




Newsletter 25

25 March 2021

Dear Parents

Well...we made it! I think there have been times when we have all doubted that school would open again, but here we are; three successful weeks of learning, assessment, fun and smiling faces.

Thank you to everyone within our whole school community who has made our return to school safe and successful ~

we are a great bees! 

I hope you are able to switch off over the holiday period and take some time to relax and re-charge. I am hoping to get some DIY and gardening done, but will mainly be biting my tongue in an attempt not to 'nag' about A-level revision!

There are a few 'Covid' reminders below, please take a moment to read and remember the procedures for when school is closed.

WEEKLY ATTENDANCE AWARD

Our target is to be at **96%** attendance throughout the year. This week we have made it!

This week	93.08%
Week beg 15 th March	96.4%
Best week to date	Week beginning 5 th October 2020 ~ 98.63%



ATTENDANCE

Week beginning 22nd March:

CLASS	RED <95%	AMBER 95%	GREEN 96+%
BADGER	89.5%		
FOX			97.5%
HERON	91.7%		
HEDGEHOG	90.8%		
KINGFISHER	86.5%		
ROBIN			96.6%
OWL	94.8%		
RABBIT	90%		
WOODPECKER			96.7%
SQUIRREL	91.3%		

Well done to **Fox** Class.

GOLDEN BOOK






This week the following children shared their learning with me:

Miles	Heron Class	Francesca	Heron Class	Uma	Heron Class
Joseph	Badger Class	Charlotte	Kingfisher Class	Hector	Kingfisher Class
Sophie	Kingfisher Class	Shaan	Hedgehog Class	Isa	Hedgehog Class
Aryanna	Robin Class	Iyla	Robin Class	Adam	Robin Class

LEARNING POWER CREATURE TROPHY

At the end of every half term, the class teachers nominate a pupil in their class who they believe have shown great skill in one of the four areas. We also have nominations for a 'behaviour and manners' trophy for children who consistently follow our Golden Rules. Once all the nominations are in, the names are put into a hat and a winner is drawn. The trophies are then presented to the pupils in our final assembly before a holiday. The trophies remain in school but the children bring home a certificate.

I am delighted to announce that the winners for Spring 2 are:

TROPHY	PUPIL	CLASS
Resilience ~ Tortoise 	Erin	Heron
Reflective ~ Chameleon 	Hafsah	Heron
Resourceful ~ Spider 	Eliza	Badger
Team Player ~ Bee 	Kai	Badger
Behaviour and Manners 	Archie	Badger

POSITIVE RESULTS OVER THE EASTER HOLIDAYS

School closes for the Easter holiday today.

If your child receives a positive test result from 26th March to 1st April you must still inform school via our online reporting form on the website: [Covid positive reporting form](#)

This is to ensure school are able to contact other members of that school bubble and inform them they must isolate for the approved amount of time.

Even though school is closed for the holidays we will need to inform you of any contact your child may have had with someone who has tested positive for Covid before school ended.

Bellmount Wood Avenue, Watford, Herts, WD17 3PE

Email: admin@cassioburyinfants.herts.sch.uk Telephone: 01923 222782

After 1st April you will need to follow government guidelines and report to test and trace but do not need to report it to the school as your child will not have been in school within the 48 hour time frame that the government recommends for close contact isolation.

All children should return to school on Monday 12th April as long as they do not have Covid symptoms or have not had a positive test result in the last 10 days. Please inform the school in the usual way via the admin email address (admin@cassioburyinfants.herts.sch.uk) if your child will be off school in isolation, due to Covid or other sickness at the start of the summer term.

LEARNING DURING THE HOLIDAYS

There is no learning set for the holiday period; we hope that you can have a relaxing and enjoyable break! If you would like to continue with home learning, please follow the activities on your child's home learning grid for this term or Mathletics. Please also see below about reading.

READING NEWS

Stephen Fry, Lenny Henry, Sandi Toksvig...even Bill Clinton! ...and a host of other celebrities are currently promoting 'Turn on the Subtitles' campaign. Turning on the subtitles while children are watching television can **double the chances of a child becoming good at reading**. It is so brilliantly simple and can help children's literacy so much that we want to shout it from the rooftops! To find out more, follow this link... [Turn On The Subtitles](#)

READING BOOKS

We have collected in reading books this week so that they can be quarantined and rotated over the Easter break. However, please CONTINUE to encourage your child to read at home as just 10 minutes per day can make such a huge difference to their confidence, fluency and reading progress. It doesn't matter what they read...comics, books from home or the library, or.... see below for access to over 100 RWI eBooks.

RWI eBooks

We have just subscribed for a 2 month trial of RWI eBooks as part of the Oxford Owl website. You should already have log in details for this website – if you are unsure check with your child's class teacher. Please use this resource whilst we have access to it - I would be interested to hear your feedback.

HOME CELEBRATIONS

We love celebrating the diversity within our school and the children enjoy talking and sharing information from home about cultural traditions, customs and celebrations they all have. To develop this further we would love to start a collection of photographs of our children and how celebrations are carried out in the home. Please feel free to share any photographs you have at home that show any aspect of celebrations that are special to you, for example during the forthcoming celebrations of Holi or Easter. We will be using the photographs to create a display in school and share in assemblies with the children.

SUMMER TERM DATES

Please see below the proposed dates for the summer term. As there is still so much uncertainty about restrictions and mixing as a whole school we have intentionally kept plans empty. We are constantly reviewing what we are able to offer and will keep you informed if we add any new dates.

SUMMER TERM CLUBS

Just a reminder that if all goes according to plan with the government's roadmap next term we are hoping that a few outdoor only extra-curricular clubs might be able to run.

Details of clubs that are hoping to run and how to sign up can be found on our website: [Clubs](#)

Please remember that clubs are outdoor only and may be cancelled at the last minute due to inclement weather. In such circumstances parents will be informed by the provider and will need to be prepared to collect their children at their normal end of the school day time.

Extra-curricular clubs are more limited than usual and need to be restricted to bubbles in order to maintain Covid-19 safety measures. All extra-curricular clubs will be in line with school policy and government advice.

We are sorry that we are unable to extend this out to Reception children in the summer term. In current circumstances with clubs running in a rather out of the ordinary fashion, we felt that it would not be in children's best interests to introduce them to extra curricular clubs for the first time in such a way. We hope that next year they can start attending clubs when they move up to year 1.

DOWN SYNDROME AWARENESS

In last week's newsletter I told you to keep an eye out for a familiar face in this special edition of Carpool Karaoke. I can now reveal that our special guest was Kush from Badger class... did you spot him? [Carpool Karaoke](#)
What fantastic signing and guaranteed to bring a smile to your face!
For more information on signing, feel free to visit the Makaton Charity Website for resources, training and fundraising ideas: [Makaton](#)

ANTI BULLYING WEEK

This week we have been supporting Anti-Bullying Week. We have been thinking about the difference between unkind, rude and bullying behaviour and reasons that people might behave like this. We have thought about how to respond to these types of behaviour and introduced the 'High Five' to bullying:

1. Ignore
2. Talk kindly
3. Walk away
4. Talk firmly
5. Report

We have reminded everybody that bullying is unacceptable in our school and talked about ways to be kind, caring and a good friend! I would like to say a huge 'thank you' to all of the children in our school who make the choice to be a kind friend every day, I am very proud of you!

MSA VACANCY

We currently have a vacancy for a Midday Supervisory Assistant within the school. This is a vital role within the school and is crucial to support the children over their lunchtimes. If you feel this is something that you would be interested in please follow this link to view the job description and application form: [Teach in Herts \(Support Roles\)](#)
Please note the school follows strict Safer Recruitment procedures.

I wish you all a safe, happy and enjoyable Easter break.

Charlotte Cooper
Headteacher

Hertfordshire County Council has asked us to share this important update with you ahead of the Easter holidays

As we go into the Easter holidays, and some Government guidance changes around socialising outside and outdoor sport, it's so important that we don't let our guard down and increase the risk of Covid-19 outbreaks when schools return.

From Monday 29 March, you can;

- Meet up outside (including in private gardens) with six other people, or as two households
- Take part in formally organised outdoor sports with any number of people (outdoor sports venues and facilities will be able to reopen)
- Childcare and supervised activities will be allowed outdoors for all children

You and your family can continue to keep yourselves and others safe by:

- Washing your hands regularly, for at least 20 seconds with soap and warm water or using an antibacterial hand sanitiser if soap and water isn't available
- Keeping socially distanced, staying at least 2 metres away from those not in your immediate household
- Wearing a face-covering where required and when it is difficult to socially distance
- Self-isolating and getting tested if you develop symptoms or receive a positive lateral flow test (LFT) result
- Not socialising indoors with anyone who isn't in your immediate household. You're not allowed to have sleepovers or playdates, even if your child is in a school bubble
- Not sending children back to school ill or with symptoms of Covid-19 after the Easter break – if your child is sick, please keep them at home

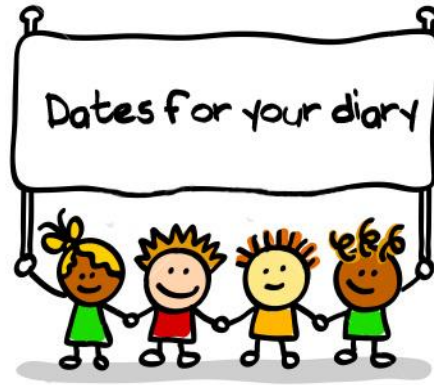
If they receive a positive test at home, everyone in your household must begin self-isolating immediately and you need to book a PCR test to confirm the positive result. Any positive tests received up until 1 April, should be reported to your school so that they can complete the track and trace process with the Public Health team.

Babies and children in early years settings, nurseries, infant and primary schools should not be taking LFT, please don't do home tests on younger children. If you are worried about small children or they develop symptoms, please seek advice from your GP or call 111.

Thank you again for playing your part and helping to keep our schools safe and open for face to face learning.

We wish you all a safe and happy Easter.

Hertfordshire County Council



DATE	EVENT	WHERE?	TIME?
Tuesday 20 th April	Parent Consultations		Remote Link by appointment only
Wednesday 21 st April	Parent Consultations		Remote Link by appointment only
Friday 30 April	Daily Mile Day		In School Activity
Monday 3 rd May	May Bank Holiday		School closed
Tuesday 11 th May	Cultural Day		More details to follow
Thursday 20 th May	Learning Outdoors Day		In School Activity
31 st May – 4 th June	Half term		
Wk Beg 21 st June	Creative Focus Week		More details to follow
Wk beg 28 June	Anti Bullying Week		In School Activity
Wednesday 7 th July	New Parents Meeting		More details to follow
Thursday 8 th July	Transition Morning		In School Activity
Monday 12 th July	Annual reports to Parents		Via Email
Monday 12 th July	Proposed Y2 Performance		TBC
Tuesday 13 th July	Proposed Y2 Performance		TBC
Wednesday 14 th July	Proposed Y2 Performance		TBC
Thursday 15 th July	Transition afternoon		In School Activity
Monday 19 th July	End of Term for Nursery – usual time		
Tuesday 20 th July	End of Term for Reception and KS1 – 1.15pm		



PLEASE NOTE THESE ARE THE DATES FOR THE ACADEMIC YEAR **2020/21**

These dates are the same as the junior school.

SUMMER 2021

Monday 12 April 2021	Summer term starts
Mon 31 May – 4 June 2021	Half term
Monday 19 July 2021	NURSERY Summer term ends ~ usual time
Tuesday 20 July 2021	Summer term ends 1:15pm
Wednesday 21 July 2021	INSET ~ School closed
Thursday 22 July 2021	INSET ~ School closed

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PLEASE NOTE THESE ARE THE DATES FOR THE ACADEMIC YEAR 2021/22
These dates are the same as the junior school.

AUTUMN 2021

Wednesday 1 September	INSET ~ School closed to pupils
Thursday 2 September	INSET ~ School closed to pupils
Friday 3 September	INSET ~ School closed to pupils
Monday 6 September	Autumn term starts
Mon 25 Oct – Fri 29 Oct	Half term
Monday 20 December	NURSERY Autumn term ends ~ usual time
Tuesday 21 December	Autumn term ends 1:15pm

SPRING 2022

Wednesday 5 January	INSET ~ School closed to pupils
Thursday 6 January	Spring term starts
Mon 14 Feb – Fri 18 Feb	Half term
Thursday 31 March	NURSERY Spring term ends ~ usual time
Friday 1 April	Spring term ends 1:15pm

SUMMER 2022

Tuesday 19 April	Summer term starts
Mon 30 May – 3 June	Half term
Friday 1 July	Occasional Day ~ School closed to pupils
Monday 4 July	INSET ~ School closed to pupils
Thursday 21 July	NURSERY Summer term ends ~ usual time
Friday 22 July	Summer term ends 1:15pm