

QI Newsletter

Issue 2 | September 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

We have had a very positive start to the year, with the children settling well into their new classes and routines. We thoroughly enjoyed learning about the children's various Olympic inspired activities over the summer and say a big 'Thank You!' to you all for supporting your children with these. The displays look wonderful and there were some incredibly creative ideas – the synchro swimmers were brilliant!

We were pleased that 41% of our children were represented at our 'Day in the Life of ...' Information Session. This was an opportunity for parents to meet the teaching teams, for us to communicate key information about the Year Group's learning and to answer parents' questions. We hope that those of you who attended found it useful. We appreciate that not all parents were able to attend and would welcome ideas on how we can increase parent participation for future years – we are also interested to know the best times for you to attend information sessions - please let us know by completing the [Feedback Form](#) on our website.

We look forward to an exciting term ahead and thank you for your continued contribution to our strong partnership.
Mrs Allen

For Information

Our **Parents' Evenings** will be held on **17th, 22nd and 23rd October**. The purpose of this consultation is to discuss your child's start to the year with their class teacher and to share their current learning targets. **To book an appointment, please submit a [Parent Consultation Evening Form](#) on the 'Contact Us' page on our website by **Monday 7th October****. Your appointment time will be sent to you, via text by **Monday 14th October**.

Prior to the Parents' Evenings, on **Wednesday 16th October**, all classes will be open from 3:15pm to 3:45pm for you to pop in and see your child's books and share their learning with them. Please come along for 10 minutes if you can, to see all the great things they are doing - you don't need to book. 😊

Governor's Annual Report on Special Educational Needs and Disabilities provision – the [2023/24 report](#) is available to view on the 'About Us' | 'Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND)' page of our website.

Update Medical Records: We are in the process of updating all of our medical records and would like to ensure the information held for your child is correct and up to date. **It is essential that all our parents of children in Years 1 to 6 complete the [Medical Records Update Form](#) to ensure we have the correct medical information on your child, even if its to tell us that your child has no medical needs. Thank you 😊**



World Mental Health Day – on **Thursday 10th October** children are invited to wear something yellow to school with their school uniform e.g. a yellow T-shirt, socks, hair ribbons etc. We will be discussing the importance of mental health during the day.

Donations - We will be collecting dry food items and tins for the Community Pantry at Growing Places, Mill Hill between **7th and 11th October** following on from our Harvest Festival assembly on 7th October. Please help us by ensuring all food items are in date as obviously, the Community Pantry at Growing Places cannot accept out of date items. We thank you in advance for all donations, which will be gratefully received. 😊

Ideas: Tea/coffee/sugar, cereal, pasta, tinned foods, squash, biscuits etc.



Pupil Premium School Funding - Thank you to those who have already responded to our email requesting help to secure additional Pupil Premium school funding for children who are eligible for Free School Meals. Through this recent check, we have identified 3 children who we can claim additional funding for. This Government grant is allocated to schools to spend in any way to support raising the attainment for the most vulnerable pupils. We are asking all low-income families to complete a quick [eligibility check](#).

If you are currently in receipt of low-income-related benefits and your child is eligible for Free School Meals, please contact the school office if your child wants to participate in one of our EdActive after school clubs - 02392 268067 / adminoffice@queensinclosure.hants.sch.uk.



Holiday Club – childcare will be available at QI during the October half term. For more information / to book, please visit <https://edactive.co.uk/holidays/>

School Uniform

Due to space limitations and the risk of trip hazards, children can only bring to school a slim-line book bag or a drawstring bag (both available to purchase through the T2P app) that can fit into their personal learning tray. **Rucksacks have never been permitted due their size and bulk - a drawstring bag can hold a packed lunch and home learning whilst being worn like a rucksack.**



All children are expected to wear school uniform, P.E. uniform and appropriate footwear at all times. For further details about our School Uniform policy please refer to our website - [QueensInclosure-Uniform](#)

Site Information

To avoid confusion, the one-way system should be used at all times when dropping off and collecting children to/from their classrooms. The only exception to using our one-way system would be **from Cornelius Entrance to Year 1 classrooms** or **when a child is collected/returned during the school day** and is signed in/out via the school office, at which point the most direct route can be used.

Polite reminder: For the safety of everyone on site, scooters and bikes must be dismantled at the school gate and walked with whilst on site. Thank you for respecting these rules.



Volunteers

Our PTA held their AGM on 17th September where they elected their Committee for 2024/25. We are pleased to announce our Committee Officers: Amanda Gatrell and Heather Rowlands share the role of PTA Chair, Polly Darch is Treasurer and Ciara White, Secretary. We appreciate all members, both old and new, who are committed to being a valuable and active part of the team. The PTA have reflected on last year successes and are looking forward to continuing the momentum this coming year. As always, your support is crucial and more members equal more opportunities. For anyone interested in joining the PTA, please register your interest via email to ptaqueensinclosure@gmail.com by **Friday 4th October**.

Pre-loved clothing – the PTA has lots of good quality uniform available so please drop them an email if you have a pre-loved uniform request or pop along to one of their preloved sales (dates are communicated via the school's text service). The PTA are also accepting donations of good quality/condition fancy dress clothing and Christmas jumpers in readiness for preloved events, please drop all donations to the office.



Doughnuts will be on sale in the playground for £1 after school on **Friday 25th October**.

Christmas Xmas 4 school will be returning; it's a great opportunity for gifts for loved ones including personalised card, mugs, tea towels etc. all featuring your child's artwork. The forms will be coming home with the children to complete during the October half term giving plenty of time to inspire some Christmas creations.



Asda Donates £££s to schools – We are extremely grateful to all our families who have already signed up to the ASDA reward scheme for schools. Thank you to everyone who has selected our school to receive the vouchers, your support is greatly appreciated. We already have over **£400** in the cashpot! 😊

VOLUNTEER



Governor Vacancy - we have an opportunity to recruit one new Parent Governor on to our Governing Body.

Being a school Governor means being interested in getting the best education for the children in our school. Governors can become involved in a range of school matters, which may include recruitment, finance and the curriculum. They also provide a strong link between the school and the local community, and an independent view to support the school on long term development and improvement.

Our Governors meet three times each term and are required to get to know the school through monitoring visits, talking with children and staff and participating in school activities. There are a range of training opportunities available to help Governors undertake their duties and develop their understanding of the key areas of school management. For more information, please read the [Hampshire County Council's information pages](#).

If you would like to register your interest, please let us know through the [General Contact Form](#) on our website and Mrs Allen or Mr Richardson, our Chair of Governors will be in touch - we look forward to hearing from you! 😊

Attendance

Regular and punctual attendance at school is essential for our children to maximise their educational opportunities. As a school, we strive to work with parents to promote good levels of attendance, communicating effectively with parents when issues arise. Please refer to the [Attendance Page](#) of our website for additional information.

New Attendance Rules!



There are new rules for unauthorised absences, whether this is due to holiday, irregular attendance, or otherwise. Don't get caught out!

1 I'm a single parent of one child and we want to go on holiday for 5 days.

Make sure you use the absence request form before you book anything. Your holiday will not be authorised. As your child will miss 5 school days, you'll be given a penalty notice fine. See section 2, too!



For each child a penalty is given...



1 parent & 1 child = £160

Reduced to £80 if paid in 21 days

1 parent & 4 children = £640

Reduced to £320 if paid in 21 days

For a family of 2 parents & 4 children



£1280

Reduced to £640 if paid in 21 days

What happens if school suspects children are actually on holiday?

Photos on Facebook?
Foreign mobile dial tone?
Other children talking about your holiday?
Amazing sun tan?

Please don't be offended if we ask for evidence or mention these questions to you. We're required to do this to ensure a fair system!

Home visit shows no-one at home?



2 What about subsequent absences? Is it still the same penalty amount?

No, not anymore. If in any period of not more than 3 years, your child has a 2nd and 3rd leave of absence OR pattern of irregular attendance, which is unauthorised, then...

2nd TIME

e.g. 1 parent and...
1 child = £160
2 children = £320
3 children = £480
4 children = £640

3rd TIME

A penalty notice fine will not be given. Instead, your case may be taken to court. A magistrate can fine each parent £2,500 for each child.

1 parent & 4 children = £10,000
2 parents and 4 children = £20,000

NO DISCOUNT FOR EARLY PAYMENT

3 What about irregular attendance? Could I get a penalty notice?

YES

If your child is absent for 10 or more sessions in 10 weeks, and their absences are unauthorised, then the school is required to consider penalty notices / prosecution.



So, half a day here and a day there could all add up to 10 sessions in 10 weeks. If unauthorised, then it would be a penalty notice. Remember, 1 day is 2 sessions (morning and afternoon).

4 What are typical reasons given that won't be authorised?

Examples of unauthorised absences

A family member's birthday
Shopping for uniforms
Inadequate clothing for school
Child being used as a carer
Problems with transport

Sickness of parent or sibling
Sibling's school closed
Refusing to attend, but able to
Poor family organisation
Family holidays
No absence request completed

Where attendance is irregular, or historically poor, sickness absences may be unauthorised unless medical confirmation by a medical professional is given.



Hampshire County Council use the income generated from the fines to take legal action against those who do not pay the fine or repeat offenders, the school never receives any of this money.

We are in the process of updating our Attendance Policy to ensure it reflects current guidance.

Child and Family Support Worker

A warm welcome to our QI families, from our Child & Family Support Worker – Carla Farrell. Each monthly newsletter will include a section on a specific topic which we hope will be both informative and helpful. This month, it's all about the importance of routines and looking specifically at how to create a morning routine for you and your child to make those transitions from home to school a little easier.

It's important to recognise that children mirror our emotions and behaviours. If we as adults are stressed, unorganised and struggling to get out of the house, do not be surprised if they are too. In setting morning routines, we have to lead by example.

Here are a few top tips to help:

- **Having an age appropriate and healthy bedtime routine is a must.**
Without this the following morning may be a struggle.
- **Plan and prepare for the morning the night before.**
Do packed lunches need to be made? Have their school dinners been ordered? Ask your child to have their bookbag and shoes ready by the front door. Have their uniform/PE kit ready. Do they have after school clubs to get ready for?
- **Set alarm clocks.**
If those times are not working and you're feeling pushed for time, adjust it 5 minutes or so earlier until you find a time that works for you all. Leave yourself plenty of time to get to school to avoid the last-minute panic.
- **Use 'morning routine' visual aids to get your child involved.**
There are various styles of visual aids that may help your child in the morning such as checklists, now and next boards, flipcharts. Children feel more confident and secure when things are predictable and familiar so being able to see what is expected of them can help. You can also involve them in making routine boards and ticking off checklists.
- **Try to remain calm and enjoy your mornings together.**
Remember that children will feed off of the atmosphere created and your emotions.

Here are some examples of routine visuals you could use at home:



If you'd like 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 the Diary

Autumn Term 2024

7 to 11 October	Food Donations for Harvest Festival/ Community Pantry at Growing Places
10 October	Wear something yellow to recognise World Mental Health Day
16 October	Parent Drop-In! All classes will be open from 3:15 – 3:45 for parents/carers to pop in and see their child's learning (no booking required)
17, 22 & 23 October	Parents' Consultation Evenings by appointment (booking via school website form by Monday 7 October).
24 October	Year F and Year 6 School Nurse Visit (Height & Weight)
25 October	PTA – Doughnut Sale at 3:20pm
28 Oct to 1 Nov	HALF TERM – EdActive Holiday Club (book via their website)
4 November	School closed for INSET (staff training)
25 November	Flu Immunisation (email sent out 20.09.2024 - consent required)
11 – 15 November	Anti-Bullying Week: Choose Respect
12 November	Anti-Bullying Week: Wear odd socks to celebrate what makes us all unique.



We welcome feedback all year round and have a [Feedback Form](#) on the 'Contact Us' page of our website should you wish to share comments, suggestions or questions with us.