



# WIMBLEDON CHASE PRIMARY SCHOOL

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**Headteacher:** Mr. K. Ellis B.Ed. (Hons.), M.A. (Education)

20<sup>th</sup> September 2024

Dear Parents,

It has been great to welcome the new Reception and Nursery children and their families over the past few weeks as they begin to settle into school life. It was also lovely to see so many of you at this year's *Meet the Teacher* sessions. For those who couldn't attend, the presentation slides are available on the [Welcome Meetings](#) page (under the Parents tab) of our school website.

One of our main focuses at the start of this term has been ensuring that the children are adjusting well to their new routines and feel comfortable in their new classes. They've enjoyed learning about our [Cornerstone Rules](#) and are working together to create a calm and productive learning environment.

This newsletter includes a range of important information and updates that I hope you find helpful.

## AUTUMN HEALTH



The Autumnal weather is also a time for coughs and colds at school. Our key messages at school are about continuing **to promote good infection prevention measures:**

- **Handwashing** is one of the most important ways of controlling the spread of infections especially those that cause diarrhoea and/or vomiting and also respiratory infections.
- Coughs and sneezes spread diseases. **Covering the nose and mouth** when sneezing and coughing can reduce the spread of infection.

We follow the NHS ['Is my child too ill for school?'](#) guidance which is useful to help parents know when it is appropriate to keep children at home or not.

The general message is that it is **usually appropriate** for parents to send their children to school with **mild illnesses**. This would include general cold symptoms: a minor cough, runny nose or sore throat.

However, children should **not** be sent to school if they have a **temperature of 38°C** or above.

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## SCHOOL PROCEDURES AT THE BEGINNING AND END OF THE DAY

As the children are now comfortable with their new drop-off and pick-up routines, we're going to return to the arrangements we had last year, encouraging parents to gradually step back from these areas. This will support the children in becoming more independent during these times.

- **For parents dropping off/picking up near the Gym/Year 2 door area**, we kindly ask you to stay behind the cones that will be placed as a guide from Monday onwards.
- **For parents dropping off/picking up near the dining hall**, please stay behind the yellow line (near the tree). Thank you!

These arrangements will help reduce congestion in those areas, making it easier for staff to support children who might need a little extra help in the mornings, as well as making it simpler to spot parents during afternoon pick-up.

- We kindly ask that families leave school premises promptly at the end of the day to ensure a smooth transition for after-school activities.
- Please remember that children should not play on school equipment after school, as it is reserved for the after-school club.
- Also, for safety reasons, please remind your children not to ride scooters or bikes on school grounds, as there are often younger children around.

To help remind families to vacate the premises, a hand bell will be rung at 3:50 pm. We appreciate your support in helping to make these routines work smoothly for everyone!

## MACMILLAN COFFEE AFTERNOON

One of our parents, Mrs Mayhew, will be organising a **coffee and cake stall** in aid of **MacMillan Cancer Support**, next **Friday 27<sup>th</sup> September** at pick up time and you will find the stall near the dining hall.

Please bring any cake donations (homemade or shop bought, no nuts please) to school at drop off on Friday 27<sup>th</sup>.



All money raised will be donated to the wonderful Macmillan charity.

## HARVEST ASSEMBLY



We will be holding our **Harvest Festival** assembly on **Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> October**.

We send all donations to the Wimbledon Food Bank who are asking for items like UHT milk, tinned/packet soup, cereals, tinned vegetables, tinned tomatoes, rice including microwaveable, baby shampoo, wet wipes, jam, sandwich spreads, ketchup and sauces.

Please be kind enough to **send in any donations** on **Monday 30<sup>th</sup> September or Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> October**. Thank you for your support in this.

## MENTAL HEALTH & WELLBEING AT WCPS

At Wimbledon Chase, we believe that **mental health and wellbeing** are crucial to the children's success and happiness and we are proud of our increased capacity to support both children and their families. At Wimbledon Chase we provide mental health and wellbeing support for all children; we focus on this in class, in lessons and through assemblies and theme days or weeks. I hope that you saw the wellbeing newsletter that was sent out this week.



We were pleased to welcome our parents to our first Wellbeing Event of the year this morning. Dr Kelly Lewis-Cole, Lead Clinical Psychologist and Megan Doyle our Educational Wellbeing Practitioner presented valuable advice on Supporting Children with Academic Pressure. This year we are forging much closer links with our neighbouring school, Dundonald Primary, so that we can share expertise and resources, so it was lovely to also welcome parents from across the park too!

For a full list of the events, webinars and resources you can access do visit our Wellbeing section on the website which is located [here](#).

If you are interested in 1:1 parent sessions with our friendly in-school NHS Wellbeing Practitioners to help your child's worries or anxieties, or support their challenging or tricky behaviour, then please contact your child's class teacher, Mrs Dotchin or Mrs Adamson.

## PARENT MEETINGS

Meetings for parents of children with **Individual Educational Support Plans** [IESPs] will be held on **Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> October**.

**Parent Consultation Meetings** will be on **Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> & Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> October**.

We will contact you with information about the evenings nearer the time.



## PUPIL PREMIUM



**Did you know that you could help secure additional government funding for the school if your child qualifies for Pupil Premium?**

This funding allows us to provide extra staff and resources that significantly enhance the quality of education for all our children.

With the Mayor of London's initiative to provide free school meals to all primary-aged children again this year, some families might feel they no longer need to apply. However, without these applications, the school could miss out on valuable funding. If your child is eligible for

Pupil Premium, it would greatly benefit the school to apply, even if they are already receiving free meals through the Mayor's scheme.

To see if your child qualifies for Pupil Premium and to help the school receive additional funding, please check your eligibility [here](#) and complete the required form. Alternatively, you can email Mrs. Dotchin, and the school can assist by running a check on your behalf.

## OCTOBER HALF-TERM HOLIDAY CAMP -BMM

**BMM Sports** will be running a half-term holiday camp from **28<sup>th</sup> October – 1<sup>st</sup> November**.

BMM offer professional sports coaching with experienced coaches. Sports include football, cricket, handball, rounders, athletics, basketball, netball, dodgeball and multi-skill games.

[Booking details can be found following this link.](#)



## FINALLY

For any parents, particularly in Year 6, who may have missed the session on [applying for secondary schools](#), the slides can be found on the [Parent Support and Workshops](#) tab on the website or [here](#).

We talked to the children about **road safety** in assembly today, particularly about crossing the road. We also asked the children to be **careful when crossing the cycle path** in Chase Alley, especially when the afternoons grow darker.

Please note Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> October in your diaries for the Friends' AGM at 7.30pm.

Have a good weekend.

Best wishes

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'K. Ellis', written in a cursive style.

Mr. K. Ellis

**Headteacher**

**MOMENTS  
MATTER,  
ATTENDANCE  
COUNTS.**

<b>A</b> Rights are for ALL children. <b>UNIVERSAL</b>	<b>B</b> Rights are there at BIRTH. <b>INHERENT</b>	<b>C</b> Rights CANNOT be taken away. <b>INALIENABLE</b>	<b>D</b> Rights DO NOT have to be earned. <b>UNCONDITIONAL</b>	<b>E</b> All rights are EQUALLY important. <b>INDIVISIBLE</b>
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