

12 March 2024

Dear Parent/Carer,

There has been a lot of wonderful work at Hall Green School in what has been a very short term. Our end of term newsletter will detail some of the work but needless to say, I'm incredibly proud of the Hall Green community for all the positive work that goes on. One of the things to celebrate was our involvement in a piece of work to support pupils during Ramadan. We featured in a news story on Sky News at the weekend detailing the work we have been doing with Dr Irfan Khawaja at Birmingham City University. This work was outlined in a recent letter by Ms Smith, Head of PE, explaining the adaptations the PE department will make during Ramadan. To reiterate, pupils will still need PE kit, will take part as usual, but teachers will adapt lessons as necessary for those that need. You can watch the news coverage <a href="here">here</a>.

## Ramadan and Eid al-Fitr

For those pupils observing Ramadan, please be aware that the canteen can provide lunch to be taken home and eaten later in the day. Please speak to the Catering Manager if you wish to request a packed lunch. Furthermore, prayer facilities are available as usual at lunchtimes.

A reminder that if Eid falls on a school day, pupils celebrating may take one day to celebrate. Please note, however, that you must inform the school that your child is absent for religious observance. Without this information, we have to record the absence as unauthorised. Mr Simson will be sending out a link over the next few weeks to enable easy reporting of Eid absence.

We would like to wish all families observing, "Ramadan Kareem".

## **Medical Procedures**

If pupils fall unwell whilst at school, we have a Lead First Aider that they are able to see. If they are feeling sick and generally unwell, they will have their temperature taken and she will monitor them throughout the day and teachers will do the same in their lessons. Without your child actually being sick or having a temperature, we will not send your child home; instead, we will monitor and look after them in school. Please remind your child that they should not be using their mobile phones during the day to contact you as this is against the school rules; if required, a member of school staff will call you if you are needed to collect your child.

We take the care of your child very seriously. Please do contact Mrs Akhtar in the Medical room if you have any concerns or you need to update any of your child's medical information.

## Hall Green Library

Our understanding is that our local library is at risk of closure. This would obviously have a detrimental effect on the local community and so I would like to share some ways in which we as a school are working to support the library:

- Encouraging pupils, parents, and staff to sign petitions, attend community meetings, and engage in advocacy efforts to save the library.
- Incorporating discussions about the importance of libraries into classroom activities and curriculum.
- Collaborating with other schools, community organisations, and stakeholders to amplify our message and increase our collective impact.

## **Key dates**

Monday 6 May 2024 - Bank Holiday, school closed Thursday 9 May 2024 - GCSE exams start Monday 27 May 2024 to Friday 31 May 2024 - Half Term break

We break up for the Easter holidays on **Friday 22 March at 12.05 pm**. Please do be aware that we are having a push on attendance this academic year and will be having a draw for a voucher for those who attend 100% next week. There will also be a draw for all pupils present in school on time on Monday 8 April.

Pupils may wear non-school uniform on the last day of term, making a voluntary donation to their House charity for this privilege. We do understand the challenging financial circumstances for some families at present, hence the reason for this being voluntary. Equally, the decision to wear non-uniform is an individual one and not compulsory; pupils may wear their uniform if they prefer.

We return to school on **Monday 8 April at the normal time of 8.40 am.** Thursday 11 April is our annual Cultural Day where we celebrate the wonderful rich diversity within our school community. Pupils can choose to wear non-uniform, celebrating who they are.

Although a couple of weeks away still, I wish you and your family a safe and happy break.

Yours faithfully

Miss K Slater Headteacher

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