

28th February 2020

Hello parents,

Welcome back to Half Term 4! For pupils sitting exams in the Summer in Year 13, 11 and 6, the next two months are critical in their preparation. I know everyone is working extremely hard to make sure we are all successful!

Nursery building planning permission – and next steps

We are delighted to say that after many delays and complications to the planning process, the Westminster planning committee voted unanimously to agree the application. They complimented the school on how hard we have worked with local residents and the council to design the building to suit the space and the needs of the local area. We are so pleased we can now move on with appointing a building contractor to get started!

Although we are aware that building projects can over run, we hope that there will be no further delays. The current move date for the Nursery into the finished new building is January 2021. We are excited about the fantastic facility which will be built.

Secondary parent meetings

Thank you to all the parents who came for parents' meetings on Tuesday this week. For the small number of parents who were not able to attend their appointment, we look forward to seeing you in catch up meetings as soon as possible.

Primary parents evening on Monday 2nd March and Monday 9th March

- We look forward to seeing every parent in the primary school at parents' evenings on Monday 2nd and Monday 9th March
- A reminder that the primary school (Nursery -Year 6) closes at 1.30pm on both of these days to allow these meetings to take place.
- We are pleased to say we have booked every single parent for their appointments across the whole primary school so thank you to both parents and our admin team for making this happen!
- You will see your child's work in their classroom and find out how your child is progressing in their learning.
- For parents of children who normally go to Let Me Play, these children will be supervised until the time you normally pick them up either at 4.30pm or 6pm.

Events at the end of last half term and this week

- [Year 12 physics trip](#)
- [Reception Circus workshop](#)
- [Year 3 trip to the Science Museum](#)
- Year 1 bird workshop
- Year 9 King's Scholars Trip
- GCSE Access Project trip to Cambridge
- Nursery visit to Paddington Fire Station
- Y12 Ministry of Defence trip

Government advice on the spread of Coronavirus

As I'm sure many parents are, we are monitoring the guidance from Public Health England very carefully. There is updated guidance every day – sometimes several times a day as new cases in different parts of the world come to light. Whilst some newspapers have been reporting school

closures, the government advice is currently for schools to remain open. We continue to take the spread of any virus very seriously, ensuring pupils are washing their hands regularly and monitoring pupils' symptoms carefully. Please read the guidance below carefully, particularly if you travelled abroad over the half term.

If you have returned from these specific areas since 19 February, you should call NHS 111 and stay indoors and avoid contact with other people **even if you do not have symptoms**:

- **Iran**
- **specific [lockdown areas in northern Italy](#) as designated by the Government of Italy**
- **'[special care zones](#)' in South Korea as designated by the Government of the Republic of South Korea**
- **Hubei province (returned in the past 14 days)**

If you have returned from these areas since 19 February and develop symptoms, however mild, you should stay indoors at home and avoid contact with other people immediately and call NHS 111. You do not need to follow this advice if you have no symptoms.

- northern Italy (anywhere north of Pisa, Florence and Rimini)
- Vietnam
- Cambodia
- Laos
- Myanmar

Encouraging good hygiene

As always, if you have symptoms of a cold or flu, then there are measures you can take to stop germs:

- always carry tissues with you and use them to catch your cough or sneeze. Then bin the tissue, and wash your hands, or use a sanitiser gel.
- wash your hands often with soap and water, especially after using public transport. Use a sanitiser gel if soap and water are not available.
- avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands.
- avoid close contact with people who are unwell.

Updates on Coronavirus:

<https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>

Travel advice for those travelling and living overseas:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/travel-advice-novel-coronavirus>

Public Health England blog:

<https://publichealthmatters.blog.gov.uk/2020/01/23/wuhan-novel-coronavirus-what-you-need-to-know/>

Coffee Morning

Coffee morning next week will be about reading at home with your children, led by Ms. Humphreys. You can see next half term's schedule [*here*](#).

World Book Day: Thursday 5th March

- We will be celebrating World Book Day throughout the primary school from Nursery up to Year 6. We would be delighted to see all children coming to school dressed as one of their

favourite characters from one of the books we have read so far this year or last year. You can see lists of the books your children have read [*here*](#) and a quick google search will certainly help you get inspired.

- Talk to your children about who they might like to get dressed up as and, as always, we love to see home made costumes and props – you don't need to spend a lot of money on a whole costume.
- We will be collecting donations on the day as pupils come into school so that we can buy new books for our libraries; we recommend you bring 50p or a £1 but we are happy to take more or less as you wish.

World Book Day Book Sales: do you have any old books your children are no longer interested in?

- The Parent Council will be running a book sale in the Junior and YYS playgrounds on Thursday 5th March at pick up time.
- If you have any books to donate to the sale, please drop them off at either OYS or YYS receptions anytime until the end of Wednesday. The more parents donate, the bigger choice you'll have of what to buy next for your children to read now!