HCCPS TIMES

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Settling In and Aiming High

As we move further into the autumn term, it's hard to believe how quickly the weeks have flown by. It seems only yesterday that we were enjoying the summer sunshine, and now the mornings are noticeably cooler and the season is beginning to change.

We have enjoyed a fantastic start to the year, with children settling quickly into school routines and approaching their learning with enthusiasm and confidence. One of the highlights of my day is visiting classrooms and spending time around the school. It is always a pleasure to see children so engaged, curious and excited about their learning, and I have been incredibly impressed by their positive attitudes and commitment so far this term.

This term, we have introduced the ***Core Four*** across all classes and year groups. The Core Four clearly sets out the expectations that adults have for children before learning can begin, helping to create calm, purposeful and productive classrooms. By establishing these consistent routines across the school, children know exactly what is expected of them and are able to settle quickly, maximise learning time and take greater responsibility for their own behaviour and readiness to learn. We have been delighted with how positively the children have responded and the impact this has already had on learning across the school.

This half term, our assembly theme is ***Managing Myself***. Through assemblies and classroom discussions, we are encouraging children to take ownership of their behaviour, actions and learning, helping them to understand that they are responsible for the choices they make each day. We have been exploring what it means to be "the boss of yourself" by making positive decisions, showing resilience and taking pride in our efforts. We have also been discussing the importance of recognising and managing our emotions, understanding that everyone experiences a wide range of feelings and learning strategies to help when things feel challenging or overwhelming. By developing these important life skills, we aim to support children in becoming confident, responsible and independent learners.

I would like to extend a very warm welcome to all the children and families who have joined our school community since the start of the academic year.

Parental Conduct on the School Playground

We would like to remind all parents and carers of the importance of maintaining respectful and courteous behaviour on the school playground and site at all times. We are committed to providing a safe, positive and welcoming environment for all members of our school community, and we expect everyone to treat others with kindness and respect. Our **Parental Code of Conduct**, which can be viewed *here*, outlines these expectations and we ask all parents and carers to familiarise themselves with and abide by its guidance.

The children have spoken…..

A few weeks ago, some very brave Year 6 children from both campuses stood in front of their peers and delivered speeches explaining why they should become HCCPS's new Pupil Governors. They spoke passionately about a range of topics, including playtimes and lunchtimes, the school environment, and the qualities they would bring to the role. Speaking in front of a hall full of people is no easy task and requires a great deal of confidence and courage, so I would like to congratulate every child who stepped out of their comfort zone and took part. Well done to all involved!

Following a vote by all KS2 pupils, we are delighted to announce that this year's Pupil Governors are **Nicolo Curto** (Hardwick Campus) and **Muryum Ibrahim** (Cambourne Campus). Congratulations to both children on their success. I look forward to meeting with them over the coming weeks to hear their ideas, discuss the changes they would like to see, and work together on a plan to make a positive difference across our school community.

Message from the school office

Please can we ask all parents and carers to ensure that children's school uniform, coats, water bottles, lunch boxes and PE kits are clearly named. Each week, we spend a significant amount of time trying to reunite lost items with their owners. Clearly labelled belongings help us return items quickly and reduce the amount of lost property that accumulates. Thank you for your support.

Allergy Awareness Update

The safety and wellbeing of all our children remains a top priority. In light of Benedict's Law, all school staff have now completed updated allergy awareness training, and we have spare adrenaline auto-injectors (EpiPens) available on site to support our emergency procedures. We are also reviewing our allergy and medical needs records to ensure that the information we hold is accurate and up to date. If your child has an allergy and you have recently received updated paperwork from us, please return it to the school as soon as possible. Having the most current information helps us work together to keep your child safe and ensure they receive the care and support they need whilst at school.

Donations Needed for Breaktimes and Lunchtime

As part of our continued efforts to improve children's experiences at breaktimes and lunchtimes, we are looking for donations of items such as art and craft materials, fancy dress costumes, board games and Duplo. These resources help provide a range of engaging and creative activities for children to enjoy. If you have any items you would be willing to donate, please bring them to the school office.

Chariots of Fire Fundraiser

A huge well done to the members of staff who recently took part in the **Chariots of Fire** race in Cambridge to raise money for our school. We are incredibly grateful for their commitment, enthusiasm and effort in supporting our school community. If you would still like to sponsor the team and help them reach their fundraising target, there is still time to donate by following this link: https://pay.sumup.com/b2c/Q0XE03YC