

Newsletter

10th September 2020



Dear Parents and Carers,

It is so lovely to have the children back at school and I am delighted that our Reception children have started so well too and will be full time from tomorrow! The hum of the school, the heart of our school has returned.

Despite a few tweaks, our drop off and dismissals are working well (or as well as we could hope) and we appreciate you coming forward so teachers can safely hand your children directly to you rather than weaving through legs, pushchairs etc. It is also positive to see many of you wearing masks especially with cases increasing locally. This of course is your choice. Children however are not permitted a mask in school. If your child wears a mask for their journey, please remove and take this away with you. We need to help keep each other safe so please continue to social distance and leave after collecting / dropping your children. Equally thank you for supporting us by keeping children who are simply unwell or with symptoms off school. Our processes have been successful because of our collective responsibility for the CPS Community.

This week, our focus has been to settle our children back into the rhythm of the school day and we are proud of how well they have returned to their year group bubbles. The children have been so sensible about our added emphasis on increased handwashing and sanitising; this is so important. At the start of September, the children are always tired as they become familiar with new routines, the demands of learning, socialising and being busy throughout the day. Naturally, this is even more noticeable this term. Please try to offer some 'chill time' over the next couple of weekends. For this reason, we are setting minimal home learning this week, allowing the children's stamina to build.

Recently, we have been made aware of some social media safeguarding concerns; the Blue Whale Challenge and several new pop up inappropriate videos. Please ensure all devices, apps etc are safely locked, supervised etc.

After this week, to avoid completely filling our website with assemblies, we will no longer upload them but they will be available for children in quarantine via Google Classroom. Music assemblies have begun and children have sung quietly, forward facing in their ventilated classrooms. Music lessons with Mrs Knuckey will begin again from next week, mindful of sanitising instruments etc. Again, we are optimistically planning for some clubs to begin after half term, but these may be restricted to particular Year Group Bubbles.

We aim for newsletters to come out each Thursday rather than Fridays this year.

I would like to end today's newsletter by saying 'thank you and well done' to you as parents for sending your children back and supporting us in our safety measures and to the children who have returned so positively and enthusiastically. This I would like to extend to our Governors who have supported me in the preparation for the safe opening of our school and of course the whole staff team who I am sure have just enough energy to get through tomorrow - they have been amazing!

Thank you for your continued support; it really does mean a lot!

Please note the Department of Health and Social care's advice:

'The fastest way to get a test result is to go to a testing site. Individuals will need a pre-booked appointment or they will not be given a test. People can also order home test kits to be sent directly to them. To book an appointment or order a home kit, please visit: <https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test>

These routes remain the primary channels for any individuals displaying coronavirus symptoms to get a test.'

Newsletter



Viking Bread

In Year 5, we have been learning about the features of instructions. We decided to make our own Viking bread (which fits nicely with our topic) and noted down the steps we took in chronological order. Using these steps, we created our own set of instructions of how to make Viking bread.



The Great British September Clean

A massive THANK YOU to the children in Rowan and Sycamore classes who took part in the Great British September Clean during their outdoor learning sessions this week. Following an introductory video clip of a poem by Steve Backshall entitled 'Jemima Glitter and the Voyage of Bob the Bottle'; the children enthusiastically embraced the challenge to tidy up the school grounds. Wearing gloves and armed with orange buckets, a surprisingly large amount of litter was cleared up and put in the bin. The September Clean will continue until 27th September - see www.keepbritaintidy.org for further information.

Food Allergies

CPS has always been a nut free school. This refers to all nut-based products.

Due to severe allergies within the reception bubble, sesame and all legumes are also banned so should not be brought in within a packed lunch or for any other reason. This includes products such as pesto pasta and hummus.

Thank you for your support with this.



Newsletter



Doodle Maths

Emily (Rowan) and Jack (Chestnut) continued with Doodle Maths over the summer holidays and into this term and have both now reached a 100 day streak!



Well done to both of them – keep up the great work!

Celebrating Success



If you would like to share any of your children's out of school achievements with us please let us know via email to gill.kosbab@claygate.surrey.sch.uk. We would love to hear all about them and share them with our lovely school community.

If you would like to include a photo please do.

School Lunches

If your child has school lunches please make sure their lunch balance is in credit for the whole of this half term. School lunches are now £2.40 per day and the amount payable for this half term is £88.80.

Thank you.

School Uniform

Don't forget that school uniform is now ordered and paid for online through your Parentmail account. The school uniform shop will be open on Fridays after school to collect orders made online.

Jammie & Dodger

Our lovely guinea pigs are now back at school and we would like to say a huge thank you to Willow (Oak Class) and her family for looking after them so well for the past 6 months!

If you would like to look after them for a weekend please contact gill.kosbab@claygate.surrey.sch.uk and she will add you to the rota. The rota is full up until the end of January, although both the October half term and the Christmas holidays are still available if you would like to have them for longer than a weekend.

