



Newsletter

Friday 25th September 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

This week, the first day of Autumn has reminded us of just how far we've come since the life changing events which began in the Spring. We are thrilled to see that the first term of the new school year is now in full swing, with all children fully immersed in their learning. This includes our new Reception children who have settled exceptionally well. Hopefully, your child has been excited to share with you all the fantastic learning they have been part of.

New topics have been launched in KS1 and EYFS have been making new friends and learning through first-hand discoveries in their play. To support our communication with you at home, you will have received a log in for Tapestry (EYFS) or Seesaw (KS1). Your child's class teacher will use this as a way to share learning with you at home and to comment on your child's reading, so please check frequently. Below, you will see just a few of the 'golden moments' around the school this week and it is clear to see that everyone - children and staff - are just so happy to be back at school!

Best Wishes

Mrs A Smart Miss Willington

Headteacher Deputy Headteacher

Golden Moments!



Census day lunch, Thursday 1st October



Census day lunch order form

Census day in school this year will be on 1st October 2020. On this day, one of the things that happens is that we submit our school meal numbers for the day. Meals on this date and also on a date in January, are averaged and the school then receives funding based on this data.

As an example, if 150 children took lunch on both Census days, the school would receive most of the money to fund 150 meals per day for one year.

If more than 150 children took lunch after the two Census days, payment for additional lunches would be taken from of our main school budget.

So if 180 children took lunch on a future date after the census, school would individually be required to pay the cost of 30 lunches.

Therefore, it is in our interest to have the **highest number of children possible take up lunch on Census days**, so that we can obtain the maximum school meals funding. This leaves the main school budget available to spend on the children in other ways, such as books, classroom resources, enrichment activities and even staffing.

Curriculum

In KS1 we have launched our new topics, with a focus on being Historians and exploring the past.

Year 2 – ‘Panic on Pudding Lane’ – learning all about the Great Fire of London!

Year 1 – ‘Helpful Heroes’ – learning all about real life superheroes, past and present

Please visit your child’s class page on the school website for more information on their new topic and learning for the term. <https://www.chandaginfantschool.org.uk/classes/>

Social distancing during pick up/drop off

Please support us with a safe and smooth start and end to the day ...

- Stay alert when walking around the school site, signage will guide you.

- **See today's letter from myself and Mrs Arlidge with regards face coverings.**
- **Kingfisher** and **Otters** can enter the school gates at 8:35am and enter the classroom at 8:45am
- **Squirrel** parents and children should queue on the **LEFT** side of the path please, to allow Owl parents to pass you on your right.
- **Badger** and **Hedgehog** parents, please wait on the school drive until instructed to enter the gates by a member of staff. Once inside the gates, please enter the Reception garden and choose a socially distanced place to stand, rather than lining up and reducing queue on the main path.
- It is vital that your child is on time for their allocated slot, as learning begins as soon as your child enters the classroom and being late means they will miss out on important teacher input. If you have any difficulties with arriving on time, please contact us to see if we can find ways to help you.
- Keep to the far left/right (depending on arrival or departure), as other families will need to walk past you, so please be mindful not to block the way through.
- Queues are inevitable at the moment so please use your judgment to leave a safe distance between you and the person in front. (2m is still our advised distance).
- Please prepare your child to enter the classroom and support their independence by ensuring that they are holding their own water bottle, book bag and lunch box before they reach the classroom door. This makes a big difference in time it takes for the line to go down.
- We would be grateful if discussions with teachers could be saved for the end of the day, rather than the beginning.
- If you feel there is an urgent message, please let your child's class teacher know and they will show you an appropriate place to wait until all other children have entered. It is important that the classroom door is not blocked for any reason and children can flow through easily.
- Please avoid stopping to have conversations with other parents within the school grounds after drop off.
- **NO CLIMBING PLEASE.** Your child must be supervised at all times. Please support us by keeping children close and not allowing them to swing on/touch the railings, use playground equipment or walk/run on the grassy area with trees outside the school building. We are particularly concerned to see children climbing the new lampposts that now line the lane. Soil is eroding already in these areas as a result and we are concerned for the children's safety, should they fall from height.

Reporting a Positive COVID-19 test result

We are pleased that we have not had any positive cases of COVID-19 in our school. However, if there were to be a positive test result, we would want to be able to seek advice from the Department for Education and communicate our plans to you as soon as possible. During school times we would ask you to inform the school by telephone once the result comes through. If this is out of school hours, including weekends and school holidays, please use the email link found in the 'report a positive COVID test' area that has been set

up on our school website. This is monitored out of hours and will enable us to respond and communicate with you in a timely manner.

PLEASE DO NOT POST INFORMATION ABOUT POSITIVE TEST RESULTS ON SOCIAL MEDIA SITES BEFORE INFORMING US. ONCE WE HAVE BEEN INFORMED, WE WILL FOLLOW THE AGREED PROTOCOLS BEFORE COMMUNICATING INFORMATION AND ACTIONS IN A CALM MANNER TO OUR WHOLE SCHOOL COMMUNITY.

School Attendance and illness

We have been asked to share the following message with you:

If you have been instructed to self-isolate because you are a **contact of a confirmed case**, or in quarantine due to return from foreign travel, then a negative test result does not mean you can end isolation early. The virus can take time to develop, so a test early on does not prove that you won't go on to develop the virus. That means you could still be at risk of spreading the disease to other people.

If children have a new, persistent cough, a high temperature or a loss of taste or smell, they **should not** attend school.

However, runny noses, headaches or sore throats in isolation, are normal for this time of year and are not identified as symptoms of COVID-19. Children with minor cold symptoms and no COVID symptoms should attend school as normal. Each child's attendance is monitored by the school and by the local authority and is expected to be 100%. We understand that children may need to quarantine whilst they or a family member are awaiting test results however and therefore this absence will be authorised.

Anyone seeking leave during term time, should request a form from the school office. Absence is only granted in exceptional circumstances. Absences for birthdays, anniversaries, holidays or Friday travel to weekend destinations will not be authorised.

Dental and medical appointments should be made outside of school hours unless this is an emergency. All appointments must be verified by Mrs Weeks before children are taken out of school.

Children should remain at home for 48 hours following sickness or diarrhoea. If in doubt, please telephone the school office.

Children who are self-isolating but who are well

While your family wait for test results, it is important that children keep up with their education whilst at home if they are well enough to do so.

Please follow the link below to find three daily lessons to support your child's learning at home. Please choose the appropriate year group and then select the day of the week. This link will also be available on your child's class page on our school website.

<https://classroom.thenational.academy/schedule-by-year>

Teachers would love to see children's work, so please share what they do via Tapestry (Reception) or Seesaw (Year 1 and 2). Login details have been sent to you. Please select the green add button to share a photo or video of their work. We appreciate this way of communicating is new for some, especially our Year 1 parents so below are a useful demo.

<https://web.seesaw.me/parents>

Teachers will record audio comments after viewing the work and will telephone your child once a week to keep in touch. They will aim to do this in the first two days of self-isolation. If you have not heard from your child's teacher by the end of the third day, please telephone the school office and this will be arranged for you.

If you need further support, please do not hesitate to ask. Please note that worksheets will only be issued to children who are unable to access online learning.



Top Tips

Top tips for families using Seesaw

1. Use Chrome as your browser. Seesaw functions better in Chrome.
2. Think about how you could respond to the work set by the teacher by NOT using a screen. Anything you do can always be photographed or filmed and uploaded with a quick note.
3. Keep it simple to start with. Home learning is new for all of us! Start by keeping it simple and not trying to do too much at once or be too "whizzy" with technology.
4. Remember, teachers can't respond in great detail to everything you post otherwise they would be at their computers all day and night and even teachers need a bit of time away from their screens. Your work will always be acknowledged using the 'like' function to show that it has been seen.
5. Please don't include anyone else in images/videos and ensure that children are fully clothed in photos and videos (e.g. not in swimwear etc.). This is to safeguard you and us.
7. Seesaw is a horizontal app. Make sure you use it this way if you're on a device otherwise you'll miss most of what's on the activity feed!

Calling Year 2 Parents and Carers!

The children have loved their new topic 'Panic on Pudding Lane' which is all about the Great Fire of London. We've decided it would be a fun project to create our own model buildings to represent London during that time. We will use our Design and Technology skills to do this and the children are very excited!

Please could you start collecting some cardboard junk modelling to send in to school over the next fortnight? No plastic please.

Also, [Year 2 will now have PE EVERY Tuesday and Thursday. Please send your child in PE kit on these days.](#)

Many thanks,

Mrs Gamon and Miss Goebel.

Better Health, Every Mind Matters

This week the government have launched their new mental health campaign **Better Health Every Mind Matters**.

The campaign aims to:

- Equip parents/carers and young people to take action to protect and improve children and young people's mental wellbeing
- Build mental resilience to navigate the Covid-19 outbreak and evolving mental health challenges
- Provide support for those children at greater risk of worsening mental health

If you would like to find out more about this please go to <https://www.nhs.uk/oneyou/every-mind-matters/>

Mrs Eve (SENCO and Inclusion Lead)

Reading Rocketers

Well done to Owl class for having the most children reading 4 or more times with an adult last week, what amazing team work. Which class will it be next week? Remember to log each time you read at home by following this link: [Reading record form](#)

School calendar – All events, PE dates & Forest school dates are on our school calendar which can be synced with your own online calendars

<https://www.chandaginfantschool.org.uk/the-office/#calendar>