

Thursday, 08 October 2020



THE CORBET SCHOOL

Headteacher Dr Jane Tinker BSc MA(Ed) EdD NPQH

Dear Parent / Carer

I hope that you and your families are all well as the unusual circumstances we find ourselves in continue to provide us with plenty of challenges to contend with. This half term has not been without the inevitable disruption and unpredictability I expected but now that the start of the autumn term colds are out of the way, things are feeling a little more settled and we can all only hope that they stay that way. This is the longest half term of the year and I think that we are all feeling it but I am immensely proud of the way that the pupils are approaching all of the new ways of working and we just have to continue to embrace it positively and get on with it. There have been no real developments over the past few weeks, it really is a case of trying to keep going as normally as possible. Our remote learning plans are in place and we are in the process of looking at a timetable to move to if remote learning is our main method of delivery in the future. I really hope this is not the case undoubtedly it is better for us all to be at school. There is lots of information below that we have collected together to communicate to you and so please do read through and if you have any questions then please ask.

Shropshire Council Children & Young Peoples Survey: please see the letter which has been e-mailed to all parents / carers regarding the Shropshire Council Children & Young Peoples Survey.

Whole school deep clean: As part of our Covid safety programme we have carried out a whole school 'electrostatic sanitisation clean'. The aim of this was to enhance our cleaning procedures and endeavour to have the maximum protection possible from potential viral transmission this way. This clean enhances our cleaning over the next 8 weeks.

Heating / layers: one of the mitigations in continuing to keep transmission rates low is ventilation, for this reason we are trying to keep doors and windows open. As the weather turns cooler, we are putting the heating on but please do encourage your child to wear additional layers if they are feeling the cold. Any T shirts or base layers worn under polo shirts need to be a light colour. We also need to use our outdoor space as much as possible at lunch and breaks so please do remind them to bring a coat.

Year 10 Science Revision Guides: Can we remind parent's guardians of year 10 pupils if they wish to purchase the science revision guides, to please complete the slips on letters given to pupils and return to their science teachers with appropriate payment, by next Monday.

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Transport: Since we have returned to school in September, the number of children being transported to school by car has increased considerably. Unfortunately, our car park is only just large enough to accommodate staff parking and we need staff to be able to access parking easily in order to get into work ready for school to start.

We have also received comments from householders in neighbouring roads, regarding parking in private spaces and on pavements which increases hazard for both vehicles and pedestrians. Please can we ask all drivers to be mindful of safety issues in the area around school.

Photographs: We are working with Fizz photography to resolve some issues with the printing of photographs, once rectified we will issue the proofs as soon as possible. As the solution is not totally within our control, we are unable to give an expected date for issue. Sorry for the delay.

Teaching and Learning: Please find attached some guidance which has been given to pupils this week in assembly regarding schoolwork and how to access support.

Uniform: Thank you for your support with sending pupils to school in the correct uniform. We do continue to have a couple of issues with the girls' uniform. Please can I remind you that we do not allow stretchy school skirts or trousers; both should be made of a tailored material. Secondly, we do not allow girls to wear ankle boots unless wearing them with trousers. We appreciate that some of the items that children are wearing in school have been purchased from the school sections of the stores you are shopping in, but please be aware that this doesn't automatically mean that they are accepted as our school uniform. If you wish to check on individual items before removing tags, please do not hesitate to get in touch with us.

Mobile Phones: Can we remind you of our school rules of use of Technology in School

- The use of mobile phones, MP3 players and smart watches whilst at school is not allowed.
- Phones must remain turned off and in bags.
- Use of such items in lessons will result in confiscation of item and afterschool detention. Items will be returned at the end of the day.
- Use of such items at break or lunchtime will result in confiscation of the item and Pastoral break or lunchtime detention. The item will be returned at the end of the day.
- If a pupil's phone rings during a lesson, the phone will be confiscated. This will be the only sanction if the pupil admits to it being their phone. If the pupil lies about the phone, resulting in greater disruption to the lesson, the teacher may issue a detention.
- Refusing to hand over any such items when requested will result in greater sanctions and will be treated as defiance.
- Repeat offences, or if pupils are found to be taking images with these items, whilst in school or on the school bus, will generate greater sanctions.

- If a pupil is found to upload / share an image or video taken in school or on the school bus they will receive a high-level sanction.
- Misuse of school's IT equipment e.g. searching for inappropriate material will result in a SLT detention. The school's IT is monitored daily.

PE Kit: Thank you to all parents and pupils for their support with PE kit. Pupils have looked very smart in their kit and we have benefitted from some nice September weather. As the weather turns more inclement, the PE department have reviewed their processes.

All pupils who are currently participating in football during PE lessons should attend school from now on in full school uniform every day of the week. They should bring their PE kit for football with them to change into on days when they have PE lessons. The groups of pupils participating in football will make use of the changing rooms with revised and risk assessed procedures in place to limit the risk of virus transmission in the changing rooms.

All pupils who are not participating in football during PE lessons should continue to wear their PE kit to school on days when they have PE lessons. These pupils should wear their performance top, or school jumper as an extra layer on top of their rugby top or PE polo top. For their bottom layer, navy base layers under their shorts or skirts or the Corbet crested trackpants should be worn.

Thank you for your patience with the track pant orders and we believe that those parents who had pre-ordered these should have now received them. The new stock of trackpants are currently at the embroiderers so will be available very soon. Thanks again for your support and patience with the supply of PE kit.

Equipment: Enhanced pencil case: could we please ask parents to include a face mask and whiteboard marker to the enhanced pencil case

School Planner / Emergency Arrangements: with winter approaching we are reviewing our Emergency Procedures. Could parents please ensure that they have completed page 1 of the Student Planner, Emergency Arrangements and Emergency Contact Number with their child and just check that they have arrangements in place in the event of an unplanned closure.

Please do continue to get in touch with any concerns and have a nice half term.

Yours sincerely



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Headteacher

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