

Friday 20th November 2020

Dear Parents,

### **Covid Update**

We are very lucky at Giles Brook in that we have had no confirmed cases in school. Cold Harbour, which we are supporting this year, is also the same. I know that over 50% of MK schools have been affected so we all must continue to play our part to ensure that transmission is minimised. Please continue to help us by following the government guidelines.

You can leave home to:

- go to work, shop for essentials or for medical appointments
- visit people in your [support bubble](#),
- provide informal childcare for children aged 13 and under as part of a [childcare bubble](#),
- provide care for vulnerable people,
- provide emergency assistance,
- provide respite care where that care is being provided to a vulnerable person or a person with a disability, or is a short break in respect of a looked after child.

People can also exercise outdoors or visit an outdoor public place.

The full guidance can be found here: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/new-national-restrictions-from-5-november>

### **Chromebook purchasing for Y1-Y6 pupils**

More information about the purchase of a Chromebook for home use is on the school website, including the flyer and the link to the portal. Please use the code emailed to you to register.

<https://www.gilesbrook.co.uk/purchase-a-chromebook.html>

The Chromebooks are the same as the ones we use in school and therefore will allow children to log directly into their school Google account and access all resources for home learning. The last day to order a Chromebook is: **Thursday 26th November** <https://gilesbrookschoo.parentportal.biz/>

**This date is final and we cannot take any orders after this date.**

### **Library Books**

Despite having limited access to library books this term, we still have 222 Giles Brook books that are overdue - many of which are outstanding from the lockdown period last Spring and Summer. Please check your bookshelves, drawers, under beds etc. for any Giles Brook books, which will have our school stamp and a bar code inside the cover. If you find any, please send them back into school with your child. Alternatively, these may be left on the table in the reception porch. Thank you for your help.

### **Children in Need**

Thank you to everyone for your support. We raised £423.05 which has been sent on to Children in Need.

### **Price & Buckland Uniform orders**

Just to let you know, there is a delay with our school sweatshirts. If you have ordered one of these recently, the estimated delivery is now the end of November, early December. Apologies on behalf of Price and Buckland who are experiencing shipping delays due to the pandemic.

### **Hot Lunches - w/b Monday 14th December**

We are currently having a new fire alarm system installed and, as a result, the school hall and kitchen will be out of action for the last week of term to allow the contractor to complete the works. There will be **no hot lunches in the last week - the week commencing 14th December 2020**. Chartwells will still provide packed lunches should you wish to book one - these need to be ordered by midnight on 8th December 2020. Thank you.

### **Stone Age Day - Year 3**

Next Thursday 26th November, Year 3 are invited to dress up in Stone Age costumes for their Stone Age History Day. Please remember to send warm jumpers and jackets too so children can wear these on top of their costume if needed. The children will be learning all about daily life in Stone Age times and will be putting their hand to cave paintings and bone jewellery! Sounds like a very exciting day!

### **Stranger Alert**

We have had two stranger alerts forwarded to us in the last three weeks. Both have been reported by pupils at Shenley Brook End School and have involved the police. If your child is in Y6 and they walk or cycle to school, please talk to them about being careful and ensure arrangements are in place for them to walk or cycle with peers or groups of friends. All other children should be collected from school by a parent or carer unless alternative arrangements have been discussed with us at school and put in writing. Thank you.

### **'Switch off' fortnight**



Next week, we will be focusing on energy in some of our class assemblies. We will be talking about turning off unnecessary lights and devices when they are not required and finding ways to save energy to reduce our carbon footprint.

Finally, you should have already received the earlier newsletter outlining all our Christmas events. Our staff are working hard to ensure the children are getting the most from their learning but we also want to ensure they have the opportunity to enjoy the festivities ahead - particularly at this difficult time.

Best wishes,

*Angie*

Angie Bailey  
Deputy Headteacher/Head of School