

Dear Parents/Carers,

As September tumbles into October, or perhaps more pertinently, summer collapses into autumn, we're bracing ourselves for the onset of 'The Autumn Cold'! The man on the street – not the one gluing himself to the M25, or queuing to put petrol in a carrier bag or goldfish bowl – predicts that sniffles and sneezes will be worse this year, owing to nobody catching them last. We're already experiencing quite a few cases, and of course the symptoms are very similar to the Covid 19 ones! You've been amazing at working with us to reduce the risk of a Covid outbreak, so if someone in your family catches an autumn cold or heaven's forbid, the much more dangerous man-flu, could I please ask you to continue to indulge in the warm embrace that a negative Lateral Flow Test gives you! A word of thanks to everyone who is already doing this and letting me know the result – if nothing else, it means I can bat away the hordes of staff who form an orderly queue outside my door to let me know that someone in their classroom has a bad cough!

TIMEKEEPING – A gentle reminder that the gate opens at 8.50am and that we ring the bell and school starts at 9.00am. There will be the unforeseen incidents that cause you to be late, but if they could be the only cause of lateness then there will be fewer children queueing at the front door, and it will make the Late Book a much more interesting read!

'MOVING ON' – Year Six Secondary Transfer - Just a reminder to Year 6 parents that the online application system for secondary school places is now open. See www.hertsdirect.org for more details. Look up the dates for Open Evenings you want to attend – they start this week. Applications need to be in before 31st October 2021. **Please ensure your application is in on time.** If you would like to discuss this matter, please contact the office and make an appointment to see me.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

'MEET THE TEACHER' – Wednesday 6th October for Years Rec, 1, 3, & 5 and Wednesday 13th October for Years Reception, 1, 2, 4 & 6 – This is an opportunity to see how your child has settled in to their class after the summer break. Appointment times to be sent out nearer the time. These are set dates, and due to high numbers of children, teachers will be unable to make alternative appointments.

HARVEST ASSEMBLY – Friday 15th October 9:10am – This year our Harvest Assembly will be to support the charity 'Save the Children'; who are asking people to help them to help children all around the world, but particularly in Afghanistan. Consequently, I would once again like to invite you all to arrive at school wearing your wellies and take part in the **Great Welly Walk For Others** around the school grounds following our Harvest Assembly, which will take place in the school hall. Sponsorship forms for the children will be strolling towards you next week! Also, we are continuing to support our local foodbank so could you send any tinned or dried food that you can spare in with your child on the morning of the Harvest Assembly please. For more details about the types of food they so desperately need please see their website: <http://mrct.org.uk/>

NASAL FLU VACCINATIONS – Monday, 18th October – The vast majority of forms have been handed back, but if yours is still on the mantelpiece (or hidden deep in your child's book bag), could you make sure that it gets to the office please?

TAG RUGBY SMALL SCHOOL FESTIVAL – Wednesday, 20th October 9.00am – A highly skilled team picked from the elite athletes that make up Cedar class, take part in this festival of rugby, playing other local schools at the game involving a funny shaped ball.

Finally, a massive thank you to everyone who contributed towards our Macmillan Coffee morning. As well as eating a lot of cake and having lots of fun, we raised a fabulous £435! Pictures of the morning will soon be arriving on a website near you!

Yours sincerely,



Jon Millward
Headteacher

October 2021

6 th Oct	3.30 – 6.00pm	Parents' Evening Years: Rec, 1, 3 and 5
13 th Oct	3.30 – 6.00pm	Parents' Evening Years: Rec, 1, 2, 4 and 6
15 th Oct	9.10am	Harvest Assembly and Welly Walk (<i>Please note: There will be no Sharing Assembly</i>)
18 th Oct	pm	Nasal Flu Immunisations
20 th Oct	am	Tag Rugby Festival
25 th – 29 th Oct		<i>Half Term</i>

November 2021

1 st – 5 th Nov		Parliament week
6 th Nov	5pm	Fireworks Night at Hunsdon
12 th Nov	pm	Ash Class PE Development Day at Wodson Park
19 th Nov		'Historically Significant Figures' Topic Day (<i>Please note: There will be no Sharing Assembly</i>)
22 nd – 26 th Nov		Anti-Bullying week
22 nd Nov		CORAM 'Happy, Healthy Me' sessions for each class
23 rd Nov	1.30 – 3.15pm	Anti-Bullying performance and workshop
29 th Nov		Occasional Day – school closed

December 2021

8 th Dec	1.30pm	Early finish (<i>although crèche will be available</i>)
9 th December	10am	Christmas Pantomime at Harlow Playhouse
10 th Dec		Clubs finish
10 th Dec	9.30am	Reception and KS1 Nativity Dress Rehearsal
10 th Dec		Christmas Lunch
14 th Dec	2pm	Reception and KS1 Nativity Performance
15 th Dec	1.30pm	Ash class Christmas party
15 th December	7pm	Reception and KS1 Nativity Performance
17 th December	pm	Cedar Class Christmas party (<i>Please note: There will be no Sharing Assembly</i>)
20 th December	pm	Reception and KS1 Christmas party
21 st December	1.45pm	Autumn Term Final Assembly
21 st December	2.30pm	<i>End of term</i>