



NEWSPLETTER

Infants

It has been an excellent start to the new term. Your children are delighted to be back at school. They are engaged with their learning and their friends and the school feels busy and purposeful. Thank you for all your support and cooperation in helping us make the beginning of this school year a positive experience for your children. I know it is not quite the same as usual and the control measures do impact on how we run the school, but the new normal is well established and we now know that coronavirus will be with us for some time and how important these measures are. It is now crucial we all follow the rules we have in place so we reduce the risk of spreading the virus and continue to be able to educate the children. From time to time, often with the government's advice, control measures will change. One of those changes came into effect from last Monday. We are now asking you to wear a face covering when entering the school grounds and I thank all those people who have complied.

I imagine you may hear false rumours of positive Covid tests in schools, which is very concerning for all involved. You will be reassured to know that, at the time of writing, we have had no positive tests amongst children or staff. If we do have a positive test result we will contact the Department for Education and following their advice inform those members of the school who need to isolate. This will be done quickly and efficiently, whilst the rest of the school continues as usual. Home learning packs have been prepared for the isolating children should this happen.

I have attached some advice on coronavirus symptoms and possible responses. I realise how difficult it is for parents when confronted with sniffles and sore throats and hope this helps.

Once again, thank you for continued support.

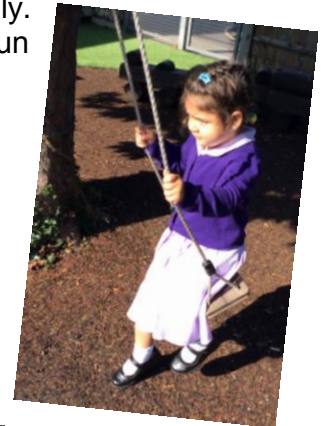
Paul Clayton

Settling In

Our youngest children in Nursery and Reception are settling in beautifully. One child from Reception gave his stamp of approval saying "This is fun school!" Here is a selection of photos which speak for themselves.



Nursery



Reception



Attendance

Congratulations to the children in the following classes who have had the best attendance in their year groups over the last two weeks:

Dolphin (Nursery) **Shark** (Reception) **Pearl** (Year 1) **Angelfish** (Year 2)

Music Update



While we are currently unable to offer choir, band club, recorder groups or singing lessons we are pleased to let you know that Rocksteady is back offering Rock and Pop Band Lessons. A band consists of a maximum of nine children from the same year group bubble. The half hour weekly lessons are run in accordance with government guidance on social distancing and hygiene. Subject to availability, children can choose from drums, guitar, keyboard and vocals with all instruments provided. Rock Steady costs

£31.25 a month and is available to children from Reception to Year 6. If your child is interested, please visit www.rocksteadymusicschool.com for more information and to register your interest.

Applications for Junior School

Parents of children in Year 2 will need to apply for their child to join junior school next year. Please note that admission for our Year 2 children to Year 3 Heathfield Junior School is not automatic. Please visit https://www.richmond.gov.uk/media/3082/primary_admission.pdf to access the *Admissions to Richmond's Primary Schools* brochure for further information. Online applications are made using the eAdmissions website <https://www.eadmissions.org.uk>. The closing date for applications is **Friday 15th January 2021**.

Survey Monkey



Thank you to everyone who has completed the Survey Monkey questionnaire which was sent out earlier in the week. If you have not yet answered the brief survey looking at children's online access at home, we would be most grateful for your feedback. We will use the information gathered to help plan future home learning provision, in the event of another lockdown or partial school closure. Paper copies of the questionnaire are available from either school office.



Birthdays

In line with the government's advice to avoid unnecessary sharing, we are asking that children do not bring anything to school to share with their class on their birthday. Please be reassured we will still celebrate birthdays but without the sweet treats.

Parent Hub App

Please ensure you have this app active on your phone or tablet in order to receive communications from the school quickly and in one convenient place.



It is free for you to download from the  App Store or  Google Play and easy to set up. To join the Junior School, you need to enter the handle *HeathfieldJun*. To join the Infant School, please use the handle *HeathfieldInf*. Once you enter your mobile number and child's date of birth, your account will link with your child ensuring you receive relevant notifications. If you have any difficulties with this please contact the appropriate school office for assistance.

Dates for your Diary

Week beginning **12th October** – Parents' Consultations – details to be confirmed
Monday **26th** – Friday **30th October** – Half Term