

QI Noticeboard

April 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been really wonderful to have everyone back in school since the 8th March. It is amazing how quickly we have been able to return to some sort of normality, with the children loving being back with their teachers and friends in the classroom (and the staff loving it too!).

The vast majority of those who had been learning at home, have adjusted well to the transition back to school. We have focussed on re-establishing our routines and expectations and this has helped all children regain the sense of familiarity that they were used to. We have prioritised the children's wellbeing and mental health by allowing them time to re-adjust and to share any concerns they may have. We have also continued to teach Trick Box tricks to remind children of the strategies they can use if they are finding things difficult and to help them overcome any worries. Although the children are showing great resilience and positivity, we will continue to closely monitor their emotional wellbeing so that we are able to further respond to their needs as necessary.



For current Government information and resources to support Mental Health for children and parents, please access the Mental Health and Wellbeing information on our website - <https://www.queensinclosure.hants.sch.uk/page/?title=Support+for+Families&pid=99>.

One of the things we have noticed, and that you can help us with, is the children's independence. It appears, unsurprisingly, that some children have become less independent, possibly as a result of having lots of individual support and assistance whilst learning at home. In school, we always encourage the children to organise themselves and their resources and to problem solve as much as they can on their own. Anything you can do at home to encourage and reinforce this would be appreciated.

As the children have become more settled, we have been assessing their learning to identify any gaps or areas where their understanding is not secure. We will be focussing on addressing these over the Summer Term as we aim for children to achieve the key skills required to meet their Age Related Expectations.

Learning over Easter

Several parents have made requests for learning to continue over the Easter holiday. Although we have not set any specific home learning for the Easter break, to support this request, we have put together some learning suggestions for any families who are interested in doing this.

Each Year Group has prepared a 'Learning Suggestions' overview that covers areas of English and maths (including mental maths skills) that have been taught this year along with ideas for keeping reading skills going over the Easter break. The activities and ideas on each overview are matched to the Age Related Expectations for the year group. These 'Learning Suggestions' overviews can be found within each of the year group tabs on the communications page on our website - <https://www.queensinclosure.hants.sch.uk/page/?title=Communications&pid=53&action=saved>. You are welcome to engage with these activities if you wish to continue your child's learning over the break.

I wish you all a relaxing and enjoyable Easter break and hope that your child enjoys their Easter egg, a gift organised by our wonderful PTA. Let's hope we see more of that lovely sunshine! Keep safe everyone.

Mrs Allen



For Information / Updates

Sports Day Alternative

This year, due to COVID-19, we will be organising a range of sporting events and activities for our learners as an alternative to our annual sports day. Regrettably but understandably, we will not be inviting parents to join us for this but we remain hopeful that we can return to a more 'normal' schedule of events in the new academic year.

School Lunches

It is lovely to see such a positive response to our recent menu change. Our new HC3S Catering staff are keen to ensure that the children enjoy their meals, so in response to the children's feedback we will be making a couple of further changes after Easter. From Monday 19th April, with the exception of those children who have a special diet menu issued by HC3S, we are serving **only** the food options listed on the **menu**

https://www.queensinclosure.hants.sch.uk/_site/data/files/files/lunch%20etc/08D49AC821DC802777FA85B0C093FAF7.pdf. If your child does not like either the meat or vegetarian option, please provide them with a packed lunch as we will not be able to offer another alternative. Thank you.



Our School Council

Since the full re-opening of school, many classes have elected a new Class Councillor who will represent their class until the end of the year. We have managed to have one meeting with all the representatives – outside and safely distanced – to welcome the new Councillors.



THANK YOU!

Thank you to everyone that donated to Comic Relief recently. It was great to see so many people wearing red and the jokes really did make everyone smile! The School Council officers helped count all the money. Our final amount reached £400.00 – a fabulous total! 😊

In the Summer Term, the School Council are hoping to raise money for a local charity and hoping to help organise some events to celebrate the Tokyo Olympics that are coming up in the summer.

We have been humbled by gestures from a number of our children during lockdown, thinking of how they can help others less fortunate than themselves. Freya in Year 4 has raised £525 for Comic Relief by baking and selling cakes and Amelie in Year 2 is having her (really long) hair cut to raise funds for the Little Princess Trust. If you wish to make a donation, we have a poster in our Community window by the school entrance.

COVID-19 Update

We would like to thank you all for your continued support in following the safety measures whilst on our school site. All the controls in place as explained in our previous communication, including the one-way system, wearing of masks, 2m social distancing and fluid drop-off and pick-up will continue to be fully in place at least until the Government lift all restrictions.

Please follow the link on our website if you are interested in the Government's latest guidance for parents - <https://www.queensinclosure.hants.sch.uk/page/?title=Coronavirus+Information&pid=75&action=saved>

Polite reminder:

- If you (or anyone in your family) have coronavirus symptoms: please get a PCR test and stay at home. In the event that a child tests positive, it is essential that we are alerted via the reporting facility on our website – **Positive COVID-19 Test Result Form** so that we can continue to support the test and trace service and help keep people safe.
- Rapid lateral flow tests help to find cases of COVID-19 in people who may have no symptoms but are still infectious and can give the virus to others. If you want to take part in regular testing at home, please order your free rapid lateral flow tests via the government website.

Staff Changes

This half term, we have said a fond farewell to Mrs Calzolari, who has been a lunchtime Play Leader at QI for the last 15 years and Mr Minton, Site Manager for the last 13 years! We wish them both every happiness in their retirement. Some of you will have seen our new Site Manager, Mr Murray, who has already started doing a number of jobs to help maintain our school and site. We'd also like to extend a warm welcome to Mr Robertson, a landscape gardener, who is helping to look after our grounds. 😊

We have a vacancy for a Site Assistant for 17.5hrs a week – for further information, please view the advert on the vacancies page on our website -

<https://www.queensinclosure.hants.sch.uk/page/?title=Vacancies&pid=39&action=saved>

Around-the-World Challenge from the PTA (and Planet Education)



Thank you all for joining in the Big Step Challenge! During the February half-term, our children collectively walked 511 miles and made it to the Eiffel Tower in France and beyond! Our PTA would like the children to continue their challenge during the Easter break, to see how much closer to Tokyo, where the Olympic Games are to be held, we can reach – it is 6,000 miles away! Please report your child's miles to their teachers, through the year group email, on Monday 19th April. Let's see if we can make it!

INSET / Diary Dates

Enforced Closure (Polling Day) **Thursday 6th May 2021**

INSET **Friday 9th July 2021**

Early Closure (1.10pm) **Friday 23rd July 2021**