Dear Parents/Carers.

Newsletter - 17<sup>th</sup> July

# Thank you!

We find ourselves at the end of the Summer term of what has been the most extraordinary and unprecedented time for us all. You might agree it has been nothing but a rollercoaster these past few months trying to navigate around the guidelines and pressures that we all as families have had to manage. It has been very difficult for parents trying to juggle home, work commitments at the same time as supporting our children at home. This has been quite an emotional time.

All of the staff at HCIS have thanked you for your continued support with the home learning but I would like to personally thank you again for your understanding and patience whilst we have been managing the government's guidance for schools. It has been quite challenging waiting for the latest announcement, having to prepare plans as quickly as we possibly can to suit family commitments, and not being able to please everyone.

I am aware that we have had to send out very direct communications at times advising you of what we have the capacity to offer during lockdown and which adheres to Government guidance. We are sorry if your child has not been able to come into school and if we have had to turn you away. It is not a decision that has been made lightly and it is with a heavy heart that we have had to be so direct. At HCIS we welcome every family into our community and having to turn families away has been extremely difficult.

The HCIS staff and I have all missed normal school life and not being able to welcome all of our children into school since the end of March. We have been able to support families whose parents are key workers and our YR children. Unfortunately due to the size of our site and some staff shielding we have not been able to welcome in any more children.

Please can I ask you to pass on this message to your child(ren). I would like to say how proud I am of all of our children. Proud of all of their hard work and resilience over these past few weeks. We are all looking forward to seeing you all again soon. You have all be superstars!

This week our Y2 children came in for a day each. The children received support ready for their transition and we celebrated their time at HCIS in small 'bubble' groups. It was lovely catching up with them. The children are ready for their next adventure. Congratulations to Oscar Coaten for receiving the Jake Parker award (for sporting commitment and achievement) and Alice Woodcock who received the Annabel Wassell award (for creativity). Well done to you both.

We are all looking forward to September when school can return fully open for all children. Plans were sent out this week. The teachers have uploaded various summer activities via the website home learning site to help children with their transition to the next class.

Thank you for all of the lovely gifts you have given to the staff. They have been overwhelmed by your kindness and generosity. Thank you.

I would like to wish you and your families a lovely and safe summer. Best wishes to our Y2 children and their families as they embark on their next adventure.



## Anna Freud Centre - Useful Resources for Parents

Supporting children's mental wellbeing during the return to school is a key priority for us. The Anna Freud Centre has published some useful resources to support children and their families. Here are links to some resources that you might find useful to do with your child.

<u>Mindfulness Calencdar: Daily 5 Minute Activities</u>
Self-Care Summer Activity Pack

#### Family Travel Plans

Please notify us if you are planning to travel abroad for a holiday so we can make arrangements if you are required to quarantine upon your return. In this instance arrangements will be put in place for home learning. YR and Y1 parents will have received a separate email with a form enclosed. Here is the link Family Travel Plan Form

Please remember to notify us if any members of your family, or anyone you have travelled with has any Covid-19 symptoms.

### **School Report**

Please can you confirm to us that you have received your school report and with any comments by email to the school office, thank you.

## Sports Day - Virtual Celebration of Sport

Thank you for all of your great photos of your little sporting heroes. We have missed our annual sports day this year but the photos you have sent in are brilliant. It's great to see the children enjoying such a variety of sporting activities and what a great idea to have families taking part in their own HCIS sports day. Thank you for helping us to celebrate sport in a different way this year. You can see all of the photos on our facebook page and website. Photos

#### WASPS - September

We understand that parents might be thinking about childcare for next term. Our plan at the moment is for WASPS to open. We are consulting with staff and governors on how we can organise our wrap around care and will send out details as soon as these are confirmed. Bookings will be released when these plans have been confirmed

Best wishes Lucy McNeil