

Newsletter



20 October 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

What a wonderful half term this has been. Our children have been working very hard and have made an excellent start to the new academic year and the children are now looking forward to beginning their October half term holidays!

This half term, we commissioned a full Health and Safety Audit. It is good practice to have external scrutiny and the team reviewed all processes and policies with a huge focus on everything linked to safeguarding. They observed the children at play, around the school and in their learning. They inspected our curricular offer, including online safety. They also spoke to staff, governors and children across the school. Our children reported that they feel safe and any concerns / incidents are listened to and responded to. They appreciated our focus on Well-Being and how we explicitly teach our values, and felt we had a strong pastoral team. They also recognised our robust policies and processes. Mrs Ali is our Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL), Mrs Cuniffe, Miss Dias and myself are part of the school's safeguarding team as deputy DSLs. If you ever have a concern relating to any child's well-being or safety, please do not hesitate to contact Mrs Ali or one of the team. Mr Godfrey is our Online Safety Champion alongside Mrs Ali and he is very happy to support you with this.

This half term, we have also had a full Teaching and Learning Review from the Local Authority as part of their responsibilities to monitor all maintained schools. Again, a team visited and reviewed teaching and learning in action from Nursery to Year 5! They scrutinised how our curriculum is carefully planned to be progressive and purposeful. They discussed our data and how we are challenging all children. They met with senior leaders, governors, subject leaders and staff across the school. They spoke to children and observed learning, including our Enrichment offer. They were very impressed! Teaching and learning is strong, evidenced not only in what they observed, but in the children's books and in what they could tell the team. Of course, as you know both our attainment and progress data are strong and much improved since our last Ofsted, further validating what they experienced first-hand.

We are delighted that both teams reported so many strengths across our school. It is reassuring to have such rigorous scrutiny and external validation.

Our Governors meet regularly and are also linked to different aspects of school life. Some scrutinise Health and Safety and others are linked to different subjects. For example, this week, governors met with subject leaders to discuss learning, look at books and action plans. We look forward to Ofsted's next visit, which is now almost a year overdue. (There is a backlog because of the pandemic).

Progress continues on the swimming pool and the grass is beginning to grow over the trenches which were dug for our new 'soakaways', which already seem to have improved the drainage across our field. We have continued with our programme of redecoration and improvements to the site, including the installation of our new electronic security gate.

Wishing all of our families a well-earned half term break.

At CPS we place great importance on good attendance and punctuality. This also comes under the 'Safeguarding umbrella'.

We know that a child's attendance has a direct impact on their learning. Those children who are regularly absent from school and regularly late do not achieve their potential and do fall behind in class and may well miss out on opportunities to bond with their peers. Please support us in ensuring your child attends school regularly and arrives ready to learn and on time. The school gates open at 8.40am and learning begins at 8.45am!

Our half termly final welfare check placed our school within the 'Amber' category triggered by 95% attendance and 13% Persistent Absence (below 90%). Over the coming weeks, we will be making contact by letter with families of children identified during this visit whose attendance is below 90%. In addition, you may be invited into school for a discussion with Mrs Ali about how we can support you to improve your child's attendance.

Attendance during the school year	Equals this number of days absent	Which is approximately this many weeks absent	Which means this number of lessons missed is...
90%	19 days	4 weeks	100 lessons
80%	38 days	8 weeks	200 lessons
70%	57 days	11.5 weeks	290 lessons

Sad News

We are very sad to share that Jammie passed away yesterday, drifting gently to sleep. He was much loved. Nibbles will miss him and as he is a sociable guinea pig so we will be on the hunt for a friend to keep him company! Keeping pets is, however a commitment and we are incredibly grateful to all of the families who have welcomed them into their homes to date. Please do sign up

Congratulations to Mrs Moorhouse (& Mr!)



They are delighted to welcome their gorgeous baby girl into their family!

We too are excited to hear the news of the arrival of Anaïs!

Extra Curricular Clubs

All the school run extra-curricular clubs are now available on parentmail for after half term. In addition, we have some new external clubs on offer, including KS1 Spanish and KS2 French – both running after school starting in November. Spanish club have a 3 week trial offer. Please do [have a look at the website](#) for more information.

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Year 5 Viking Day

On Wednesday, the Year 5 children were thrilled to take part in our very own Viking Day! We fully immersed ourselves into all things Vikings. During the day, we spent some time designing and creating our own dragon eyes, fit for a figurehead on the prow of a longship. As well as this, we played a Viking game, learnt how to write using Viking Runes and even got into character with some drama. What a fantastic end to our learning all about the Vikings!



Christmas Bazaar – Saturday 19 November – 11am – 2pm

The team have been busy planning the Bazaar but as always without your support we can't make it happen. Can you please read the attached flyer detailing all the things you can do to ensure the bazaar is a great success.

Over half term please get decorating and filling the jam jars with sweets and sorting through any unwanted books to donate. We are looking forward to putting on a fun filled day for the children.

The Christmas Bazaar team

Save the Date – 8th December!

The PA Christmas Disco is coming! Save the date and keep an eye out for more information.

Dates for your Diary

AUTUMN TERM 2022	
21.10.2022	Chestnut Class Cake Sale
HALF TERM	
31.10.2022	Children return to school after Half Term
4.11.2022	Oak Class Cake Sale
4.11.2022	Parent Pop-Ins
8.11.2022	Parents Evening (Face to Face)
10.11.2022	Nasal Flu Vaccinations
10.11.2022	Reception - Post Office Walk PM
10.11.2022	Parents Evening (Online using Google Classroom)
11.11.2022	Willow Class Cake Sale
14.11.2022	Odd Socks Day launches Friendship Week
14.11.2022	EYFS Pyjama Day
15.11.2022	Meet the PA Event and AGM 7.30pm
17.11.2022	Year 6 – Imperial War Museum Visit
18.11.2022	Years 1–4 – Anti Bullying Workshop
18.11.2022	Acorns Cake Sale
19.11.2022	Christmas Bazaar
24.11.2022	Acorns Nursery – Visit to the Parade
25.11.2022	Hawthorn Cake Sale
30.11.2022	Year 2 visit to Holy Trinity Church
1.12.2022	Acorns Christmas Performance 2.30pm
2.12.2022	Parent Forum on Maths (Online) 9.30am
2.12.2022	Beech Class Cake Sale
6.12.2022	Reception Christmas Performance 2.15pm
7.12.2022	KS1 Christmas Performance 2.15pm
8.12.2022	KS1 & EYFS Christmas Lunch and Christmas Jumper Day
8.12.2022	PA Christmas Disco
9.12.2022	KS1 Christmas Performance 9.15am
9.12.2022	KS2 Christmas Lunch and Christmas Jumper Day
9.12.2022	Aspen Class Cake Sale
12.12.2022	KS2 (Y3,4, 5 & 6) Christmas Performance at Holy Trinity Church (children arrive at 6pm for 6.15pm start)
13.12.2022	KS2 (Y3,4, 5 & 6) Christmas Performance at Holy Trinity Church (children arrive at 6pm for 6.15pm start)
16.12.2022	Last Day of Term – 1.30pm finish
CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS	
SPRING TERM 2023	
3.1.2023	INSET Day
4.1.2023	Children return to school

Please do keep an eye on the [calendar on the school website](#) as dates are added regularly, and occasionally may change.