

Dear Parents and Carers,

Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> May 2020

### **Executive Leadership Team ( ELT) Update**

We hope you and your families are well and staying safe during this period of lockdown. Both schools have worked hard to adjust to supporting home learning as well as remaining open to key worker and vulnerable children. We continue to follow the Government's advice and ensure that the health of children, parents and staff is of paramount importance and the key driving factor for any decisions.

#### **Home Learning**

Thank you for all the positive comments and feedback both schools have received in relation to the changes made to our home learning package. We will keep this under constant review and at all times adhere to Government guidance and union advice. We understand that some parents are finding delivering home learning quite challenging and have found the support of the calls from the class teachers helpful with advice on behaviour and time management. As a school we are very aware of the challenges that each family may face at this time and with this in mind we know that each family will need to find their own balance with regards to the structure and routine of each day. We know many families will be juggling child care and home learning whilst working from home. In this current situation we would like to make it very clear that the learning we are providing is there to be supportive. The teaching staff of both schools have worked hard to ensure a comprehensive package, which is age appropriate, for all the children to access although we fully understand that some children require a significant amount of adult support.

#### **Top Tips from AfC Maths Adviser, Christina Wood, to support your child's Maths learning:**

1. Start with revision of what they know.
2. Make it practical.
3. Base activities in real (home based) life.
4. Create bite size chunks rather than long lessons.
5. Provide worked examples.
6. Provide a worked example with errors...can they spot them?
7. Ask them to explain something to an adult or sibling.
8. Suggest a game to play.
9. Provide visuals (try looking at [mathsbot.com](http://mathsbot.com))
10. Be selective when suggesting websites to parents. Make sure you've looked at them first and direct them carefully to the resource you want them to use. Have a look at [matholia.com/uk](http://matholia.com/uk).



## **SEND focus**

As a result of the Covid 19 crisis, there is a need to support both the wider community and schools in their response to providing for children with Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND). Achieving for Children have worked in partnership with NHS providers to develop a SEND Advisory support line. Please see the link below for access:

<https://kr.afcinfo.org.uk/pages/local-offer/information-and-advice/covid-19-updates-and-resources/send-advisory-support>

## **HISN**

We have been pleased to receive such positive feedback on the new home learning platform for the school, this content will be updated weekly on a Monday. You will still be able to access the previous week's learning via the drop down tab next to the current week. This will include videos, teachers' lesson slides and interactive activities and replace the home learning which was on the school website in the teaching and learning tab. The facility to submit your child's learning for their class teacher to see is an added incentive for children to complete learning at home and to celebrate their hard work and the teachers really enjoyed seeing them this week. Uploading of your child's work, drawings or writing is optional and might be an effective motivator for some children, however there is no expectation for families to upload anything as we do not want this to be an added pressure at this time.

## **HJS**

The home learning support is on the website, under the teaching and learning tab. New content is uploaded ready for Monday morning with 2 weeks of content always available. The weekly plans for each year group will guide the tasks for the week. The children will also need to access the school YouTube channel and their Education City accounts as part of their weekly learning.

## **HJS Head of School**

As you are aware, Mr. Jon James is due to leave at the end of the summer term. However, in the light of the current situation, he has decided to delay his departure and will now be leaving HJS to take up his new Headship at the end of the autumn term 2020. The governors and the school staff are delighted with this decision and know that Mr James will continue his work within the ELT, working with governors, staff and parents to ensure that HPP continues to thrive even under the current circumstances.

We have continued the recruitment process for the Head of School role which began before the lockdown. The ELT, governors and local authority concluded the interview process recently. This was a rigorous process despite being virtual and involved a socially distant assembly with children. We are pleased to tell you that Mr. Patrick Tidd will be joining HPP as Head of School for HJS in January 2021. The members of the interview panel are delighted that Mr. Tidd will be joining us – his credentials, enthusiasm and charisma will be an excellent fit for HJS and we look forward to welcoming him to HPP.





There will be a full induction process as well as an opportunity for parents and children to meet Mr. Tidd during the Autumn Term.

## Family Support

It is obvious that the COVID-19 situation has impacted all families. Unfortunately however, some families will be significantly more affected than others. Whilst some will be able to sail relatively smoothly through this time, others may be faced with difficulties relating to finances or mental health. If you are worried about food, finances or your emotional well-being please let the school know: it is not a time to battle along silently.

Below are a few links to provide information to assist on how to access various levels of support.

The school nursing service has issued advice to parents, the information has been posted on the school website under the letters tab in both schools.

To support families at home during the Covid-19 crisis, the NHS have introduced new Facebook and Instagram pages. They will focus on different topics, themes and evidence-based parenting information to support family resilience and promote coping:

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Centre-for-Parent-and-Child-Support-CPCS-100276281421476/>

Instagram: [https://www.instagram.com/cpcs\\_official/?hl=en](https://www.instagram.com/cpcs_official/?hl=en)

Citizens Advice Bureau – Advice and support for parents on low incomes

<https://www.citizensadvice.org.uk/benefits/help-if-on-a-low-income/>

Gingerbread – Charity supporting single parent families -

<https://www.gingerbread.org.uk/coronavirus/>

The Money Advice Service – Free impartial advice on money issues by the Government

- <https://www.moneyadviceservice.org.uk/en/articles/coronavirus-what-it-means-for-you>

National Debt Line – A national helpline and advisory service giving free, impartial and confidential debt advice

<https://www.nationaldebtline.org/EW/factsheets/Pages/coronavirus-advice-and-support/help-and-advice.aspx>

Local Authority – Grants, Benefits and Crisis Funds - <https://www.gov.uk/find-local-council>

Use the web link to find your local authority where you can access services and seek advice on potential grants, benefits and funds



Hampton Infant School & Nursery  
info@hampton-inf.richmond.sch.uk



Hampton Junior School  
info@hampton-jun.richmond.sch.uk



Family Action – Charity supporting families – <https://www.family-action.org.uk/what-we-do/grants/>

Family Action works to tackle some of the most complex and difficult issues facing families today – including financial hardship, mental health problems, social isolation, learning disabilities, domestic abuse, or substance misuse and alcohol problems.

Turn2Us - Turn2us is a national charity providing practical help to people who are struggling financially. - <https://www.turn2us.org.uk/>

Turn2us helps people in financial need gain access to welfare benefits, charitable grants and other financial help – online, by phone and face to face through our partner organisations.

### **Note of Thanks**

The ELT and governors have been incredibly proud of the hard work and dedication of staff during this uncertain time. They are working flexibly and have made huge changes to their normal working day to meet the needs of the children in their class, provide effective home learning as well as still working in school to keep the school open to those children who are attending. The children and families of HPP remain a priority for them as well as looking after their own families.

### **Future Planning**

Further government guidance will be announced later this week regarding the current lockdown. If schools are given information regarding reopening, we will then plan the next phase of the HPP response. I would like to reassure parents that however we proceed, our priority will of course remain the safety of children, staff and the wider school community. We will work with the Local Education Authority, the Department of Education and Public Health England to inform our response. Any information regarding the reopening of the schools will be shared with parents via email.

Yours sincerely,

**Executive Leadership Team**



Hampton Infant School & Nursery  
[info@hampton-inf.richmond.sch.uk](mailto:info@hampton-inf.richmond.sch.uk)



Hampton Junior School  
[info@hampton-jun.richmond.sch.uk](mailto:info@hampton-jun.richmond.sch.uk)



Hampton Infant School & Nursery  
[info@hampton-inf.richmond.sch.uk](mailto:info@hampton-inf.richmond.sch.uk)



Hampton Junior School  
[info@hampton-jun.richmond.sch.uk](mailto:info@hampton-jun.richmond.sch.uk)