



Parent Link

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Issue 8
17th January
2020

Dear Parents and Carers,
Happy New Year and Happy New Decade! As ever it has been great to see all our children and young people back in school after the holidays, and it has been very impressive just how quickly school life has resumed its stable routine.

A quick note about snow – although there is nothing close to definite in the current forecast, it's always good to have a reminder at this time of year about protocols should the white stuff begin to fall. Should we need to close as a school (a decision I make jointly with the chair of governors), my first port of call will be to update the Bucks School closures site, which in turn alerts transport and also local radios. A Google search finds this page easily enough, but it's here too:

<https://closures.buckscc.gov.uk/>

Please note I do try to update Facebook pages, but this is always secondary to this official site, and it is sometimes the case that I don't get to Facebook until some time after the initial decision is made.

On Monday through to Wednesday of next week we welcome in Challenge Partners – this is a network of schools who work together to review one another. It is different from an OFSTED inspection, working from a bit of a different framework, but it will focus on how the school is run and what goes on in the classrooms. This gives us a helpful insight through the eyes of other practitioners (all with special school backgrounds) into our teaching practices, and the way we run the school. I'll update you with the outcome of the visit in the next newsletter.

Bradley Taylor (Headteacher)

Spring Term 2020 dates

Tuesday 7th January – Friday 14th February
Monday 24th February – Friday 3rd April

Other dates for Parents:

Community café starts – every 1st
Wednesday of the month

Tuesday 21st January – 9.30 – 11.00am

Epilepsy workshop – Downley site

Wednesday 5th February – 2.15 - 2.45pm

Rainbow and Little Wings Stay and Play

Thursday 6th February – Parents Forum –
9.30am at Cressex site and 11.00am at

Downley

Wednesday 12th February – 10am – 12pm

Toileting workshop – Cressex site

Thursday 13th February – 4 – 7pm Parents'
evening

Parents Forum

Come and join your forum and share your ideas, concerns, and suggestions

Held at the Cressex site

For all parents on **both sites**

Thursday 6th February 2020

At 9:15am for coffee

for 9:30am start

News from around the school

Rainbow

Welcome back following the Christmas holidays! It has been great to see the children settle back into the routines of school and see so many lovely photos and wow moments from their holidays! If you have not had a chance to share these yet, please do so as they provide a valuable part of the children's learning journals. We are looking forward to welcoming you into class for our forthcoming Stay and Play on Wednesday 5th February. We hope you are able to join us for the event. Have a lovely weekend, Hannah

Little Wings

A very Happy New Year to you and welcome back to Little Wings! It is lovely to see the children back to school after the holidays, and great to see that they have settled so well. Swimming and Forest School schedules may have changed for some classes so please make sure the children are bringing in the correct clothing. Waterproof trousers, coats and wellies are particularly handy for forest school in the current weather! On Wednesday 5th February we will be welcoming parents in for another Stay and Play. At 2pm a class from our secondary department will be hosting a community Café in the school dining room, and from 2.15-2.45pm you will be welcomed into the classroom. The playground will be available to park in from 1.55pm, but please be aware if you do park here, you will need to leave promptly **by 2.45pm** in order for the taxis to come in. We look forward to seeing you! Claire

Treetops

Hello, I hope you all had a good Christmas and Happy New Year to you all! There have been a few changes to Treetops with some students moving classrooms and classes. We have also had Sarah and Yerai join the department. Owl and Hawk class have coped well with these changes. Kestrel Class started Travel Training this week where they have been getting the public bus into town and Eagle class have been working hard continuing to make their own lunches and budgeting with the amount of money they can spend. Thank you also to those parents who attended the Community Cafe, this runs every first Wednesday of the month. There are lots of other events happening this term which you will be updated about soon. Have a good weekend. David

Coppice

We hope you have had a lovely Christmas break and are ready for a fun packed Spring term. This term we are lucky enough for Chef Michael to be working with Coppice classes. For the first half of the term he will be working with Falcon class and Deer class. Next half term he will be working with Squirrel class and Red kite class. We hope you enjoy trying the yummy food the children make with him at home. Salma

Woodlands

Happy 2020! Our department topic for the term is 'Faces'. You should have already received a class newsletter telling you a little bit about some of the things your child's teacher and team have planned for this term. Meetings between teachers and the therapists will be taking place over the next few weeks to discuss progress and next steps for each of the pupils. The targets written on your child's PPP (Pupil Provision and Progress) document will be the focus of these meetings. Amanda

Gemstones

Great to see the children coming into school after their Christmas break. Excitement is beginning to bubble for the Ancient Egyptian topic... walls are filling up with pyramids and pharaohs. Please be aware of class timetable changes for swimming, horse riding and Forest school. Look forward to seeing you all as the term progresses. Sarah

Support Staff

A New Year and we are all ready to meet the challenges ahead supporting the Teaching teams and each other. Charlie (Cressex) & Victoria (Downley) are attending their first aid training. Charlie has also attended a census workshop ready for the school census during the week (16th January). This census determines our funding for the Pupil Premium Grant and Universal Free School Meals Grant for next financial year 2020/21. Susana has attended a SIMS General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) seminar delivered by the Buckinghamshire CC on what is good practice for keeping personal information in school. The lunchtime team have been supporting classes when extra hands have been needed whilst Vicki G & Rhonda are working hard at filling our current vacancies. Michelle B has attended a Playground Safety course and Andrew has attended the Fire Warden training along with Charlie & Victoria C. And we've only been back a week ...! Vicky

A note from your Parent Ambassador

We have already had the first very useful Epilepsy Workshop at the Cressex site. For those who missed it or have children at the Downley site and would like to ask questions and find out more information from our school nurses there is another coming up:

Epilepsy Workshop, 21 January, Downley 9.30-11am.

Parent Forum, 6 February, Cressex 9.30-10.30am
Toileting Workshop, 12 February, Cressex 10am-12pm

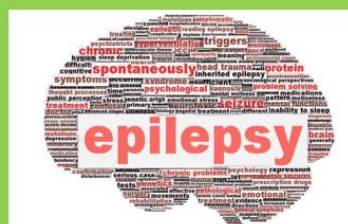
Epilepsy information session

For parents

Tuesday 21st January 2020 Downley site

9:30am – 11am

All parents welcome



Run by our School nurses

Q & A session

Information on medication

Discover things to do at home to support your child.

Wednesday 12th February

10-12pm

Toileting workshop

Come and find out some tips and share your experiences/ideas with other parents

Run by Community nursing team

for children with a Learning Disability

Chiltern Wood School
Cressex site
Verney Avenue
High Wycombe
HP12 3NE