers at school will be another thing to add to my morning 'to do' list.

**Parents and carers: social distancing and masks**

Several parents have commented how uncomfortable they are feeling with other adults' lack of social distancing at picking up and dropping off time, particularly around the hall. We open the gates as soon as possible in order to be able to relieve crowding on the pavement outside school but once on school grounds please can we request the following:

- Keep at least a metre distance between you and the person in front of you when queuing to drop off or collect your child
- Wear a mask if you are able to
- One adult on site please
- Older siblings (upper Junior school and older) can wait in the playground area while younger children are collected but should not use the climbing equipment

Please can I also remind you that for Health and Safety reasons children and adults should not scoot or cycle in the playground.

With staggered starts and finishes there is enough space for everyone to distance safely. Please think of others.

**Parking in staff car park**

Parents must not park their car in the Infant or Junior school car parks. These are for staff only. This applies in all weathers.

The only exception is where drivers have a blue badge. Please speak to the school office if this applies to you.

If you are arriving at school by taxi, taxi drivers must not use the staff car parks for dropping off or turning round.

**Keeping warm with windows open at school**

Making sure that there is good ventilation and keeping windows open at school is a key feature of our COVID risk assessment, like many other schools. We've got the heating on but it's starting to get chillier now so it's time to start layering up underneath school sweatshirts. If your child is like me and feels the cold easily it might be worth thinking about layers for school as follows:

- Base layer (e.g. long sleeves thermals or t-shirt or vest)
- 2nd base layer (e.g. short sleeves t-shirt/polo shirt)
- Sweatshirt

We are also happy for your child to wear fleecy jogger bottoms rather than traditional school trousers as the temperature drops. They can also wear these for PE.

If you have any individual questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me via the school office.

### **Reading – Zoom presentation for parents: Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> November 10.00am**

Thank you to all of you who used the e-books from Collins Big Cat to support your child's reading development over lockdown. We have purchased another year's subscription so that this is available to use as and when we need it this academic year.

Some parents have questioned why their child has not moved up a colour band in their reading at school. Teachers use a variety of assessment tools to judge professionally when a child should move up a band but reading comprehension is often one of the key factors in when a child is ready to move colour bands.

We know that supporting your child's reading at home is something that matters to you. We are therefore going to deliver a Zoom presentation for parents on this subject on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> November at 10.00am.

### **When you wish upon a star – Waddesdon Manor**

Friday was a busy and creative day in school as the children in Year 1 and 2 worked virtually with the Education Team from Waddesdon Manor to think about their special wishes for the others. These wishes will be displayed upon stars and become part of the Waddesdon Manor Christmas celebrations. They will form part of trail of stars and lanterns along Miss Alice's Drive between the Woodland Café and The Stables. I can't wait to go and see them on display! Thank you to Mrs Bristow for organising this.

### **Parents Meetings - Zoom**

Meeting with parents to update you on how your child has settled, their progress and next steps is really important to us. On Friday we will be sending out assessment and target information to all parents ahead of this term's Parent Meetings.

Parents will be given the opportunity to choose a phone call or a Zoom meeting with their child's teacher. Meetings and phone calls with teachers can be scheduled between 8.30am and 5.00pm on the allocated day. You will have received a link to a Microsoft Form today where you can give a preference for this.

Each teacher has been allocated a day out of class to enable this to take place as follows:

|            |                           |                                    |
|------------|---------------------------|------------------------------------|
| <b>RB</b>  | Mrs Baud                  | Wednesday 21 <sup>st</sup> October |
| <b>RHC</b> | Mrs Hepworth/Mrs Craig    | Wednesday 14 <sup>th</sup> October |
| <b>RW</b>  | Mrs Whiteman              | Tuesday 13 <sup>th</sup> October   |
|            |                           |                                    |
| <b>1BS</b> | Mrs Bristow/Miss Spellman | Thursday 15 <sup>th</sup> October  |
| <b>1IM</b> | Mrs Imbriano-Merner       | Wednesday 14 <sup>th</sup> October |
| <b>1R</b>  | Mrs Glen                  | Tuesday 13 <sup>th</sup> October   |
|            |                           |                                    |
| <b>2C</b>  | Mrs Chown                 | Thursday 22 <sup>nd</sup> October  |
| <b>2H</b>  | Mrs Henry                 | Wednesday 21 <sup>st</sup> October |
| <b>2S</b>  | Mrs Smith                 | Tuesday 20 <sup>th</sup> October   |

### **Mufti for MIND – Friday 9<sup>th</sup> October**

This Friday will be a non-uniform day to raise money for the mental health charity, MIND. Supporting mental health and well-being is a priority for us in school this year. FoTIS are currently looking into ways of how to collect money online. Further details will be given later in the week.

### **Relationships and Health Zoom meeting**

Thank you to those of you who joined Mrs Ellis from Turnfurlong Junior School and me to discuss the final part of the Relationships and Health curriculum. We will be summarising the questions that were raised. The policy will now be finalised and will be taken to the Personnel and Curriculum committee of our Governing Body in November.

## **JOB ADVERTISEMENT**

### **Midday Meals Supervisor** required

Permanent - Part-time, 6.25 hours per week, (Monday-Friday, 12.00-1.15 pm).  
Term time only (38 weeks plus 5 weeks' holiday pay). Actual salary - £2360.00 per annum (approx. £9.86 per hour).

### **The role:**

We require a caring, flexible person to become part of our team of midday supervisors. Our midday supervisors are self-motivated and enjoy interacting and working with young children.

The successful candidate will be required to undergo an enhanced DBS disclosure prior to taking up the post.

### **What skills, qualifications and experience are desirable or essential?**

Experience of working with children in a paid or voluntary capacity is essential.

### **About the candidate:**

We would love to hear from you if:

- You want to make sure that every child has a happy, safe lunchtime
- You are a caring, friendly person who enjoys working with young children
- You are a team player with a sense of humour

If you are interested, please contact the school office for an application form.