



27TH NOVEMBER 2020

NEWSLETTER

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Dates for your Diary

Thursday, 3rd December - 6.00pm
**SECONDARY PARENTS' REMOTE
WORKING PARTY -
RELATIONSHIPS & SEX
EDUCATION**

Wednesday, 16th December
**SECONDARY SCHOOL REMOTE
PARENTS' EVENING**

Friday 18th December
**END OF TERM - EARLY CLOSURE
FOR PUPILS**

Monday, 4th January 2021
STAFF INSET DAY

Tuesday, 5th January 2021
**PUPILS RETURN TO SCHOOL
FOR THE SPRING TERM**

15th - 19th February 2021
SPRING HALF TERM - No School

Wednesday, 31st March 2021
**END OF TERM - EARLY CLOSURE
FOR PUPILS**

Monday, 19th April 2021
STAFF INSET DAY

Tuesday, 20th April 2021
**PUPILS RETURN TO SCHOOL
FOR THE SUMMER TERM**

Monday, 3rd May 2021
**BANK HOLIDAY - NO
SCHOOL**

31st May - 4th June 2021
**SUMMER HALF TERM - No
School**

A Message from Sandy

Occasionally it's easy to take for granted the amazing teaching and learning that goes on within our schools.

Staff go about their working day, not realising the impact we may have on our students and their families.

Nothing pleases us more than when we hear from parents who tell us how well their child has settled into their new provision and the effect that this had on the family as a whole.

Our visions across both school are important to us. They are long term goals, which we hope are achieved so that students and families can look forward to a bright future.

We start in the primary school by working together so that every child is understood. We make sure our systems are flexible with an aim to meet the needs of every child that steps through our door. By building the foundations for their learning journey and overcoming barriers, we hope they will achieve their full potential.

By the time they leave us, at the end of their secondary education, our aim is that all of our students have become happy, healthy, empowered and included adults, who participate in and contribute towards society.

I'm pleased and proud that I lead a school where everyone is always willing to go the extra mile.

Sandy

WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING AT THE LINK?

There are many ways we break down barriers to learning. They involve building trust, confidence mutual understanding and respect.



Building relationships right from the start, letting the child feel secure in their school environment.



Discovering the best ways for them to communicate and finding out their interests and what motivates them.



Exploring different tastes and introducing new food types, whilst teaching real life skills.



Celebrating achievements or special times, making friendships and learning the importance of being part of a team.

With lots of encouragement and small steps, the children thrive.

There were squeals of delight at the secondary school this week, when Mabel's (the school's therapy dog) new puppy was introduced to everyone.



The Puppy's is going to be called Autumn, a name that Freddie suggested and which Lisa from CAL thought was just perfect.

The temperature seems to have dropped and this morning was very chilly indeed, which made Hot Chocolate Friday even more welcome!

This week's recipients were:

Malachy for success - he has taken part in all of his PE lessons this term. He is working towards become a polybat pro!



Rafferty for positivity and enthusiasm when working with money. He makes a great shopkeeper. He shows resilience when he finds something difficult and keeps on trying. He is a pleasure to work with.

Carl - a lovely man, who always offers to help both students and staff. He has been an excellent support for Dylan.

Finally, Amanda and Hannah for managing the OFSTED safeguarding and Covid assessment interview so well when the internet went down this week and they had to transfer to an unfamiliar environment at the last minute to do this.

WHAT'S HAPPENING AROUND AND ABOUT?

Jackie Wright, Croydon's Deputy Head of Service - Independent Travel contacted us to give some clarification around SEN Transport provision for Croydon pupils, as they have received some queries

relating to a recent article, which implies that they may be ceasing transport provision for our students with special educational needs. She wants to reassure everyone that this information is incorrect. They are and will continue to meet their legal statutory duty in supporting eligible children and young people with special needs and/or disabilities with travel assistance to their educational provision.

AND FINALLY

Usually at this time of year, we would be getting ready for the Link Association Christmas Fair - a wonderful fundraiser and social event, enjoyed by all.

Unfortunately, due to Covid, we are unable to hold this event, but that has not stopped everyone working hard behind the scenes and we're pleased to announce that we will still be having our annual Christmas Grand Draw. With lots of wonderful prizes to be won, a book of raffle tickets will be coming home via your child's book bag. If you wish to buy some tickets, please fill in the counterfoil and return, together with your money to the school offices.

If you have any unsold tickets or do not wish to participate, PLEASE RETURN THE ENVELOPE WITH

THE UNSOLD RAFFLE TICKETS, as these can be sold to other people.

Other events in the pipeline include a Silent Auction - again with a host of wonderful prizes to be bid for.

A virtual live Magic Show - it simply wouldn't be a Link Christmas without Kevin's annual show.

There will also be a Christmas Jumper day, when everyone can wear choose to wear something festive.

More details to follow.

It's beginning to feel a lot like Christmas - albeit a slightly different one!



Have a lovely weekend.