

Dear parents and carers,

Already half term is approaching and we are thinking about how we can get everything done before Christmas. The last day of school before the half term holiday is **Friday 23rd October** and this will be a 'mufti day' in both schools in aid of the children's and teenage cancer centre at The Royal Marsden hospital in Sutton. On this day children will be able to wear their own clothes instead of school uniform and the theme of the day is 'mad hair'. This will involve children styling their hair with gel or hairspray (in ways that we certainly wouldn't normally allow!) using temporary colour in their hair or wearing a silly wig. We ask that children **make a donation of £1** and we may well be shaking tins at the front of the schools for adults who have any spare change so be prepared for this! Let's hope we can raise a lot of money for this most worthwhile charity.

1. Year 6 secondary transfer

All parents with children in Year 6 should take note that applications for secondary school are due to be completed by **Friday 23rd October**. If you need the school to take a paper application form in for you it will need to be with us by **3:30pm on Thursday 22nd October**

2. Healthy half term

As usual we are asking everybody to think about keeping active during this half term. Swimming at Thornton Heath pool is now free for children if you fill in an application form—which we have available at the school office. 'Mytime active' have asked us to inform parents of a new service which is aimed at those who have concerns about their child's weight. They offer free courses for those who are in need of this type of help and you can check details at <http://www.mytimeactive.org.uk/boost-croydon.html> or by calling 020 8323 1725

3. Harvest festival

Thank you to all those of you who contributed produce for harvest festival. The Salvation Army took over 40 carrier bags of groceries away to redistribute to the needy in the period leading up to the Christmas holiday which was very generous of you all.

4. Assemblies and Black History Month

We have had a number of fantastic class assemblies recently which have been very well attended by parents. Thanks to all of you who have been able to come. October is Black History Month and we will be preparing assemblies and activities next week to celebrate this important event. The Infant school will be holding a celebration event for those with younger children next week so we have decided to have our International Event on the field in the summer

term. More details will follow nearer the time.

5. Dates for your diary

Monday 26th October—Friday 30th October—**Half term. Return Tuesday 3rd November**

Wednesday 4th November— Individual photos. Full school uniform please.

Tuesday 10th November—Choir sing at lunchtime concert at Fairfield Halls

Wednesday 18th November and Thursday 19th November—parents' evenings

Friday 20th November— 'Blue Friday' - culmination of friendship week. Children allowed to wear blue clothes to school. More details to follow.

Wednesday 2nd December—Christmas Bazaar after school

Best wishes