

QI Newsletter

Issue 3 | October 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

Thank you to all of you who were able to come along to our 'Drop In' session on Wednesday 16th October, which was a great opportunity for the children to share their learning over this half term. It is always lovely to see so many parents attending these events, but we are very aware that the timings do not suit everyone. If you have any suggestions for alternative timings for sessions like this, we would love to hear your views. As always, please use the [feedback form](#) on our website.

We had an excellent response to our Parents' Consultation Evenings, just before the half term break, with around 90% of parents engaging in a conversation with their child's teacher about their learning. We hope you found this useful. We will be sending home Interim Reports and hosting our next formal Parents' Consultation Evenings later in the Spring Term.

Meanwhile, I hope you have a restful half term break with your families and enjoy a pumpkin or two!

Mrs Allen

New Information

Staffing Updates – We are delighted to share with you that Miss Packham is getting married during the October Half Term – congratulations to the new Mr & Mrs Thomas!

School Lunches – the winter menu is now in operation and is available to view on the 'Lunches' page of our website - <https://www.queensinclosure.hants.sch.uk/lunches>

Birthday Treats – Due to the increasing number of food allergies we are aware of in school, and since we are trying to promote healthy eating, may we politely remind parents **not** to send in sweets or cakes on their child's birthday. While we appreciate the good intentions, these cannot be shared with their classes. Thank you.



Poppy Sales for the Royal British Legion – we will have poppies and merchandise on sale between **5th and 8th November**. Items will be distributed to each Year Group so that everyone has a chance to purchase something or donate if they wish. **Merchandise is limited and will be sold on a first come first served basis - each year group will be allocated; paper poppies with no pin (50p), plastic poppies on clips (50p), wristbands (£1) and snap band rulers (£1.50)** – we cannot give change or get additional stock. We will observe a minute's silence on **Monday 11th November at 11:00am**.

School Council, Children In Need – now that every class in KS1 and KS2 has elected a Class Councillor and Years 5 and 6 have elected our Executive Team, the School Council is ready for action! The first task for the new School Council was to vote on the events they wish to support for the coming year. They have already made a start on planning a special activity for our **Children in Need fundraising event, which is Friday 15th November**. If your child would like to participate in 'Crazy Hair Day' and/or has any Children In Need merchandise (from this year or previous years), on that Friday along with their school uniform (Pudsey ears or headbands very welcome). **We wish to invite parents to make their £1 donation via School Money (No Cash can be accepted)** and we will bank transfer the donations to Children in Need.



Harvest Festival - we greatly appreciate the generous donations of food received for the Community Pantry at Growing Places, Mill Hill. The Community Pantry were delighted with the donations and have asked us to pass on their gratitude, as this will really help with the Christmas food parcels – thank you! We would also like to extend our thanks to Reverend Polly Honeychurch, from St. Wilfrid's in Cowplain, for hosting our Harvest Festival Assembly.



2024 Shoebox Appeal – St. Wilfrid's Church work with Samaritans Purse to send generously packed shoebox gifts to children in underprivileged areas abroad. These gifts bring great joy to children around the world. If you would like to participate, please deliver your shoebox donation to QI by **Thursday 14th November**. Find out all you need to know about how to build your shoebox at <https://samaritans-purse.org.uk>





Late Attendance - whilst we are always monitoring attendance here at QI, one area we are looking to improve is lateness. During our first half term 44 children received at least 1 late mark. A polite reminder to all parents and carers that our drop off times for the school day are between 8:30am and 8:40am. To clarify, **8:40am is when the school day begins** and when children start their learning activities ready for morning registration. Children

who arrive after 8:50am must be signed in or out at the School office. **Please do not come through the office prior to 8:50am**, but use the one-way system around the school to drop your child off at their class. If you need to speak to one of our office team, please come in after dropping off. We will be looking at ways we can improve lateness going forward, and if we notice a continuous pattern of lateness our Child and Family Support Worker will make contact to offer support and advice. Frequent unauthorised lateness can lead to a Penalty Notice of **£80.00**.

Safety and Conduct – we have been concerned to hear of a number of children who have been separated from their accompanying adult whilst leaving school. Please, please ensure your child stays with you at all times and is behaving appropriately. We have over 400 children leaving school at the same time and with the associated volume of adults and vehicle movement, every child's safety is our main priority.

We have also been advised that some children have been seen entering neighbouring gardens to pick blackberries. Please be considerate to our neighbours and keep to the footpath. Thank you.

Smartphone-Free Childhood

As you may have seen on social media, there is a growing movement amongst parents to support a campaign called 'Smartphone-Free Childhood'. Here at QI, we want to support this in any way we can. We understand the importance of being able to contact your child as they become more independent, walking to and from school, in order to give you peace of mind and for the children to be able to call in emergencies. However, children's phones do not need to be a smartphone and have access to the internet in order to keep them safe. There are a large variety of 'feature' or 'dumb' phones available which can just make and receive calls and texts.



Research has shown that smartphones can expose children **to significant safeguarding risks** in addition to a number of other negative implications.

Smartphone risks to children include:

- Highly addictive, with the lasting effects on young developing brains being similar to that of gambling. Linked to poor mental health, depression and self-esteem, especially in young teenagers.
- Expose children to harmful content including pornography, grooming, bullying and material that is not age appropriate.
- Reduce attention spans – they are changing the way children's brains develop and fundamentally affecting their ability to concentrate.
- Rob children of their childhood. Time spent on a device reduces time spent playing, interacting and developing vital social and interactive skills.

To be successful, this movement relies on you, our children's parents, to resist the pressure of giving your child a smartphone until they are in Year 9. For more information please visit:

<https://smartphonefreechildhood.co.uk/>

For more information on the harms of social media and smartphones please view this video with GP, Dr Susie Davies from Papaya Parents and Nip in the Bud charity.

It's a must watch - **A Stolen Childhood Video**

Online Safety – In school, we teach the children to keep safe online but we cannot control the home and wider environment where our children are at the highest risk. Children in Years 2, 4 and 6 received an Online Safety session led by Lee Hayward, Online Safety Specialist. It was great to see parents speaking to Lee during the Drop-In session before and after school. Children in Years 1, 3 and 5 will receive their session after half term so there will another Parent Drop In session before and after school on that day (date to be communicated via text) – it's an ideal an opportunity to get help setting up parental controls on devices etc. We appreciate your continued support, working in partnership with us to help keep our children safe.

Curriculum Enrichment

My Best Novel - Crookhorn College hosted 10 children from year 5 in their annual 'My Best Novel' event. The children took part in lots of activities related to books, including looking at covers of books with the titles removed, giving them a title, writing a blurb and a first paragraph. The children thoroughly enjoyed their morning.

Havant and Waterlooville Sports School Partnership – we've had a busy month.....

9 boys from years 5 & 6 went to the H&W school football competition. The boys competed well in the group stage, drawing two and losing one, resulting in us being placed in the Silver Plate event. After a nail-biting penalty shootout, we were eventually crowned winners (2-1 on penalties).

Years 5 & 6 entered 8 children into a netball competition which took place at Horndean Technology College. The team won 4 out of their 5 matches but lost the decisive game against the winners of the tournament 3-0 to finish an impressive 2nd overall.

10 children from Year 3 went to a tri-golf festival where they were tasked with scoring as many points as they could, through a series of putting and chipping activities. All the children developed their skills and were all able to contribute positively. The children finished a respectable 2nd missing out on the trophy by 1 point.

21 children from years 1 & 2 were very excited to go to a gym festival at Portsmouth School of Gymnastics where they had the chance to experience 'team gym' activities. The enthused athletes completed a floor routine, took part in a vault as well as use the trampolines. The children also got the chance to do Halloween themed 'pit drop' into the foam pit before racing their peers across the foam. All the children had lots of fun.

9 children in Years 5 and 6 took part in the H&W Girls' Football Tournament – we progressed from the group stage with 3 wins and 2 draws. We were eventually knocked out in the semi-finals after a penalty shoot-out loss. However, the girls rallied to win the 3rd place play-off on penalties which placed us as 3rd overall out of 12 teams. The girls played amazingly!



Hampshire School Football Cup



We hosted the first round of the Hampshire Cup football fixtures for both boys and girls. Our girls team played against Wallisdean Junior and won their game 4-1 progressing to round two. The second round took place on a very muddy field with our team leading at half time, unfortunately, a strong Copnor Team pushed back in the second half and took a 5-3 win. All the girls showed tremendous resilience and determination throughout their cup venture.

Our boys team competed very well against Stamshaw Junior coming back from 1-0 to lead 2-1 however, we conceded two late goals to lose the game 3-2. We will now compete in the Hampshire Plate competition.

As always, we appreciate the support of our EdActive Coaches, Mrs Jarrom and our mini-bus drivers Miss Farrell and Mr Porter.

Child and Family Support Worker

Looking after your family's wellbeing is very important. Families all need some help from time to time due to life changes or events. Hampshire County Council created Back to Basics as a way to help you support your family's wellbeing.

Using the 'back to basics' approach can empower you to take control of the 5 ways of wellbeing. The 5 keys areas are Connect, Be Active, Keep Learning, Give and Take Notice. As a parent you can take small steps to help your child's wellbeing as well as your own and here's how:

Connect – Connecting with others can give you the opportunity to share positive experiences and provide emotional support for all. Building good relationships is positive for your wellbeing.

Be Active – Exercise and physical activity releases happy chemicals from your brain to your body. It also helps us sleep better.

Keep Learning – Learning something new can help you feel happier and more focused. It can also raise confidence and self-esteem.

Give – Help each other, give time to friends, family or the community. Give yourself time to ensure these basics are in place.

Take Notice – Try to pay more attention to the people around you. Take notice of changes in behaviour and appearances, the positives and negatives and talk these through.

For more information and ideas on how to boost your family's wellbeing you can visit <https://www.hants.gov.uk/socialcareandhealth/childrenandfamilies/back-to-basics>

If you'd like further support with this, please pop in to see Miss Farrell at the office or send her an email CFSW@queensinclosure.hants.sch.uk



Future Dates for Your Diary - Autumn Term 2024

5 November	NEW Poppies and merchandise on sale until Friday 8 th November - we will observe a minute's silence on Monday 11 th November at 11am
12 November	NEW Wear odd socks in support of Anti-Bulling Week
15 November	NEW Children in Need Fundraising – 'Crazy Hair Day' A £1.00 donation payable via School Money please – no cash ☺
25 November	Flu Vaccinations - Portal closes 10am on 23 November
Advance Notice of Christmas Dates for the Diary <i>*Performance times are dependent on rehearsal length and may be subject to change. Further information will be shared with you during November.</i>	
13 December	NEW PTA Present Buying Day
16 December	NEW Christmas Lunch for F, 1, 2, 3 & 4
17 December	NEW Christmas Lunch for F, 1, 2, 5 & 6 NEW Years 1 & 2 Christmas Performance (2 tickets per family) - there will be a morning and afternoon performance at 9:15am & *2:40pm.
18 December	NEW KS2 Church Service at Waterlooville Baptist Church – doors open at 10am and will be limited to 2 adults per family.
19 December	NEW Foundation Nativity (2 tickets per family) morning performance at 9:00am.
20 December	Finish at 3:20pm for the Christmas Break
6 January	NEW School closed for INSET (staff training)



We welcome feedback all year round and thank those parents who have already used our Feedback Form on the 'Contact Us' page of our website to share comments, suggestions or questions with us.



School Age Immunisation Team



Get protected against flu



FLU: 5 REASONS TO GET PROTECTED AGAINST FLU

1. Protect your child - the vaccine will help protect your child against flu and serious complications such as bronchitis and pneumonia
2. Protect your family and friends - having the vaccine will help protect more vulnerable friends and family
3. No injection needed - the nasal spray is painless and easy to administer.
4. It is better than having the flu - the nasal spray helps protect against flu and has been given to millions worldwide
5. Avoid costs - if your child gets flu, you may have to take time off work or arrange alternative childcare



COMING SOON



The Immunisation team
will be coming to school soon to
administer the flu nasal spray

25 November 2024



Scan the QR code to complete
a flu consent form
(even if you wish to opt out)



School code

SH 116248