



5<sup>th</sup> November 2024

Newsletter

Autumn 4

Dear Families,

Welcome back to the second half term of this school year. I hope you all enjoyed time together last week, especially those families who celebrated Diwali. The children all arrived back in school yesterday looking super smart, and ready to enjoy what will be a very busy and exciting half term!



Our character values for this half term are **Respect, Tolerance and Self-Regulation**, and the children have already started to think about Remembrance Sunday coming up this weekend. As always, we are supporting the Royal British Legion by selling poppy themed items in school for £1 each. There is a selection of traditional poppies, clip reflectors, snap bands and ribbon bracelets, so if your child would like to buy one then our brilliant Year 4 Poppy monitors will be taking them around the classes every day in the run up to Monday. We will have a special assembly on Monday and take part in a minute's silence as a mark of respect.



## School Rules and Behaviour Policy

All of the children and staff in school have been working together to develop a whole school relational policy (which will replace the existing behaviour policy). The policy will be shared with parents and added to the school website by mid-November. Part of the process was working with the children to create rules for our school that everyone agrees are fair. All of the children know the rules, and we have actions for each one so they are easy to remember.



## Evacuation and invacuation (lockdown) practice

In school we regularly practice our evacuation procedure, also known as a fire drill. This is to ensure all pupils and staff know the routes to exit the building quickly and safely, and can do so calmly if needed. We also have an invacuation procedure, also known as lockdown, and we will be practising this the week beginning 18<sup>th</sup> November. The children will be made aware of what will happen and in the first practice, no alarm will be sounded. All schools must have an invacuation procedure in place, and it is important that everyone in school has the opportunity to practice this in case we ever need to use it.

## Leave of absence requests

If parents are requesting leave of absence for their child for any reason, then this must be submitted a minimum of 2 weeks in advance of the requested dates, in order for it to be considered. We are not able to authorise any leave of absence requests if this requirement is not met, unless it is for a medical appointment.

School are also not allowed to authorise any family holidays taken during term time, and if holidays are taken then we are obliged to inform the Education Welfare Officer. We understand the cost of holidays, and that they are much more expensive during school holiday time. However, we are legally not allowed to authorise any family holidays, unless the circumstances are deemed as exceptional. If you do take your child out of school to go on holiday, then please do not ask your child to be dishonest about why they have been absent. This is not in keeping with our school character values, and can make the child feel uncomfortable and often upset. Thank you.

## Lunchtime Play

This half term we will be introducing basketball, on a rotational basis, as an activity available for pupils in Years 2, 3 and 4. This is alongside all of the other outdoor equipment provided over lunchtime, including the Commando Joe's 'Let's Play' program, which continues to prove popular as it becomes more established and the children learn more of the games...there are over 80 to play!

<https://commandojoes.co.uk/lets-play/>



## Commando Joe's

Our school continues to work as a partner with Commando Joe's this year. After the highly successful creation of an exciting new Early Years package, designed and written by our school, we have recently been asked to create further resources for pupils in Key Stages 1 and 2. This is a fantastic opportunity to further collaborate, and share the expertise of our talented team with schools nationally and internationally...we can't wait to get started!

<https://commandojoes.co.uk/early-years-exploration/>

## Prospective parents' information

The NCC online admissions portal is now open for applications for Reception places (September 2025), and we are accepting applications in school for Nursery places. Our school has just made a brilliant information video, which the children have seen already, and we aim to have it on our school website by the end of this week. The video features some of our pupils posing as prospective parents on a tour of the school, asking me lots of questions! We will send out a message when the video goes live on the website, so please feel free to share the link with any friends or family members considering applying for places.

## December 20<sup>th</sup> - School closing time

School finishes for the holidays on **Friday December 20<sup>th</sup> at 1.30pm**. The site will close shortly after this time, so there will be no Wrapstars provision after school on this day.

Thank you for your continued support,  
Nadine Fielding  
Head teacher