



Parent Link

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Issue 3
15th October
2021



Dear Parents and Carers,

Next Thursday is our parents' evening, and I hope you will have already seen the communication about this and lined up a time to meet with your child's class team. There is a lot going on in school next week and for us as well as you, it may be that Thursday evening is not the ideal time, so if you need an alternative time or date please do liaise with your class team. We are offering face to face meetings as we feel this is the best way to communicate with you about how things are, but we will equally accommodate a Zoom meeting or phone conversation if that is preferred. What I would like to emphasise is the importance of this meeting – first and foremost, we look to review the PPP targets that have been set and check with you progress against them. New targets will be developed alongside the therapy teams after half term, so your input to them at this stage is really helpful. Alongside this you will of course want to hear about how the start of the year has gone, talk about any change in circumstances over the summer break, and generally get to know the new team if your child is in a new class. If your child is new to the school, we'll be looking to set up the PPP, and our discussions will focus on these first 6-7 weeks of schooling. Please note our therapy team is very happy to meet with you too – there is a drop in facility on the day or you can request a separate phone conversation if you wish.

I was very pleased to work with SENDIAS last week in presenting to new parents information about the annual review process, and as part of that some support and guidance about the content of EHCPs. The feedback we got from the training was extremely good, but we were disappointed we only attracted two sets of parents to the event. We'd really appreciate your feedback around how we can make these events accessible and attractive to you. I am aware there are some parents who will find during the school day difficult, and we are working on a recording of the training to share with everyone. We recognise the EHCP as a fundamentally important and legal document that supports the outcomes and provision for your child, and will be working further over this term and this year on supporting accuracy and clarity within these documents.

Some of our older students attended the 'Shout Out for SEND' conference this week, and represented us as a school excellently. They were able to give their opinions and share their feelings on a range of topics relevant to them, and the wider SEND community. One of the speakers at the conference is a mother of one of our former students who is now over 20 years old – we hope to welcome her in to talk to some of our parents to share her experiences of the SEND world post 19.

We held an informal meeting last week to discuss the possibility of holding a Christmas Fair this year – I am excited to say we are very enthusiastic about making this a reality. Keep an eye on parentmail for an invitation to a meeting to support what I hope will be a great community event.

Finally I wanted to recognise an excellent achievement within our staff team – Sara Andreopoulos worked hard last year on studying for her SENDCO qualification, and she has now successfully passed. Having the mainstream perspective of SEND helps us as a special school both provide support where needed, and to maintain a wider view of the broader SEND community. Best wishes for the weekend, and the half term at the end of next week, Bradley

Calendar dates

Thursday 21st October – Parents Evening
Monday 25th – 29th October – HALF TERM

Morrisons "Good To Grow" Campaign is ending soon on Sunday 24th October. Customers can collect tokens when they shop, for every £10 they spend they will get 1 token.

Customers can then donate these to their school of choice.

Schools can then spend these on Free Gardening Equipment.

Tokens can be collected between Monday 6th September and Sunday 24th October. Customers have until Sunday 21st November to donate tokens.

Our school is registered for Morrisons Grow vouchers so we ask parents and staff to collect for CWS.

Please download the My Morrisons app to collect Grow Tokens.

Thank you for your donations!



if a child has a medical appointment during school time, please can you provide evidence for our records. Parents can also show messages from NHS portal as we are aware that everything tends to be electronic.

News from around the school

Rainbow

We have had another busy couple of weeks in Rainbow, as we near the end of this half term's topic it has been lovely to reflect on the different activities that have been planned for the children to bring the nursery rhyme theme to life. This has included balloon spider painting, splatting eggs, water play including crocodiles, spiders and boats as well as some creative fun with food activities built into the different sensory stories. We have been developing our RSE focused planning and for a number of the classes this half term has been linked to building in independence particularly associated with personal hygiene - it has been lovely to hear the progress in this area. We hope to see you next week at parents evening, have a lovely weekend, Hannah

Woodland

We are looking forward to talking to you at the parent and teacher meetings that will be taking place next week. Please return your child's home learning resource bag to school as soon as possible as these resources are needed to support learning in the classrooms. Amanda

Coppice

Firstly, I would like to extend a warm welcome back to Claire Francis following her maternity leave, she has now joined Squirrel Class as a teaching assistant.

As the weather becomes colder, please ensure that children are wrapped up warm and all clothing is labelled please.

Please be aware parents evening booking times are now available. This is a great time to get to meet your class teacher and to celebrate how well the children are already doing in class. If you are unavailable on Thursday 21st of October for parents evening please contact your class teacher and who will try and support an alternative time.

Salma

Gemstones

We are looking forward to meeting you all during next week's parent and teacher meetings.

It will be so great to see you all face to face! If you would prefer a telephone conversation, please let the class teacher know and we can make arrangements.

We are currently planning a Monster event for Gemstones next Friday afternoon, so please look out for details.

This is the last newsletter before the half term. So I wish you all a restful holiday. Sarah

Little Wings

Just a quick reminder that it is parents evening next week. Please make appointments via parent mail or directly with your class teacher. It will be fantastic to celebrate the progress that has already been made! Hannah

Treetops

In Treetops students continue to be working hard. Owl class have been enjoying their sensory stories and finding the correct symbols during the text. Kestrel class have been working on their number skills and enjoying their forest school walks. Eagle class have been using clicker 7 to help develop their communication skills. Hawk class have been developing their maths skills whilst using food! Have a good weekend and hopefully see many of you at parents Evening next week. David

Health and Therapies

We are already almost half way through the term! Therapy is well under-way and going well. It continues to be lovely to see the children engaging in their therapy work and making progress. We hope you all have a lovely half term break!

From the Health and Therapies Team.

FURTHER DETAILS TO FOLLOW ON PARENTMAIL

Week commencing	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
1st Nov		First Aid 9.30am - noon Venue: Cressex run by Bucks Adult Learning	Recharge Wintry Walk 9.30-11am Venue: tbc run by Parent Ambassador	Parent Volunteers 9.30-10.30am at Cressex site run by Parent Ambassador	
8th Nov			Sensory Workshop 9.30-11am Venue: tbc run by Geri Pinnock, OT	Parent Volunteers 9.30-10.30am at Cressex site run by Parent Ambassador	
15th Nov		Annual Review Workshop for parents at primary to secondary transition stage 10-11am on Zoom Run by SENDIASS team		Parent Volunteers 9.30-10.30am at Cressex site run by Parent Ambassador	
22nd Nov			Managing Behaviour Workshop 9.30-11am Venue: tbc Run by Community Learning Disability Nurses	Parent Forum 9.30-10.30am at Downley site for parents from both sites run by Parent Ambassador	
29th Nov		Annual Review Workshop for parents of children at post-16 transition stage 10-11am on Zoom Run by SENDIASS team		Parent Volunteers 9.30-10.30am at Cressex site run by Parent Ambassador	
6th Dec		Christmas Coffee Morning with mini how to cope with Christmas Session 9.30-10.30am Venue: tbc run by Parent Ambassador		Parent Volunteers 9.30-10.30am at Cressex site run by Parent Ambassador	
13th Dec				Parent Volunteers Christmas Lunch 12-2pm Venue- tbc run by Parent Ambassador	

Would you know what to do in an emergency ?

Register now for a FREE first-aid training session run by Bucks Adult Learning.



On Tuesday 2nd November from 9.30-noon
At Cressex School Hall

To book a space, please e-mail
lwebber@chilternwood.bucks.sch.uk



Please note spaces
are limited.



Become a Parent Volunteer

Support your child's education through supporting the school, whilst meeting other parents and having fun!

We meet on Thursday mornings from
9-10.30am at Cressex site

For more information or to join our team,
contact Liz Webber, our Parent Ambassador by
phone: 01494 532621 (Cressex site)
or e-mail: lwebber@chilternwood.bucks.sch.uk

