



A member of the Harlington and Sundon Academy Trust

## LEARNING FOR LIFE

AUTUMN TERM 2020, NEWSLETTER

Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2020

*Our October Value is Responsibility*

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been a very busy and successful seven weeks in our school. I have been incredibly proud of our Academy's desire to provide high quality education for our children. A huge thank you goes to all our dedicated staff for their continued hard work in reopening our school and to all our pupils, parents and carers for continuing to support us during these challenging periods. I hope you have a restful and safe half term. We look forward to welcoming you back on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2020.



### Celebrating Halloween differently this year - a suggestion for Parents/carers/children

Halloween is only a few weeks away but with Government restrictions in place across the country to slow the spread of COVID-19, Halloween celebrations are likely to be a little bit different this year.

An alternative to trick or treating - with social distancing guidelines in place and with recent research showing that the virus can stay on surfaces for longer than previously thought, trick or treating might not be practical. So this year, why not organise your own community pumpkin hunt? We have created a poster to print off and stick in your window. Household groups can then make their way safely around your neighbourhood, being careful to stay 2 metres away from anyone not in their household. Whenever children spot a pumpkin in a window, their parents can give them a treat! With sweets only circulating amongst households, we'll all avoid the risk of touching surfaces that others have been in contact with.

By sticking to household groups and spotting pumpkins from a distance, we'll all be able to follow social distancing rules as we won't be crowding around doors trick or treating.

All of these small steps can help us reduce our chances of picking up or transmitting the virus.

### Caterlink - Hot School meals

Hot school meals will resume on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> November, there will be one choice of either a meat dish or a vegetarian dish. Please see the attached menu. Mrs Rolls will be proving a special Bonfire Night menu on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> November, please see the attached menu.

Pupils will be given water with their hot school meal. Please do not send an additional drink when your child is having a school dinner, thank you.



### Please return reading books

Staff have noticed that there are still books missing from our reading scheme, having sent children home with multiple books during the emergency lockdown in March. Please can all parents check to see if there are any reading books at home that need to come back into school. We really appreciate your cooperation.



### Golden Book

Swan class - Ellie-May Smith  
Dove class - Harrison Martin  
Owl class - Haaris Khan



### School Games Champion

KS1 - Viraaj Kalsi  
KS2 - Meliha Bork

### Diary Dates

Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> October	Break for half term
Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> November	Training day
Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> November	Pupils return to school

### Reminder: Parent Telephone Consultations (Date changes are highlighted in RED)

Year Group	Date	Time
Year 2	Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> November	3.30pm - 6.00pm
Year 4	Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> November	3.30pm - 6.10pm
Reception	Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup> November	3.30pm - 6.00pm
Year 1	Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup> November	9.10am - 10.30am
Year 3	Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> November	9.10am - 10.30am

### Trustee Meetings

Curriculum Committee	Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup> November 6.00pm
Premises H&S Committee	Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup> November 7.00pm
Finance and Audit Committee	Wednesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> December 7.00pm

### Library Service

Please see the attached poster for the Central Bedfordshire library service who are offering a half term Zoom performance for children, based on the Roald Dahl story, The Enormous Crocodile.

### Free School Meals

I wish to remind you that if you are what the government terms 'on a low income' your child qualifies for free school meals. Pupils do not have to take our meals if they do not want to but, if they are on our Free School Meals register, then they qualify for all sorts of other financial benefits throughout the year. When a pupil is on our Free School Meals register, the school receives extra money for that pupil which has to be spent only on the education of free school meals pupils. This extra money is called the Pupil Premium and its purpose is to ensure that children

from low income families are not at a financial disadvantage during their education as a result of home circumstances.

Is my child eligible for Pupil Premium?

In order for the school to receive the Pupil Premium funding a Parent/Carer must be claiming one of the following benefits:

- ❖ Universal Credit (provided they have an annual net earned income of no more than £7400, as assessed by earnings from up to three of their most recent assessment periods)
- ❖ Income Support
- ❖ Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- ❖ Income-based Jobseekers Allowance
- ❖ Working Tax Credit run-on paid for four weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- ❖ The guarantee element of Pension Credit.
- ❖ Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- ❖ Child Tax Credit (provided you are not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16190)

In order to register your Child to receive Pupil Premium you will need to go to the following website and follow the instructions: [www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk](http://www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk) or call **0300 300 8306**.

### **Pavement Parking**

The Department for Transport is consulting on pavement parking. This is something that parents may be interested in commenting on. If you would like to be represented in the consultation, please click on the link below:

<https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/2XI2G/>

In our recent parent survey, 416 respondents raised concerns about pavement parking in Central Bedfordshire, so we know it is an issue for many. People with mobility issues or double buggies find pavement parking particularly challenging. It's also nice for pupils and parents to be able to walk side-by-side for safety and to make the walk to school a sociable time. It can be particularly problematic when pedestrians are forced on to the road, as pavement parking can obscure the sight-lines of pedestrians and drivers. For smaller children, sight-lines are further impaired.

Sustrans is supporting Option 3 of the government consultation. The reasons for this can be viewed here: <https://www.sustrans.org.uk/our-blog/opinion/2020/october/pavement-parking-inengland-have-your-say-now/>

You may or may not agree with this, but what is important is you have the opportunity to get your views across via the consultation before it closes on 22nd November.

### **Attachments**

Harlington & Sundon Football Club letter

Caterlink Menus

Halloween Poster

Central Bedfordshire Library leaflet

Central Bedfordshire Public Health letter