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Spring Newsletter No. 2

24th January 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope this newsletter finds you and your family all safe and well. As I am sure you are aware, I had to take the very difficult decision to close both Year 1 classes and move to remote learning last week, due to staff shortages. Unfortunately, like many schools, both locally and nationally we have seen a sharp rise in COVID-19 cases in the last week. As I write to you, we currently have 14 staff absent from school, spread across all year groups plus increasing numbers of children testing positive. As it stands today, Year R and Year 2 remain open to all children, but as this is an ever-evolving situation I must ask you to prepare for further possible class closures. Moving to remote learning will always be a last resort, having explored all alternative options but without sufficient staffing levels we must consider whether we can operate safely. Should staffing levels worsen over the coming days, and classes have to move to remote learning, I will inform parents and carers via Parentmail, as quickly as I am able. Please check you are receiving Parentmail notifications and let the school office know if you are having any difficulties.

Finally, I would like to thank you for the concern shown for the staff members who, unfortunately, are unwell.

Kind regards
Miss K Aldred

Winter Household Support Fund

We have been made aware of a fund, run by Surrey Heath Borough Council to support families with essentials this winter. If you are in need of support, please see details of how to apply below. Please note; the fund only runs until 31st March this year.

Do you need help with essentials this winter?
The Household Support Fund could help you

APPLY NOW

- If you live in Surrey Heath and are on benefits or a low-income, you could get help with food, energy and essential household items. Standard Grants of £50 (single) or £80 (family) are available.
- To apply download a simple application form from www.citizensadvice.surreyheath.org.uk, or to request a form email HTC@camberley.cabnet.org.uk or call 01276 417906

Key Dates

11/02 Last day of school (**normal pick up times**)
21/02 School reopens (**normal drop off times**)
01/04 Last day of school (**normal pick up times**)
19/04 Inset Day
20/04 School reopens (**normal drop off times**)
Full term dates can be found [here](#)

Google Classroom

Please ensure you have logged into your child's Google Classroom account and made yourself familiar with the platform.

All homework and remote learning is uploaded via this platform.

If you have any difficulties, please do get in touch and we will do our best to assist you.

Attendance/Request for Exceptional Leave

Just a reminder that children should only be taken out of school, during term time in *exceptional circumstances*. For your information; holidays, even those postponed due to COVID-19 do not constitute exceptional circumstances and as such are unauthorised absences and parents and carers could be subject to a penalty notice fine or even prosecution. If you feel you are in that position please email the school office, requesting our exceptional leave form, **giving as much notice as possible**.

In light of the disruption and continued interruptions to all children's education over the past year I strongly encourage you to book any holidays out of term time. Term dates for this year and next can be found on our website.