



HLA News

Friday 10th May 2024



Dear Families,

Hooray! The sun has finally arrived. It is lovely to see the children making the most of the weather and engaging outside. With this warm weather can I please remind parents to send students into school with a hat and water bottle? The water bottle needs to be plastic please for health and safety reasons. Also please try to ensure sun cream is applied before school. If it is necessary for sun cream to be applied in school staff can support if consent is given but we want to encourage independence. If you do send in sun cream can you please ensure that it is named and doesn't contain any nut or nut products.

This week the kitchen and dining room extension is still going well. There has been much more activity on site this week as they lay the foundations for the new building. With regards to the main extension there have been some drainage surveys taking place. We have also had some meetings with the architect to look at the specifications required for each room. We are hoping to have a life skills area that we will open up to use as a café for some great work experience opportunities in the future. Exciting times!

I need to make you aware of some recent guidance and reforms communicated from the Education Transport service. For Cambridgeshire students The Passenger Transport Service are reviewing their home to school routes in preparation for September 2024. They have written to those parents/carers whose child's home to school routes are coming to an end at this academic year, to notify them that their child's home to school transport will be changing in September 2024. Parents/carers should have received this letter over the Easter holidays. Also families who receive a Personal Transport Budget are provided with an agreement to sign. This is a legally binding contract between the parent/carer of the eligible student and the Local Authority. Within the agreement, they outline our expectations around attendance and changes to personal circumstances. The Local Authority will regularly monitor attendance by contacting schools. If attendance drops to a level which is considered to be unacceptable by the Local Authority, payments may be reduced or, in extreme cases, stopped, in line with persistent absence. We have been notified that the same conditions with personal budgets also apply to Norfolk students. If you have any enquiries please make contact with Education Transport.

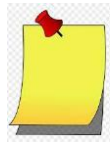
Next week is Mental Health Awareness Week. This is run by the Mental Health Foundation. The theme this year is 'Movement: moving more for our mental health'. Classes will be taking part in a variety of movement activities and talking about the mental health benefits too. On the movement theme, this week some of our students went to RAF Mildenhall for the Joan Mann Special Sports Day. They had a fantastic time participating in a variety of different accessible sports. We even came back with a few medals so well done to all.

As part of our growing team here at school to enhance provision and capacity we are restructuring our leadership team as from September 2024. Working with myself as Headteacher we will then have two Assistant Headteachers to broaden capacity. One will have more of a focus on curriculum responsibilities while the other will take on a pastoral role. Working alongside Lyn as our existing Assistant Headteacher I am pleased to share with you that we appointed Barbara to the post. We are currently advertising for a replacement Department Leader replace her. I am sure you will join me in congratulating Barbara.

With all best wishes,

Yvonne Skillern

Headteacher



Important Information

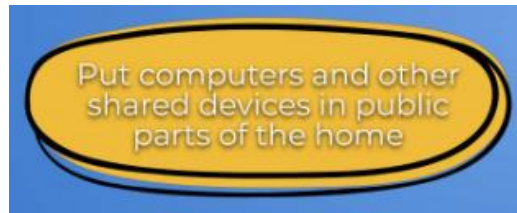


- Please remember to complete and return your parent/carer comments sheets prior to your child's Annual Review meeting. We need to ensure we capture everyone's views.
- Contributions have again been renewed **to pay £7.50 to class funds per child for this term** via Parent Pay. We try not to charge for each individual activity which would be more expensive to parents. If we do not get sufficient contributions we may have to review this arrangement.
- There is a school nursing clinic taking place at school on Monday 17th June. For further information or to book an appointment please email CCS-TR.SNSN@nhs.net or call 01223 218061
- Please remember we are a NUT FREE school due to severe allergies. This includes sun creams and other products.
- Please ensure you **call the office before 9.15am to report your child absent**. If we do not have a call or message we have to make contact with you.

School Attendance

This week's whole school attendance was 93.7%. This is a great increase on last week, thank you for working with us to improve attendance and punctuality. Please remember that any applications for absences during school term time will not be authorised. We reserve the right to fine families who take unauthorised holidays during term time.

Online Safety Tip of the Week:



Emotion of the Week:



This week's emotion is PANIC. Try to talk about how your child might be feeling, what their body feels like when they experience this emotion and what they can do to understand and react to them.

Mental Health Tip of the Week:

Exercise releases endorphins which are chemicals that react with receptors in the brain. They trigger positive feelings so get active and feel good!

