

20th November 2020

November Newsletter

Dear Parents and Friends of Castle Hill,

As always, we are looking to keep our pupils, families and community as safe as possible with our rapid response and precautions against coronavirus. Thank you to the parents who regularly wear face masks when dropping off and collecting children. We do our best to minimise 'pinch points', however, there can be times when social-distancing is very difficult. To minimise the risk of the infection spreading we would like to restate our advice to wear a mask. Ultimately it is your choice but if we do work as one, we normally see the benefits for the whole community.

We have also been receiving numerous calls to the school office regarding the procedures for self-isolation. Please read the guidance below to help clarify some of the queries. Most importantly, **please do not send a child into school if they are showing any Covid-19 symptoms or have been in close contact with someone with symptoms. The most common symptoms are a new continuous cough, a high temperature or a loss of taste or smell.**

If your child or a member of the household/bubble develops Covid-19 symptoms everyone needs to isolate at home and arrange a test immediately for the person with symptoms. Please inform the school as soon as possible by emailing admin@chjs.net, with the subject line "Covid Symptoms Alert". If the test result is negative, everyone in the household bubble can stop isolating as long as you are all well. A positive test result means the person with symptoms has to complete a 10-day isolation and the rest of the household/bubble for 14 days.

If your child or a member of the household/bubble has been contacted by Test & Trace the only person required to self-isolate at home is the person who has received the communication. This person will need to self-isolate for 14 days. Only get a Covid-19 test if you become symptomatic.

Arranging a COVID-19 Test: <https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test>

On a separate note you may already know we've been busy increasing staffing at CHPS to help all children thrive in a clean and caring environment. Our new PTPs and Cleaning team have settled in well and we are delighted they have joined us. Sadly, with new arrivals we have one departure. Mr Calpin our Lead Sports Coach is moving to pastures new in December. He has given us 10 years of dedication and commitment to our pupils' sporting skills and development. We wish him all the very best in his new venture.

Our teachers would like me to pass on their thanks for your patience and understanding regarding the recent parents evening zoom calls. We know these changes are often difficult, so we thank you for making it as seamless as possible.

We are also hoping our new virtual parent's induction evenings with live Q&A will be just as successful. We have recently filmed a new school video across both campuses to coincide with the virtual parents' inductions. We cannot wait to show the end production which will be coming soon on the school website!

New world = new ways = should be interesting!

Additional reminders:

- Please continue to support our wonderful Fundraising Friends. The Greenbank team have organised an amazing Christmas raffle, last day for purchasing tickets is 8th December and will be drawn on 10th December
- The contributions to Belinda's Bench have been overwhelming, thank you. We will update you more in the next Newsletter
- For health and safety reasons we do not allow children to wear any jewellery. Earrings must **NOT** be worn at any time in school
- The classroom windows and doors are open daily for ventilation, please make sure your child has warm clothing to compensate for the cold.

We really do appreciate your cooperation during these difficult times.

Keep well



Mr Martin and the CHPS Team