

Vice Principal's Message

I hope you all enjoyed a well-earned break over the half term and managed to enjoy some quality family time together. What a whirlwind start to the year it was last term. We were delighted to welcome our new Foundation Stage children to CCS and I was impressed at how quickly they settled into school life. This term, the Reception children will be getting to know their Year 6 buddies, who are very excited to become our youngest children's learning mentors and friends. It is always lovely to see the children flourish together in their new Buddy partnerships. Year 5 and 6 Bikeability courses went incredibly well with students developing their confidence and ability to ride safely out on the roads. Our Year 1 students finally enjoyed their delayed trip to the Play Village in Warwick, the bus turned up this time!

It was lovely to see so many parents at the face to face Parents' Evening; thank you for your positive feedback and helpful suggestions on how we can further develop provision at the school. This term, we will be sending out details of an improved extra-curricular offer for students in the primary phase, including cookery and sports as well as Young Voices and Strictly as usual.

During the final week of last term, the primary phase was buzzing with the excitement and enjoyment of our annual Big Health & Happiness Week. Every year, this event inspires our children to think about their physical and mental health and wellbeing; the latter being increasingly more important. The highlights of the week were a wonderful Circus Skills workshop, CPR lessons for children in KS2, energetic party games with Nicky Fancy Faces for children in FS/KS1, football coaching by the Cobblers, food tasting courtesy of Waitrose, quick cricket and many other activities. Thank you to all our partners who generously donated their time to provide these amazing experiences for our children.

We're looking forward to an equally exciting and packed Term 2 which will include some Christmas events, details of which will be sent out to parents later this term.



In this newsletter...

- Vice Principal's Message
- Cold Weather
- Car Parking
- Changing Circumstances
- MS Teams
- Uniform—A Polite Reminder!
- Flu Vaccinations
- Dates for Your Diary
- Big Health and Happiness Week



Cold Weather



As we head into the cold weather, please remember to send your child into school with the appropriate outerwear. Unless it's raining, children will go out onto the playground for both break time and lunch time, even if it's cold so need to be dressed for the weather.

Can we please also ask that you make sure that all winter items are named (yes, we do need each individual glove named!)? You will appreciate that with over 400 children all wearing hats, coats and gloves, it is near impossible trying to reunite lost items with the correct owners unless there is a name on it somewhere. Every year, we have hundreds of pounds worth of these items left over at the end of the season which have to be either donated or disposed of.



CCS Friends have a partnership with name label suppliers Stikins which means they earn 30% commission from every order, money which is then put straight back into the school. For details of how to order, pop into Primary Reception to pick up an information leaflet.

Car Parking



PLEASE NOTE THAT PARENTS IN Y1-Y6 SHOULD NOT BE ACCESSING THE SCHOOL CAR PARK IN THE MORNING WITHOUT A VALID PERMIT OR BLUE BADGE. Permits are issued

only to Year R parents or in exceptional circumstances. If you do not have a YR child, a parking permit for another reason or a valid blue badge, you should not be using the school car park. If you have a parking permit (valid for this academic year), you should only park in the short-stay drop-off spaces; the row directly adjacent to the field and the row directly behind the blue badge spaces.

The car park is primarily for staff use and when parents take up spaces, they prevent members of staff from getting to work on time.

If you do not have a valid parking permit, please do feel free to drop children in Year 1 - Year 4 at the drop-off zone where members of the Walking Bus will escort them safely into school. **Please note: the walking bus runs from 8:30 - 8:45am every day.**

Alternatively, you can park on Wooldale Road and walk your child onto the school site and in through the playground gates.

VERBAL OR PHYSICAL ABUSE TOWARDS MEMBERS OF STAFF OR OTHER PARENTS WILL NOT BE TOLERATED.

Changing Circumstances

In these very difficult times, we are aware that financial circumstances may have changed for lots of families. If this applies to your family, there is help available that you may qualify for. We would encourage you to visit the GOV.UK website to check if your changing circumstances mean that you are now entitled to one or more government benefits.

If you are in receipt of one of the following benefits, you may also be entitled to apply for pupil premium funding for your child:

- Universal Credit (annual net income of no more than £7,400, as assessed by earnings from up to three of your most recent assessment periods)
- Income Support, income-based Jobseeker's Allowance or income-based Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guarantee element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on (paid for four weeks after you stop qualifying)

Pupil premium funding is additional school funding for disadvantaged children. It is paid directly to school to help improve the quality of education for that pupil. This funding could be used to pay for free school meals, items of school uniform, school trips, additional learning support and other things.

To find out more information and to apply for this funding for your child, please visit the [Free School Meals and pupil premium page](#) on the West Northamptonshire Council website.



MS Teams

In MS Teams, each year group has their own separate Team. For the younger children, this Team is used to communicate with parents, post updates and set homework. For the older children who are more able to use Teams independently, teachers use their Team to set homework and classwork, as well as communicate with children. Please make sure that you / your child checks their Team regularly. You should mark posts with a thumbs up so teachers know who has seen and read their posts.



If you are unsure of your child's Teams username and password, please contact the Primary Office who can resend these details to you.

Uniform - A Polite Reminder!



This is a polite reminder that CCS fleeces and hoodies should only be worn as an extra layer on top of a CCS cardigan / jumper and should not be worn instead of a cardigan / jumper.

Boots should **not** be worn to school; school shoes of a low, supportive style should be worn. Trainers should also **not** be worn for school, unless as part of a PE kit.

Flu Vaccinations

The deadline for giving consent for your child to receive the annual flu vaccination (nasal spray) is **9:00am on Friday 14th November**. If you do not complete your consent form by this time, you child will not be able to receive the vaccination on that day.

Lots of parents are not selecting the correct school when completing the form as there are two options for CCS; you must select the option for primary. The correct school is 'Caroline Chisholm Primary School - NN4 6TP'



"...couldn't have had a better primary experience and has come on leaps and bounds with the wonderful nurturing she's had in school"

Parent



Dates for Your Diary

FS new intake parent tours
Anti-bullying week
Odd Socks Day
Cross-phase sibling photos
Primary flu vaccinations
CCS Friends Y5 cake sale
Year 3 (Strings participants only) Parent Music Concert

Monday 6th - Thursday 9th November
Monday 13th - Friday 17th November
Monday 13th November
Tuesday 14th November
Friday 17th November
Friday 24th November
Thursday 30th November



A separate communication with details of dates for Christmas events will be sent as soon as these have been confirmed.

Big Health and Happiness Week

This year's Big Health and Happiness week in our primary phase may have possibly been our biggest and best yet. with a huge range of activities taking place throughout the week. Our theme was "Find your little big thing for your mental health". During the week, we focused on the little changes we can all make to lift our mood or ease our anxiety through a range of activities and experiences chosen to promote good mental health and happiness.

The children enjoyed so many different activities but a particular highlight of the week for all our primary year groups was a circus skills workshop run by Circus Sensible and kindly funded by Kajima. The sessions started with a circus skills demonstration and the children then went on to practice their own juggling skills with scarves and plate spinning with varying degrees of success! Resilience and perseverance was shown by everybody to try and master this new skill.



In partnership with Waitrose (Wootton), children from each year group tasted some nutritious snacks to explore how we can fuel our bodies in a healthy way. They also took part in a very melodious music session with Adam the Greek where they learned about building blocks of sound using the sounds from different instruments together to create music.



Children in FS and KS1 enjoyed the return of the fabulous Nicky from Nicky's Fancy Faces for an energetic party games session They played lots of different games and danced to some music; the teachers were exhausted, even if the children kept going! They also made their own healthy chocolate in a session run by parent Lindsay Plantin.



Year 1 - Year 6 took part in lots of different sports sessions to help boost their physical health, including cricket, rugby, archery and football sessions run by Northampton Town Football Club; year 5 and 6 also took part in an outdoor gym session run by Unit 22.

To look after our mental health, every year group from Year 1 through to Year 6 participated in a workshop run by the Mental Health Support Team. These sessions covered managing emotions, worries or low mood and taught the children some valuable strategies that they can use in their every day life.



Children in Year 4, 5 and 6 had a really informative session learning about essential CPR skills, run by South Northants Community Responders as part of their #restartaheart campaign.



Big thanks go to Mr O'Boyle, Miss Coleman and Mr Perry from the House Team for the massive amount of work they put in to organise this fantastic week. We'd also like to say a huge thank you to all of our partners and parent volunteers for giving up their time to provide these wonderful experiences for the children:

- Nicky's Fancy Faces
- Circus Sensible - kindly donated by Kajima Northampton
- Creation Station
- MHST
- Freestyle Sports Academy
- South Northants Community Responders
- Northampton Town Football Club
- SHEvolution Fitness
- Unit 22
- Waitrose - Wootton
- Step by Step Dance School
- Chocolate tasting hosted by parent and CCS Friend Mrs Plantin
- Adam the Greek
- Gardener's View
- Cricket workshops by Pratik Raach
- Mental Health Support Team (MHST)
- Rugby workshops by Brett Daynes
- Emotional Freedom Technique (EFT) tapping with Justyna Sodel

