



# Newsletter – 9<sup>th</sup> November 2020

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Dear Parents

I hope that everyone has had a good first weekend of lockdown and that the dry, but cold, weather has let you get out and about in the fresh air.

This newsletter contains information about changes to our systems for sending home reading books, FoTIS Christmas news, Bag2School and local charity events that we are supporting in the coming weeks.

## **Positive test COVID test at weekends**

We are still riding a wave of good fortune at TIS with no positive tests from children or staff to date but if your child is unfortunate enough to have a positive test over a weekend please email the office. We do keep a close eye on emails over the weekend so that we can take action if necessary.

## **Reading books**

From this week we are going to ask you to hand in book bags on a **Monday**. **Please ensure all books are in your child's book bag on a Monday as we will be unable to accept them on any other day.**

School will keep book bags in quarantine for 48 hours and they will be sent home at the end of school on Wednesday. There will be two books in your child's book bag to read together at home. We will keep a record of the books we have read in school and the books we are sending home but we will not be writing in the children's reading records. We know that you sometimes use these to communicate with us but if you need to get a message to your child's teacher you can do this via an email to the school office. We will only check the yellow book to see if the reading books have been read.

We have also bought another 12 month online subscription to Collins Big Cat reading books. They have recently added further materials to their online library for you to experience at home.

To access the Collins Big Cat reading materials:

1. Log on via this link - <https://connect.collins.co.uk/school/defaultlogin.aspx>
2. When it prompts 'Find your school', type in **Turnfurlong Infant School** and then click on submit.
3. Date of birth = 1, January  
First letter of surname = A  
Year group = 1  
Then login.

**This is a generic log in for ALL pupils' access to Collins Big Cat. Reception and Year 2 children will still need to enter Year 1 as the credentials for signing in.**

4. Select Collins Big Cat.

5. Check the colour band on your child's home reading book. The sticker on the bottom is the TIS colour band. The new reading scheme books have the Collins Big Cat colour on the top of the spine. This should give you an accurate level for your child to access. If you are unsure, please check with your class teacher. Please read a range of fiction and non-fiction titles in the colour band.

<b>TIS colour band</b>	<b>Big Cat Collins colour band – in correct order</b>
Silver	Lilac
Red	Pink A beg/Pink B end
Red/Yellow	Red A beg/ Red B end
Yellow	Yellow
Yellow/Blue	Blue
Blue	Blue
Green	Green
Green/Purple	Green
Purple	Orange
Orange	Turquoise
Pink	Purple
Dark Blue	Gold
Dark Green	White

### **Reception phonics**

We will send home phonics on a Wednesday with your child's reading books and library book.

### **Year 1 and 2 spellings**

We will continue to stick the spellings into children's books to go home on Wednesday with their reading books and library book. They will also be uploaded onto the Microsoft learning platform.

### **Home/School learning activities (Y1/2 orange book)**

These will change from a Friday to a Wednesday so you have all the homework for over the weekend.

### **Extra layers**

Even though the weather is getting colder we will need to keep the windows open at school so as we start to get into winter it's all about wearing layers to school. We are still wearing school uniform, but I want the children to be as comfortable as they can be. I am quite happy for 'non-uniform' fleeces to be worn at school as an extra layer on top of school sweatshirts as long as they are named.

### **Friday 13<sup>th</sup> November – Collecting for the Aylesbury Foodbank on World Kindness day**

On World Kindness day, can you donate an item of non-perishable food for the Aylesbury foodbank? We will have boxes in the playground in the morning at dropping off time for donations which will be very gratefully received.

### **Friday 27<sup>th</sup> November – Wear a ‘rainbow’ in aid of Florence Nightingale Hospice**

Wear your brightest, rainbow mufti to school on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> November. Nightingale's Rainbow Appeal is raising money for Buckinghamshire Healthcare NHS Trust Charitable Fund and Florence Nightingale Hospice Charity. Please donate £1 on Rainbow Mufti Day to help provide the care and support needed by patients and their families across Buckinghamshire in these difficult times.

### **FoTIS Bag2School**

Children will be bringing home a ‘Bag2School’ bag this week. This is a brilliant opportunity to get rid of any linen and clothes that you would usually recycle and raise money for school. Please bring your filled bag back to school on **Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> November before 9.00 am** and leave it in the foyer of the hall. You can also bring your donation bags to school at pick up the day before: **17<sup>th</sup> November from 3pm–3.30pm**. I’ve been looking forward to this fundraiser!

### **Can you help FoTIS create a Winter Wonderland at school?**

Unfortunately, FoTIS won’t be able to hold their usual Christmas Fayre this year but they are still keen to do as much as possible to get everyone in a festive mood. They’d love it if your child could help us to decorate the courtyard and turn it into our own magical Winter Wonderland. To help create our own little bit of the North Pole they’d like it if the children could create the following:

Reception and Nursery: Paper snowflakes

Year 1: A4 pictures of snowmen

Year 2: A4 pictures of Arctic animals

FoTIS like pens, glitter, paint and stickers and they are sure you have lots more ideas! No bigger than A4 please so we have enough room for everyone! FoTIS will pick the most imaginative three creations to be rewarded rosettes.

**Please return your creations to school by Friday 27<sup>th</sup> November and make sure they are labelled with your child's name and class.**

### **Admission and Transfer**

*Reception admissions:* Children born between 1 September 2016 and 31 August 2017 will be starting school in September 2021. All Nursery parents who have a child between these dates of birth have to apply for a school place for their child.

*Transfer to Junior School:* ‘Moving up to Junior School’ leaflets have been sent home with each Year 2 pupil, together with an individual letter which contains a Unique Identifier Number for use when making your application. All Year 2 parents have to apply for a junior school place for their child.

Parents should apply online on the Buckinghamshire Council website.

The closing date for all applications is **15<sup>th</sup> January 2021**.

<b>Dates for the Diary</b>	
<b>December</b>	
Thursday 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Flu vaccinations. Further details to follow.
Monday 14 <sup>th</sup>	Christmas party day
Friday 18 <sup>th</sup>	Break up for Christmas holiday

<b>TERM DATES: 2020-2021</b>		
	<b>Open on morning of</b>	<b>Close at end of afternoon of</b>
<b>Autumn Term</b>		
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> half</b>	Monday 2 November 2020	Friday 18 December 2020
<b>Spring Term</b>	Tuesday 5 January 2021	Friday 12 February 2021
	Monday 22 February 2021	Thursday 1 April 2021
<b>Summer Term</b>	Tuesday 20 April 2021	Friday 28 May 2021
	Tuesday 8 June 2021	Wednesday 21 July 2021
<b>Staff Training Days</b>	<i>Monday 4 January 2021</i> <i>Monday 19 April 2021</i> <i>Monday 7 June 2021</i>	