

18<sup>th</sup> September, 2020

Dear Parents & Carers,

Life at Cold Harbour is settling down with all the new routines in place. It was lovely welcoming our Foundation children into school this week and we are looking forward to having them in full time next week.

### **Family events**

What is strange about school at the moment, is that we cannot invite parents in for all the lovely events that usually take place in school. We therefore need to find creative ways to ensure we build and maintain relationships between home and school so I was wondering if anyone had any ideas to support the following events and help our community:

#### Macmillan Coffee Morning

Many of us have been affected by cancer in one way or another. Although we cannot get together for a usual coffee morning, we would like to raise some money to help this important charity so wondered if you had any ideas for how we could support Macmillan.

#### Harvest

It is a tradition at the school to celebrate Harvest by visiting the church. Unfortunately, due to restrictions this year, we are unable to hold this event as we used to. However, we would still love to mark this occasion and contribute to St Mary's Food Cupboard to help those families in need. We would love to hear some suggestions as to how you think this could be achieved.

Please email the school with your thoughts - we'd be happy to hear from you.

### **Attendance**

I am so pleased with how your children are attending school. With so much school time lost over the previous months, it is vital that your child comes to school every day to give them the best opportunity to catch up with their learning. Thank you so much for your support in ensuring your child reaches their full potential.

### **Symptoms of Covid-19**

If your child or a family member within the household has symptoms of Covid-19, everyone in the household needs to isolate until a negative result has been received. We appreciate there is difficulty in obtaining tests at the moment and therefore the process is slower, however, Government guidance still has to be followed. Please find the following link from the NHS which gives further guidance regarding symptoms and the processes to follow.

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/symptoms/>

### **Parking**

Please may I kindly ask that you do not park on any double yellow lines on Highland Close as it is causing some concerns for our residents, thank you.

### **Photographer**

We usually welcome the photographer into school in the Autumn Term to take individual photos. Please note that this has been postponed and will now take place in January.

### Parent Consultations

Unfortunately, this term we will not be able to hold face-to-face parent consultation evenings. We will instead be inviting you to attend video conferencing either through Zoom or Google. If you do not have access to the technology to enable this to happen, then we will arrange a telephone consultation with your child's class teacher.

### Playground Equipment

We have seen that some children are playing on the playground equipment after school. Please note, that due to coronavirus restrictions, that the children are not allowed to be on the play equipment at school. We kindly ask that you leave the school as soon as you have picked your child up. Thank you for your support in this matter.

### Moving to Secondary School - Year 6 September 2021

If your child is in Year 6, it is time to apply for a secondary school place (children born between 1st September 2009 and 31st August 2010). Applications can be made via the MK Council website where further information can also be found. Please follow the link: [www.milton-keynes.gov.uk/schooladmissions](http://www.milton-keynes.gov.uk/schooladmissions)

The Portal is now active and will close on **31st October 2020**. All applications must be made before the closing date to receive a school place offer on 1 March 2021 (National offer day). Following that date, choice will be limited.

### School Census - 1st October 2020

The School Census occurs three times a year in October, January and May and the school receives funding for Universal Infant Free School Meals based upon the number of children ordering school lunches on Census day. As I am sure you are aware, our income has dropped this year, so we need to ensure we receive as much funding as possible. We would therefore be grateful if Foundation, Year One and Year Two parents, who are automatically entitled to Universal Free School Meals, order a meal on the census day which falls on 1st October 2020 (order on Parent Pay by 22nd September 2020).

Many thanks.

### Relationships and Behaviour

In school, we want all our children to feel safe, happy and part of a community where we value each other. We expect good behaviour and for each individual, whether child or adult, to be respectful of one another through fostering meaningful relationships. We have been reinforcing this again at the beginning of our new term focusing on three key values that we would like to develop in our children - being Ready, Respectful and Safe.



**Ready:** Ready for learning, ready to listen, ready to go to lunch etc.

**Respectful:** Showing respect to their peers, to adults, to their environment, to themselves.

**Safe:** Safe in their learning environment, safe with the people around them and safe in the activities in which they are taking part.

### Dates for the Term

By now, you would normally have received a list of dates for the coming term. However, with these restrictions, there is not so much happening in or outside of school. If anything changes, we will of course update you in a timely manner.

Have a lovely weekend

*Claire*

Miss Claire Britnell  
Executive Headteacher