



# Parent Link

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Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back after half term – despite the horrible weather I hope you managed to enjoy the week.

Another week, more changes as far as the national and local picture is concerned with regard to Coronavirus. The DfE issued guidance for schools on Wednesday afternoon. I will separately draw out the significant messages from that guidance, although in summary it will not significantly change our practice. The key messages around hygiene practices remain the cornerstone of effective measures against the spread of the virus. Whilst you will have noted from my parentmail messages there have been further cases within the school community, we have had (to date, at least) no cases where it has spread within the school. I appreciate these are troubling times, but we continue to remain committed to ensuring your children receive an excellent education, and do everything we can to do this in a safe and responsible way. We continue to thank parents for playing their part, and adhering to the guidelines set by the government in order that we do all we can to control the rate of infection.

Just before half term I worked with the governors to approve our School Development Plan for this year. There are 10 objectives in total, but I'd like to share these 3 with you in the first instance:

- Develop an outstanding curriculum encompassing communication, reading, writing and ICT
- Develop technology within the school to enable access for all
- Ensure there is a robust remote learning package in place to support all learners across the school

You'll note there is a connection between these targets, and that the current situation with the pandemic factors into our considerations. I hope to be able to expand further on these and other targets over the year.

On a final note, I wanted to commend two of our non teaching staff on milestones in their career within Buckinghamshire. Firstly Greg Ray from the Downley site has reached the 10 year mark within Bucks, and Andrew Evans from the Cressex site team has logged an impressive 30 years. Both members of staff are hugely valued by all staff across the school for the important job they do in keeping the sites running. Our grateful thanks to them both.

Bradley Taylor (Headteacher)

## **Autumn Term 2020 dates**

Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> September – Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2020  
Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> November – Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December 2020

### **Other dates for Parents:**

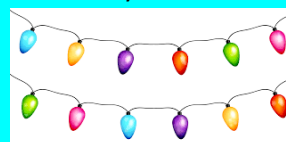
W/C 7<sup>th</sup> December – Parent Forum – Cressex –  
*details to follow*

## **A request from Rainbow Department**

If anyone has any scooters, balls or other outside toys they no longer want, please can these be donated to Rainbow Department.



Also, fairy lights, any sensory light items, and plastic storage boxes for the Rainbow Sensory room would be greatly appreciated. Thank you!



## **Congratulations Hazel!**



Congratulations to Hazel Smith from Meadow Class for being one of the winners of the Best Practice Award of 2020.

A quote from The Story Massage Programme:  
"We absolutely love your work. Thank you for using the Story Massage Programme to make such a difference to the lives of others".

## News from around the school

### Rainbow

Welcome back! It has been so good to welcome the children back to school. It has been great to see them settling back into the routines of school. There have been some wonderful activities and sessions linked to Bonfire night and Diwali. Within the department we are currently looking at ways to develop our sensory room and we are looking forward to sharing this with the children. Have a lovely weekend, Hannah

### Little Wings

The themes for this half term are 'Celebrations around the World' and 'Connecting with One Another'. We'll be learning about and celebrating Halloween, Firework Night, Diwali and Christmas with a variety of stories, crafts and cooking. Bumblebee class have certainly been getting into the Halloween spirit (see photo). It is always great to hear what traditions happen in your family household so we can celebrate them in school too. Perhaps you eat a certain meal during firework night or always go for a Christmas walk? Let us know! Claire

### Treetops

Hope you had a good half term. It has been great welcoming the students back and they have come back very happy despite these very unusual times. The classes have continued to work on life skills with all the classes doing cooking sessions making pasta dishes, sandwiches, fruit salad, quiche and many other things. Hopefully some of them will be able to help at home making some dinners. Hope you have a good weekend and look forward to seeing the students back on Monday. David

### Woodlands

Happy 18th Birthday to Hollie! Hollie had a celebration with her friends in Orchard Class which involved disco lights and music, lots of sparkles and fancy drinks. What a fun-loving and friendly young lady you are, Hollie! Many Happy Returns from everyone at Chiltern Wood.

Congratulations to Hazel who has won a Best Practice Story Massage Award! Hazel attended some online Story Massage training over the summer and shared how Story Massage has been used to support the pupils in Meadow Class. Amanda

### Gemstones

Great to see everyone back after half term. We have got straight back into learning and Guy Fawkes and the Gunpowder Plot has been a focus for all classes. All the classes are making a guy and they will be special VIP guests at our playground assembly on Friday. Please see the photo of the Guys in Topaz! The weather is changing and some of playtimes are becoming colder, please ensure your child has named gloves and a hat to wear. Sarah

### Support Staff

I would like to say a big thank you to Susana, at the Cressex site admin office, for the sterling work she has undertaken with setting up and co-ordinating the change in the way we order lunches. The change has reduced work for classroom based staff and the office. Parents are delighted that they can now choose the options for their children. Well done a fantastic move forward.

Vicki Green has also been working tirelessly with Rhonda helping to co-ordinate staff cover and keeping us all in check with her knowledge of the COVID 19 guidance. We can all become worried by not knowing the details so it is great that our HR professional is so diligent in her approach.

I would also like to bring to your attention to the fact that Andrew our caretaker has given over 30 years' service to the school, we are lucky to have such a hardworking and reliable caretaker. Thank you Andrew you're a star. Greg has also just reached his 10 year milestone and equally does a fantastic job of looking after us and the pool. Vicky

## Woodland Department Hollie's 18<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebrations



## Gemstone Department – Topaz Class Guys



## Little Wings Department - Bumblebee Class – Spooky Halloween!

