

# Newsletter

15 September 2022

Dear Parents and Carers

The children are now settling into a new school year, the leaves are beginning to turn and nights are already drawing in. We have had lots of rain too. I do feel that we had an amazing first week back and that this will be the best year ever for CPS! The children have certainly been enthusiastic and eager to begin new routines and of course to learn.

Thank you for your support with uniforms and resources. The 'Friends of CPS' trustees and everyone linked to our school would like to thank those of you who do donate regularly to our charity. With the help of parent contributions, we have been able to maintain a high level of support staff, develop the curriculum and noticeably improve the environment despite low pupil numbers in some cohorts. The donations Friends receive directly support CPS budget and impact directly on both teaching and learning. Our contributions have dropped significantly, possibly due to Covid, and so our charity Chair has asked me to again ask for your support. Please see the flyer attached.

Before and after school clubs have now started. We request that you leave the school promptly and remind you that the gate is locked to keep the school site secure at 3.30pm every day. Please do not allow your children to play with the reception resources or equipment. Our new gate has a green button on the wall on the left as you exit, which once released allows you to pull open the pedestrian gate to exit.

## CPS Updates:

The children were so enthusiastic seeing the pool works as the roof is now complete. The pool itself has now been drained and the floor screeding was poured last weekend. So much has been achieved due to the Pool Team's efforts and I would like to thank them for their support with this huge project. We are now hoping for an October opening, but I will keep you updated.

Thank you for popping in to meet teachers and to share your children's excitement on Friday - it was lovely to have so much positive feedback about children settling, their learning and the school environment too.



The field has had drainage problems for as long as anyone can remember. This limits use for many months throughout the year. Over the holidays, an investigation confirmed the soakaway system in place was ineffective.

We have had new soakaways fitted under the field, the ground has been refilled, top soil added and it has been re-seeded. We are excited to see that the new system has coped well with the heavy rain. Our drainage system has also been 'flushed' clean; a big job which does have an impact on the site.

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During the pandemic, 'Friends' supported CPS by purchasing Chromebook trolleys for each cohort as we could not use the Computing Suite. This proved successful, as children did not need to wait for a set time slot for their computing lessons and could seize learning opportunities throughout the week across all subjects.

Over the summer holidays we created a mini Computing Suite / meeting room and a new office by dividing the original room. I am certain the whole school will benefit from this clever adaptation of an unused room.

## The passing of HM Queen Elizabeth II

Along with local schools, our staff team and children paused for reflection and held a special class assembly using simple, pictorial resources to explore this with our children so they felt fully supported reflecting on this news.



This also meant teachers could immediately address any concerns and answer any questions the children may have raised. We are aware that children may need more time for further reflection as time passes. We are not in school on Monday and you may wish to discuss why, sensitively with your child. You may also wish to leave a message on the National Condolences Book [www.royal.uk](http://www.royal.uk)

At school, we will continue to use circle time and our mental health and wellbeing work to address this as we acknowledge managing loss generally requires both time and support.

## Cars at drop off and pick up

We are aware that some parents have started to drive into the car park or utilise the unnamed road just beyond the school gates. This has resulted in congestion and is potentially a hazard. Please ensure your children are safely with you at all times.

The barrier was damaged during lockdown and when assessed, the company have decided that part of the issue is that the solar panel installed to operate it, is not fit for purpose. The barrier should be operational after October half term. In the meantime, please can we ask that everyone dropping children at school, park on Foley Road, according to the Highway Code and with consideration to our neighbours. Please do not use the unnamed road at school drop off and pick up times for the safety of our community.

Thank you for your cooperation.

## Extra Curricular Clubs

Our extra-curricular clubs started back this week and have proved very popular. There are still some places for a few of the clubs so do check the website if you are interested. Attached are two flyers from local companies offering other exciting opportunities for local children.