



CIPS News

10th September 2021

Curriculum Meetings

We are unable to hold curriculum meetings in the normal format this year. Instead teachers will share information that they feel would be beneficial to you on either Seesaw or Google classroom on Wednesday 15th September.

If you have any questions about any aspect of this information after it has been put on the app, please phone the school office and your child's teacher will call you back as soon as possible

Dates for your diary

Parent Consultations

Wednesday 20th, Thursday 21st & Friday 22nd October

We are currently monitoring the situation as we decide how best to proceed with consultations this year. It is currently our intention to meet with you in person with certain mitigations in place but we will confirm this nearer to the time.



School Closures

Half-term holiday

Monday 25th October to Friday 29th October

School reopens Monday 1st November

Holidays

The Principal cannot authorise holidays of any kind during term time. Please also note that staff will **not** provide work for any holidays taken.

The EWO will contact any parents whose child's attendance falls under 85% without a valid reason.

School Photographs

Cool for School photography will take pupil photographs on **Monday 11th October**.

This year only individual photographs will be taken. Family groups within the school will not be permitted and older and younger siblings cannot come in for photographs.

Children will be kept in their class bubbles whilst the photographs are taken and all equipment will be sanitised between classes.

Pupils will be given an online code on the day so that parents can log into the website and view their child's photographs and decide what to order. The school will not be handling any orders this year.

Homework

Homework has now begun again! Homework is an essential part of your child's learning and we would like to thank parents for their continued support in this area. We know it isn't easy! It is essential that children are reading every day and that learning homework is completed thoroughly. Rather than simply asking your child to spell words back to you, allow them to write them down as this is how they are asked them in class. Multiplication tables are also essential as they help children answer questions more speedily when they engage in more challenging mathematics in years 4 - 7.

Administration of medication in school

If a child must take medication in school their parent or guardian **MUST** complete a school Administration of Medication Form on the School App. There have been a few issues with this but the new forms should be available from next week.

Please remember, if your child requires an inhaler (or any other type of medication) it is your responsibility to ensure there is an adequate supply in school and that it is in date. Please remember, school staff can only administer medication in accordance to prescribed instructions or instructions from a GP or Care Plan.

Unfortunately, the disruption of COVID is very much around us and I know how challenging that is for parents. A copy of the PHA flowchart is on our website but as the guidance has changed so many times it can be very confusing. Please contact us by telephone or email if you are unsure of what to do.

- If your child is required to get a PCR test at any point during the term, I would ask that the result (negative or positive) is emailed to the school as soon as possible. Your co-operation with this means we can get the child / children back into school as soon as possible.
- Please note, that if parents do not gain a negative PCR test result for their child on day 2 of being a close contact, the pupil will have to isolate for 10 days. Principals have no discretion on this as it is Public Health guidance and must be followed. A second test is required on Day 8 and again results should be shared with the school.

I am very appreciative that the majority of parents continue to wear masks at pick-up time. I know it isn't popular so thank you!

After -School Clubs

All children in P1-7 received notes about after-school activities beginning again in the first week in October. Please return the forms to school as soon as possible as places are limited and will be allocated on a first come first served basis.

Unfortunately, we are still unable to offer a full range of clubs because of covid restrictions still in place.

Swimming Lessons

Swimming Lessons for P5/6 pupils will begin on Tuesday 14th September. Please ensure you have returned the note and money prior to lessons starting.

Music Lessons

Music lessons will begin on Wednesday 15th September. This is for both individual lessons and whole class lessons for both P1 & P2.

PARENT WHATSAPP GROUPS



Love them or hate them, parent WhatsApp groups have been and are a lifeline for many parents especially during the times of remote learning. These groups are a grey area for schools as they are set up and managed privately by parents. These groups have so many advantages but there are disadvantages too. I would very much appreciate if parents took account of the following:

- No child should be discussed on these groups, whether named or not. This is incredibly hurtful to a parent, especially if their child has done something wrong. Children are still learning and we all make mistakes.
- If there is an issue within the class, please alert the class teacher and give the class teacher time to address it.
- Please be wary of relying on WhatsApp groups for school information. Our new school app, Seesaw, Google classroom or the school website should provide answers to everything you need to know.
- There is a logical reason for everything in school and we are happy to explain things; please just ask!