

A NEWSLETTER FROM

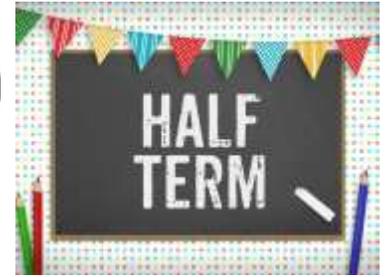


MS ELBOURNE-CLOAD

HEADS UP

4

Friday 1st October 2021



Happy October! Looking at the weather, Autumn is well and truly here and school activities are back in full force. Please ensure your child has a coat now the weather is turning colder.

Parent Questionnaires – School action

We had a very positive response from the parent questionnaires last term and some lovely comments. It was also really useful to gather views on how we could improve our practice. As a direct result of the responses we received, we have put the following changes into place for this year:

- Clubs have now returned across the federation as well as young leaders and various other roles for children to be involved in
- We have increased the number of clubs on offer to infant children (teachers in the infants have kindly volunteered to run a club that is free for the children)
- Introduction of Chill-Out for infant children after Christmas.
- Reduced the amount of homework in the infant school so that the focus is mainly on reading and a few spellings
- Increased the progression of homework in the Junior school. The required homework is in line with the national recommended amount but there is also additional optional grids to complete.
- Introduced an additional feedback for parents. In the half term that parents don't have a consultation or report, teachers will record a snapshot feedback report that parents and children can listen to on Seesaw. This will highlight some areas that have gone well and some areas that are a target.
- More Parent Information workshops are being held each term to increase our information sharing.
- PTA coffee mornings are being held regularly to give parents an informal chance to catch up. Where possible we will also ensure a member of staff is also available to chat to.

We are always very keen to gather parents' views and welcome all your feedback – this helps us when we are reviewing our practice. We have added a tear off slip on this newsletter which can be sent in or you are welcome to email the schools.

Harvest Festival

We are delighted to be able to invite families in to join us for our Harvest Festival assemblies. Times are below. Due to space, we are only able to accommodate one person per family at the Junior School and one person per family at each showing at the Infant School. We are also collecting items for the food bank, which the children can bring into school on the same day. Please ensure these items are still in date.

Junior School	Fri 8 th October	10.10am
Infant School	Tues 12 th October	9.15am & 2pm

Parent Consultations

Following the questionnaire sent out to parents overall 79% of you would prefer face to face meetings. These will be taking place on Tuesday 19th and Wednesday 20th October. Further details will follow with timings and how to make an appointment.

Absence

Reporting an absence is an imperative part of our safeguarding. If your son/daughter is unwell or will not be attending school, you must let us know **by 9am** giving details for their absence. You can leave a voicemail if the office is not open, or if you are unable to telephone then please send an email.

The national expectation for pupil attendance is 97% or higher over the year. We already have a number of children who have had repeated weekly absences and this has a detrimental impact on their ability to catch up with learning. This is especially important for children who had disrupted learning over the last 2 academic years. Please see the flyer at the end of the newsletter for the impact of low attendance on children's outcomes.

Additional Occasional Day

We have now had confirmation that schools will be able to take an additional Occasional Day in 2022 (for the Queens Platinum Jubilee). This will be Monday 6th June 2022 for the Cunningham Hill Schools.

Parent Permissions / Online Safety

We like to share as much of our school life as we can with families be that via Tapestry, Seesaw and Facebook/Twitter. If we do not know your preferences on photo inclusion, etc, then we cannot include your son/daughter, so please ensure you update your Parental Permissions form on your Parentmail (Juniors).

We have also sent home the updated online safety agreement (Junior & Y2) which we would like all parents/carers to read through and discuss with your child. Once you have discussed the agreement, please return it no later than Friday 8 October.

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PARENT FEEDBACK

NAME :

(Optional but helpful if you would like a reply or explanation)

COMPLIMENTS:

COMMENTS/SUGGESTIONS:

If you would rather send feedback via email please do so via admin@cunninghamhill.herts.sch.uk

Understanding the impact of lateness and attendance on learning time

MINUTES LATE PER DAY	HOW MUCH MISSED IN A SCHOOL YEAR	PERCENTAGE ATTENDANCE	HOW MANY DAYS MISSED IN A SCHOOL YEAR
5 minutes	3.4 school days	97%	6 school days
10 minutes	1.4 school weeks	95%	10 school days
15 minutes	2.6 school weeks	90%	20 school days
20 minutes	2.8 school weeks	85%	29 school days
30 minutes	4 school weeks	80%	39 school days

Although teachers do their best to help children with lessons they have missed, they are not able to repeat the whole lesson again for one child, so this is lost learning time.

Research shows that pupils with no (or very low) absence/persistent lateness are 2.2 times more likely to achieve 5+ GCSEs compared with those with less than 95% throughout their school career.