



February Half term - Everything you need to know

Headteacher's address, SALT course, Safeguarding update, Parental conflict programme (Take Charge) and so much more!



Keep posted on IG

Headteacher Update

Another very short 5-week ½ term and so many things to talk about.

Firstly, **a huge congratulations to our pupils for having a very positive Mock Exam Week.** All pupils in KS4 and KS3 (excluding the nurture groups) sat Mock Exams in Maths and English. They had to observe exam conditions and I applaud them all, they were amazing and helped us see what they are capable of in readiness for the real exams at the end of February.

Food – the school provides breakfast and a hot lunch free of charge. We publish a ½ termly menu to inform pupils (parents and carers) of the meal for each day. **There is no meal option, apart from Halal/vegetarian observations where necessary.** This half term, some children have been trying to customise their meals, “I don’t want this, I won’t eat that, etc.” I need to highlight that **our chef cannot make individual options**, we are time-limited and want to get hot meals out as soon as possible. Please talk with your child so that they know what is on offer and if they don’t fancy it, please send them with a packed lunch for that day. We will also be stopping serving just sides, i.e. just chips, just garlic bread, etc. All children will be served a main meal.



In KS4, our pupils have been learning about Apprenticeships. They have learned that Apprenticeships are a really good alternative to college, and they can earn a decent wage whilst gaining proper industry qualifications. Apprenticeships are available to anyone 16+ who is not in full-time education (School leavers). This week has been National Apprenticeships Week and we have visited the Croydon Apprenticeships Fair. Our pupils have met real employers and have been able to discuss a range of job roles within different organisations. Our aim is to secure 1 or 2 days per week of work experience for our year 10s and year 11s as soon as possible and I am appealing for your help with this. If you have a family friend or acquaintance who would be willing to offer work experience, let me know. I will sort out the risk



assessments and make sure that the location is safe and that your child will be learning beneficial skills and developing knowledge of the workplace in readiness for adulthood.



As always, I need to mention the uniform. This ½ term has seen a variety of different fashions being worn to school, in an array of different colours from across the rainbow. Some children attend school in very expensive branded tracksuits and trainers, as much as they brighten up my day, I would hate to see them ruined, especially during this period of financial austerity. This message is aimed at a small number of pupils and is quite an easy fix. I have purposely kept our uniform simple, not wanting you to spend fortunes on designer kits. **Please, can I appeal to you to send your child in the correct uniform;** this comprises of black trousers/leggings or skirt (Knee length), white shirt (Polo or buttoned), black jumper or sweatshirt (No logos), black shoes or trainers. **We are a school community**

and I want our children to feel they belong; uniform helps this process.

Get your uniform

In English lessons, our reading strategy is moving at pace and **all children have access to a range of books in school. If your child would like to borrow books from school, they simply need to ask their Tutor.** In KS4, pupils have been reading 'Blood Brothers' and they have been taking on the roles of the characters in the book. I am very impressed with the commitment shown and hope that your child is sharing with you what they are reading.



In KS3N3, literacy lessons have been making the best use of 'Units of Sound' which is supported by our Speech and Language Therapist and Specialist Learning Development Tutor.

In Maths, the whole school has **been making excellent progress in telling the time.** We have been using analogue clocks, digital clocks, 24-hour and 12-hour formats, it has been such fun.

Something new, **we have recently launched our Parent Teacher Association (PTA) and we welcome all parents/carers to join** the PTA and enjoy a range of activities that we plan to offer. Our PTA Chair will shortly be sending out more details of our inaugural event and I hope to see you all very soon. Enjoy a peaceful ½ term and we return to school on Monday 19th February at 09.30 am.



Would you like a more harmonious family life? Check out our Take Charge programme

With Take Charge, we offer a comprehensive range of 1-to-1 and group support, including mentoring activities and counselling. We facilitate weekly coffee mornings, providing a safe and welcoming space for parents of SEND children to gain knowledge, understanding, and peer

support.

We believe this initiative has the potential to transform the lives of families in our community by empowering parents and fostering positive family dynamics and open communication.

If you would like to know more, **contact Suk at [07903689634](tel:07903689634)**

Check out



Introducing new features: online SALT Course

We are thrilled to introduce a brand-new addition to our website that we believe will make a significant impact in the lives of the young people in our school seeking support and guidance for their speech and language development. Developed in collaboration with our Speech and Language Therapist, Ashna, our **SALT (Speech and Language Therapy) Course** is now available to explore.

What is the SALT Course?

Our SALT Course is a comprehensive online resource dedicated to enhancing speech and language skills, **providing a holistic approach to support young people on their journey to improved communication.** Ashna, with her extensive expertise and experience, has crafted a programme that covers various aspects of speech and language development.

Start your journey today on our website and experience the transformation in your communication skills.

SALT Course

Key upcoming dates



19th February

Return to school



20th March

Parents and Carers
Evening (16.00 - 18.00)



27th March

Final day of term (finish at
12.40)



28th March

INSET Day, no pupils in
school



15th April

Return to school

Safeguarding update

Finally, safeguarding – during ½ term there will be an on-call member of the team available for any matter of a safeguarding nature. Please feel free to call one of the numbers below:

10th - 14th February 2024 – Kevan Wayne-Morris – [07852989992](tel:07852989992)

15th – 18th February 2024 – Lana Philippson – [07572710635](tel:07572710635)

Also visit our website www.thewritetimeschool.org.uk for information and support about a range of safeguarding and general support needs.

Helpful links

[Get your uniform here](#)

[Contact us](#)

The Write Time

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