

WEEKLY NEWS

From the Headteacher: 2nd December 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

On Monday we welcomed the return of Reception and our Key Stage 1 (Year 1 and 2) Bubble after their period of isolating. During their week at home, the children were kept busy with online learning via Google Classroom. We are so proud of their positivity and resilience. A special thank you to all our parents and families for helping our children to access Google Classroom and supporting them with their day to day class work.

Rest reassured that the child who tested positive for COVID-19 was not taken seriously ill. We kept in contact with the family. Please also note Paxton are strictly adhering to government guidance and our Risk Assessment is available on the school website.

Our school policy of limiting visitors on site remains in place. We continue to ask parents of Years 3,4,5 and 6 not to enter the playground in the morning unless essential. Please make sure your child has everything they need in their school bag before they enter the school gates. Parents should not access the school site during the day unless for a pre-approved reason or appointment; we ask visitors wear a mask or visor and that no more than two adults enter the reception foyer at a time to ensure social distancing.

As you will be aware, London will be placed into tier 2 after the current period of lock down which ceases on 2 December. The Government is commitment to schools remaining open which means that we will continue as we are up unless otherwise advised. Parents should send their children into school as normal. There is no immediate cause for concern and if you have any questions, please contact your child's teacher or the office.

Christmas Events and Dates

As we said previously, this year will be slightly different with regards our usual Christmas activities. We are, however, committed to making the festive period as enjoyable as possible for all of our pupils and making sure that it remains a special time for them.



Christmas Jumper Day – Friday 11th December

We are asking our parents to bring in donations on 11th December to support the Croydon Food Bank. Example of items to bring in include tinned fruit, pasta sauce, tinned fish, cereals, UHT milk, sweetcorn, rice, and cartons of fruit juice.

Christmas Lunch – Wednesday 16th December

We have scheduled a Christmas lunch for our pupils on Wednesday 16th December. The pupils will all have the opportunity to eat their Christmas lunch in the school hall and will remain in their bubbles.

Festive Friday - 18th December

A morning Christmas themed activities and games. Pupils will not, however, be allowed to bring party food into school.

Christmas Cards

This year we are asking parents NOT to send their children in to school with Christmas cards to distribute to their friends to minimise any risks from COVID-19. If parents wish, instead, they can make a donation to a charity of their choice.

New Parent Governor

Thank you to all the parents who have expressed an interest in becoming a parent Governor. Next week, we will be sending out application forms for parents to complete their parent Governor application. and will look forward to reading these and welcoming the successful parents to the Governing Body.

Celebrating Diversity : Traditional Dress Day

Last Thursday Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 celebrated our diversity with a cultural dress up day allowing us to recognise our similarities as well as our differences. Focusing on how diversity helps facilitate creativity, collaboration and personal development; as well as economic growth and better decision-making! Thank you to all those children and teachers who took part...you looked truly spectacular!



Parents Evening

At Paxton, we love to celebrate the children's achievement and share their success. Next week on **Monday 7th** between 3:30pm and 5pm and on **Thursday 10th**, between 4pm and 6pm teachers will be calling home to talk with parents about their children's progress to date. Meetings will last up to 10 minutes and will provide the chance to discuss strengths and areas to develop. To book your preferred day please reply to the text message sent out today

Dietary School Dinner Forms

Just over two weeks ago, we sent out dietary school dinner request forms from Pabulum, our catering supplier, requesting that all parents with children who have allergies or special dietary needs to complete. If you have not completed your form, please could you do so as a matter of urgency.

Dates for your Diaries

- **Friday 4th December:** Traditional Dress day for Years R,1,2, -**NOTE Change of Date for KS1**
- **Monday 7th and Thursday 10th December** - Telephone Appointment Parents Evening
- **Friday 11th December:** Christmas Jumper
- **Wednesday 16th December:** Christmas Lunch
- **Friday 18th December:** Festive Friday – **school finishes @ 2p.m**
- **Monday 21st December to Friday 1st January :** Christmas Holiday
- **Monday 4th January:** Inset Day
- **Tuesday 5th January:** Children return

Attendance

Last week our rate of attendance for the school was 90.7% vs our target of 97.0%. It is vital for all

children to return to school to minimise, the longer-term impact of the pandemic on children's education, wellbeing and wider development.

Class	Attendance
Reception	Isolating
Year 1	Isolating
Year 2	Isolating
Year 3/4	99.3%
Year 3/4	89.2%
Year 4	86.4%
Year 5	87.0%
Year 6	90.3%
Totals	90.7%

Given the growing evidence base, the balance of risk is now overwhelmingly in favour of children returning to school.

For the vast majority of children, the benefits of being back in school far outweigh the very low risk from coronavirus (COVID-19).

