



It's Cold Outside!

It may not have escaped your notice as you scrape the ice from your car in the morning, that we have been experiencing some cold weather!

We have had some beautiful sunny January days as well as grey ones – and the children always enjoy time outside letting off steam! Please ensure that your child has a warm coat and accessories (hat scarf gloves where appropriate) to see them through these Winter months. Following COVID guidance we are also requested to keep classrooms well ventilated. For this reason it is also helpful if your child has a school jumper or cardigan as classrooms are not as warm as they were in non COVID times!



Thank You

I would like to take this opportunity to thank our families for their understanding and patience as we have made some difficult decisions over the past two weeks. Closing classes is never a favoured option; for staff, pupils or families, but on several occasions we have been forced to make this difficult decision due to potential COVID transmission or staff ill health leading to staff shortage. I understand how disruptive this can be

for all parties and we look forward to the situation improving over the coming weeks and finding our way out the other side of the pandemic and it's impacts. It has not gone un-noticed how amazing our whole school community is and how we work together to support one and other.

THANK YOU



Remote Learning

We continue to offer parents the opportunity to access learning for their child from home in a variety of ways. Resources are placed on the school website, which we are happy to signpost parents to. Class teachers are able to forward packs of resources relevant to the learning needs of your child. In addition there will be daily access to a virtual lesson if your child is needing to isolate at home. These virtual lessons are a great way for pupils to remain in touch with their peers and teachers and also allow pupils to access learning directly from their staff team. We encourage all families to take up the opportunity to attend virtual lessons where this is appropriate and possible.

Parent Pick Up and Drop Off

Several parents opt to bring their child to school themselves and it is lovely to have the opportunity to

wave and say Hello in the mornings. On occasions a family may need to transport their child on an adhoc basis. For this reason I will take this opportunity to remind families of the timings for parent pick up and drop off. In the morning the parent drop off time is **9.00am** and in the afternoon, the parent pick up time is **3.10pm**. If you arrive a little earlier than this time, then you will be directed to the layby at the front of the school and then guided as to when it is time to enter the playground. Cars park along the edge of the playground – reversing into a space. All engines are turned off once parked and no moving vehicles will be permitted to enter the playground once pupils are moving to the cars. When indicated, engines are turned back on and cars leave the playground in progressive order from the far end first. Staff will guide and direct this process. Safety of the pupils is ALWAYS our priority and we thank our regular visiting parents who respect these rules and work with us to protect the safety of all.



World Cancer Day

Friday 4th February is a nationally recognised 'World Cancer Day'. We will be participating in this day in school and raising money for this charity.

2

More information will follow in a letter next week.

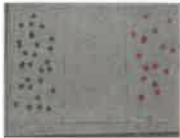
Tales From The Chalkface!

Lower School

Lower School pupils are enjoying their new topic 'People Around the World'. This week they have been learning about Italy. They have tried a range of Italian foods and have designed and made their own Pizzas!



They have recreated the Italian flag with coloured stickers.



Within History they have been learning about toys which are from different time periods. The owls class have enjoyed Phonics Bingo lessons.



Middle School

The pupils in Middle School are enjoying learning about their new topic; Rivers and Water. They enjoyed an off site visit to the local river and followed this up with a diagram to label key features of a river.



Within our weekly reading sessions pupils are encouraged to develop a love of reading. Pupils in Swifts enjoy their weekly free reading session.



In food technology this week the Middle School have also been making pizzas – reading and following their own recipe. They have practised their spreading skills.



Upper School

The children in Upper School are continuing to learn about their new topic – The Tudors. They have designed their own bookmarks and this week

Middleton News

began following their plan to make them.



The pupils have found out about Henry VIII and his multiple wives.



In science the pupils are learning about materials and their properties;

Dates for the diary

Friday 4th February – World Cancer Day

Friday 11th February – Break up for half term at usual times.

Friday 25th February – School finishes for pupils at 1.10pm to allow for whole staff training.

I hope that you all have a restful and enjoyable weekend.

Debbie Hartley