



# News on the Ninth September 2021

Email: [admin@commonswood.herts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@commonswood.herts.sch.uk)

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## Welcome back & welcome to all our new families!

Shiny shoes, sparkling uniforms and smiley children! Who could ask for more? It is great to see the children returning to a more 'normal' way of learning at school as the restrictions have eased.

I hope that you and your children have had some sort of break over the summer. It is wonderful to see the children so settled in school so quickly. They have adapted wonderfully to the new routines and are busy in classrooms and playgrounds working and enjoying being back with their friends.

It is not uncommon for children to experience tiredness particularly towards the end of the week. We are mindful of this and are deploying appropriate strategies to support them with this.

### Nursery



## Exploring

### Reception



## Trying new foods



Year 1 and Year 2



# Studying



Year 3

# Searching and Sketching



Year 4



# Challenging Ourselves





# Presenting and Sharing



## Appointments with teachers

If you would like a message to get to the class teacher before school, please contact the school admin team via email or by leaving a message on the answer phone. Messages are quickly passed on. Please avoid coming directly to the office. Parent teacher consultations will be on line on 19<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> October.

## Homework

Homework is given out on **Fridays** and collected in on **Tuesdays**. This provides children with plenty of opportunity to speak with their teacher if they are unsure of any aspect of the work.

## Healthy Packed Lunches

We know that it is quite a challenge to be inspired when providing packed lunches every day. The children have done a lot of learning in school about healthy swaps and looked at the Change4life website which gives lots of ideas and interesting food combinations.

If you would like to view our packed lunch guide, it is on our website under the Health and Wellbeing tab. We ask that children have a "main meal" part of their lunch, some fruit and/or vegetables and an optional snack. If children bring multiple snacks, we ask them to choose the one they would like to eat and take the rest home.

Children are not permitted to have sugary drinks and sweets in their packed lunches. They also do not need to bring a drink as there are jugs of water (some flavoured with fruit) and cups on each table. If you require any guidance on what you could include in order to provide a healthy packed lunch, please take a look at the Change4life website or contact Sian Mills our Family Support Worker.

## School website

Our school website has lots of important information for parents and carers and there is a pupil section signposting the children to lots of interesting information to explore.

## eSafety



As we return to school, to help keep children safe online, this is an ideal time to re-introduce some rules and expectations of device use / internet access at home. The eSafety section on the school website contain lots of practical advice (for parents and children) about setting controls, along with guidance regarding suitability of apps / games.

Some of our key eSafety tips include:

- set limits to screen time during the school week,
- when playing online, have children in a communal space, not unmonitored in a separate room,
- for any app/game which allows online communication (including messaging), ensure filters and controls are set. There are links on the school website to help with this.
- if they have their own phone, have the expectation that you may view their messages at any point
- Talk to them about what they should do if they see / hear anything whilst online which they don't think is right
- 

## Bikes and scooters



From Monday 13<sup>th</sup> September children will be welcome to ride their bikes and scooters to school. Children must be able to park their vehicles independently in the bike and scooter storage areas, so if you think your child is too young to manage this, please take the item back home with you each morning. At the end of the day, please collect your child before collecting the bike or scooter to avoid unnecessary congestion on the playgrounds.



## Young Carers at Commonswood

### Autumn 2021

A warm welcome back from the Young Carers Team at Commonswood. We are looking forward to resuming our weekly drop-in this term for young carers and we will be holding our regular forums where young carers can get together and share their experiences if they would like to.

If you would like further information about what it is to be a young carer and the support available, please go to the school website [www.commonswood.herts.sch.uk](http://www.commonswood.herts.sch.uk) where you will find links to useful information and services.

If you feel your child may be a young carer and is not currently registered, please contact Sian Mills to discuss in confidence. You can contact Sian by email or telephone, 07753 471712  
[s.mills@commonswood.herts.sch.uk](mailto:s.mills@commonswood.herts.sch.uk)

Parent Courses



# Autumn Term events for Parents & Carers

<p><b>13th Sept 9.30-12.00</b></p> <p><b>Behaviour</b></p> <p><b>For Parents of Primary aged Children Held via Zoom</b></p>	<p><b>21st Sept- 12th October</b></p> <p><b>12.30-2.30 (Tues only)</b></p> <p><b>4 Week Anxiety in Children Held via Zoom</b></p>	<p><b>30th Sept - 25th Nov</b></p> <p><b>9.30-11.30(Thurs only)</b></p> <p><b>8 Week Who's in Charge Venue TBC</b></p>
<p><b>4th &amp; 11th Oct 9.30-11.30</b></p> <p><b>Behaviour</b></p> <p><b>For Parents of Secondary aged Children Held via Zoom</b></p>	<p><b>14th &amp; 21st Oct 7.30-9pm</b></p> <p><b>Beginning the journey into SEN</b></p> <p><b>Held via zoom</b></p>	<p><b>10th Nov - 1st Dec</b></p> <p><b>9.30-11.30am (Weds only)</b></p> <p><b>4 Week Anxiety in Children Held via Zoom</b></p>
<p><b>23rd Nov 12.15-2.45pm</b></p> <p><b>Behaviour</b></p> <p><b>For Parents of Primary aged Children Held via Zoom</b></p>	<p><b>30th Nov &amp; 7th Dec 12.30-2.30pm</b></p> <p><b>Behaviour</b></p> <p><b>For Parents of Secondary aged Children Held via Zoom</b></p>	<p><b>14th Dec 9.30-12.30</b></p> <p><b>Beginning the journey into SEN</b></p> <p><b>Held via zoom</b></p>



**ONLINE BEHAVIOUR WORKSHOP FOR PARENTS/CARERS.**

**WORKSHOP FOR PARENTS/CARERS OF CHILDREN AGES 4 - 11.**

- UNDERSTANDING BEHAVIOUR EXPLORING THE 'NEEDS FOUNTAIN'. ANGER AND POSITIVE RESPONSES.
- LABELLING, POWER STRUGGLES AND BOUNDARIES.
- IMPORTANCE OF COMMUNICATION, COMPROMISE AND PRAISE.
- CHOICES, CONSEQUENCES AND HOW TO MANAGE MISTAKES..

**BECOMING THE PARENT YOUR CHILD NEEDS TO THRIVE.**

DATE: Monday  
13th Sept. 2021

TIME:  
9:30am -  
12noon

**WORKSHOP TAKES PLACE VIA ZOOM.**

**To book a place, please see details on the calendar of events.**

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**Diary Dates**

September	
13th	Reception to start full days
October	
4th	Maple class swimming for 2 weeks
11 <sup>th</sup>	Year 6 residential trip to Skern Lodge
14 <sup>th</sup>	Year 2 Great Fire of London workshop
15 <sup>th</sup>	Year 6 return from Skern Lodge
18 <sup>th</sup>	Harvest festival assembly School nurses in for Flu Vaccine
19 <sup>th</sup>	Parents Evening (via School Cloud)
21 <sup>st</sup>	Parents Evening (via School Cloud)
22 <sup>nd</sup>	Inset Day Children do not attend
25 <sup>th</sup> -29 <sup>th</sup>	Half Term Children do not attend
November	
1st	All Children return to school
8th	Magnolia class swimming for 2 weeks
11th	Armistice Day assembly
15th	Antibullying week
26th	School nurses in for Flu Vaccine

29th	Occasional Day Children do not attend
<b>December</b>	
13th	Reception, Year 1 and 2 Christmas dinner, KS2 to bring in a packed lunch
14th	Years 3, 4, 5, 6 Christmas, Reception and KS1 to bring in a packed lunch
20th	End of term Nursery
21 <sup>st</sup>	End of term
<b>January</b>	
5 <sup>th</sup>	Inset day children do not attend
6 <sup>th</sup>	All Children return to school

### SCHOOL TERM AND HOLIDAY DATES 2021/2022

#### Autumn Term

Wednesday 1 <sup>st</sup> September	Staff INSET – children do not attend
Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> September	Term commences for children
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> October	Staff INSET – children do not attend
Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> October – 29 <sup>th</sup> October	Half Term – children do not attend
Monday 29 <sup>th</sup> November	Occasional Day – children do not attend
Tuesday 21 <sup>st</sup> December	Term ends

#### Spring Term

Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup> January	Staff INSET – children do not attend
Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> January	Term commences for children
Monday 14 <sup>th</sup> February – 18 <sup>th</sup> February	Half Term – children do not attend
Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> April	Term ends

#### Summer Term

Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> April	Staff INSET – children do not attend
Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> April	Term commences for children
Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> May	Bank Holiday – children do not attend
Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> May	Staff INSET – children do not attend
Monday 30 <sup>th</sup> May – 3 <sup>rd</sup> June	Half Term – children do not attend
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> July	Term ends

Term time holidays have a negative impact on friendships and learning. Please avoid taking your child out of school during term time. Term time holidays are not authorised. Section 7 Education Act 1996 places a duty on parents to ensure that their child of compulsory age attends school.



Commonswood Primary & Nursery School is a Safeguarding School

We are an Encompass School working with external agencies to support children who are victims of domestic abuse.

*'All schools have a clear responsibility placed on them by the Children Act 1989 and by guidance from the Department of Education to safeguard the welfare of all their pupils. In doing so schools are expected to consult with Social Services if they believe there is a possibility that a child may be suffering from abuse or neglect.'*

*If you have any concerns about children please contact 0300 123 4043.*

Mrs G Seymour (Designated Senior Person), Mrs S Manning (Deputy Designated Person), Mrs N Scatchard (Deputy Designated Person), Mr S Burt (Deputy Designated Person for eSafety & Mrs D Lindsay-Hill (Deputy Designated Person),

Chair of Governors Mrs Julie Noakes