

Culverstone Green Primary School

Informer No.5

Term 2 — 13th November 2020

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Hello everyone and welcome to the first Informer newsletter of term 2; it's hard to believe it is almost 2 weeks that we have been back since half term already. These have been a very busy couple of weeks, with lots of different activities going on in school: we had the school photographer visiting; Indian dance workshops to support our work on Diwali; the children and staff commemorated the war dead on Armistice Day and today we mark and recognise Children in Need 2020 and World Kindness day.

As everyone knows, this is a very strange and difficult time as we have entered a second period of lockdown. We continue to make school as 'normal' and welcoming as possible for the children, while maintaining our strict Covid protocols. I would once again like to take this opportunity to thank each and everyone one of you for your continued commitment, support and understanding with the strict Covid-19 safety measures we have in place in school. I am sure you understand that every decision and action we take has a multitude of different factors and considerations associated with them. I understand and appreciate that some of the measures can at times be difficult but rest assured these measures have been very carefully planned and considered to ensure the school complies with the latest Government guidance to ensure, as much as possible, the school remains Covid secure.

There has been, over the last few weeks, reports of Covid outbreaks in the local and wider community, this is a timely reminder for us here at CGPS to remain vigilant and maintain our Covid safety measures strictly to ensure our school community remains safe and well and that our school remains open. Again thank you for your support and commitment in this.

Morning wake up run: Each morning, the children participate in a morning physical or rise and shine activity. For children in KS2, this sometimes includes participating in the Daily Mile, which is a national campaign to increase the amount of physical activity children get. As this takes place outside, please feel free to provide your children with an older pair of trainers to bring into school to change before and after the run. Please ensure these trainers can fit into their school bag (inside a plastic bag as the trainers could get muddy) as children are unable to bring multiple bags to school at this time.

Warm clothing: Government guidance remains that well ventilated rooms, with free flowing air, is one of the best methods to minimise the spread of the Covid virus. Therefore, schools are advised that doors and windows should remain open to allow a free flow of air. So with this in mind, we would suggest that children wear an extra layer of clothing below their uniform or bring a body warmer to school during these colder months as classrooms will not be as warm and cosy as they usually would.

School Council: Today we held a special assembly to announce the results of our school council elections which were held last week during Parliament week:

Year 1—Mallory and Ethan

Year 2—Holly and Harrison

Year 3—Isabella R and Fraser

Year 4—Oliver L and Gabrielle

Year 5—Sophie and Alex H

Year 6—Maisie and Ava

Congratulations to those elected, but a big well done to all of those who put themselves forward. It is very tough to step outside your comfort zone and speak in front of people and put yourself up for election. Well done. You should be very proud!

Nut free: We have several children with severe nut allergies. Please do not include any products containing nuts in your child's packed lunch.

Children in Need: This week, we are supporting Children in Need. Unfortunately we were unable to mark this occasion in the same way as we normally would, but it was lovely to see so many children come in dressed for the occasion. We particularly loved the home made efforts. Well done everyone! Please remember to donate to this worthwhile charity, which can be done online using the link : <https://donate.bbcchildreninneed.co.uk/>



Armistice Day Commemoration: This week, we commemorated the war dead and marked Armistice Day by observing 2 minutes of silence in school. Aslan and Wolf Class have been learning about Remembrance Day this week, and both classes made 'stone poppies'. Year 5 pupils laid their poppies at the school entrance; whilst Wolf Class walked to the War Memorial in Meopham on Tuesday to lay theirs, along with members of Gravesham council.

The children were an absolute credit to the school with Cllr Gary Harding observing: *"I am so proud of the teachers and children of Culverstone Primary and also thankful; the children who, by painting the pebbles with Remembrance Poppies, put themselves forward to remember those who gave their lives so that we may enjoy the freedom that we live in. Their memory will go on for generations to come and it's important that children always value the contribution given by those whose lives were lost for our country. "*

School lunches: All school lunches must be pre-booked by 8am on the day. If a school lunch is not booked you will need to supply a packed lunch for your child. Please discuss the menu with your child as some have been disappointed when their choice has not been ordered. The booking website is <https://chandco.myschoolmealorders.com/>. If you are having issues using the system please contact Joanne Allen at joanne.allen@chandcogroup.com.

Virtual tour: Next Monday, the school will be having a virtual tour created, along with some lovely photographs and aerial shots taken of the school and children. We will then be able to release this video and images on our website and Facebook page to share the work of our school, as we are currently unable to invite parents in to the school.

Some children may be part of the video (for those who consent has been provided to the school by a parent) if you have any questions regarding this, please contact the school office.

Fundraising clothing collection: Bag2School is the largest textile collection company working with schools in the UK. We have arranged a collection for the morning of **Friday 27th November 2020. The bags can be left to the right hand side of the bike shed.** Unfortunately, due to Covid we are unable to store the bags in school therefore we ask that any donations are brought to school during the morning school run. Please find a list below of items that are accepted:

- Men's, Ladies' and Children's clothing
- Paired shoes (tied together or elastic band around)
- Handbags
- Hats
- Bags
- Scarves and ties
- Jewellery
- Lingerie
- Socks
- Belts
- Soft toys
- Household linen
- Household curtains
- Household towels
- Household bedding (bed sheets, pillow cases and duvet covers)

Dates for the diary:

- Tue 24th Nov—YrR parent consultations
- Fri 27th Nov—Bag2School textile collection—9am
- Mon 30th Nov—Flu nasal vaccines for all year groups
- Fri 11th Dec—Christmas Jumper Day
- Fri 18th Dec—End of Term 2

Last day of term: Children will finish for the Christmas Holidays on Friday 18th December. Collection times for the last day are:

Year R, 1 & 2 hub— 1.00pm

Year 3 & 4 hub - 1.15pm

Year 5 & 6 hub— 1.30pm

Start times are as usual.