

17.01.2022

## Dear Families,

I hope that you are all well and keeping safe. It really is a strange time at the moment – at home and at school, with cases of COVID being so high across the region. Sadly, we have been impacted this half term quite significantly already, so thank you so much for your patience. Below is a round up of some bits and pieces coming up at Cambrai!

### New Staff

Our new office Manager, Mrs Monahan should have started today.. but COVID has thwarted that! We are now looking at next Monday – or maybe the end of this week. Again, thank you for your patience – as I know that some of you are awaiting invoices for the Nest sessions in December / January. This literally will be her first job upon arrival!

We have also appointed Miss Amy Walker as a higher level teaching assistant to start at Cambrai at the end of January. This will give even greater support to teachers and children – and we can't wait for her to join us! We are also just waiting on the paperwork to be completed for a new cleaner to join us!

Lastly, as you know, I have a dual role – part Executive Headteacher of the school, part School Improvement Lead for the Trust. This has worked well for us so far; being a small school, we do not need a 'full time' head just yet – and in most schools this size, there would be a shared headship arrangement between 2 schools... but we are growing!

Because of that, we are looking to appoint a 'Head of School' from next academic year, when we open Key Stage 2. This would not change my role – I would still be Executive Head, my name would still be above the door and I would still lead the school's first inspection. This role sits between the Assistant Head Role and mine – but this person would be here, on the ground every day in a non-teaching and senior leadership capacity.

The position has initially been advertised today internally across the Trust. It would be great if we got someone to join the team who already knows the Trusts systems, policies and procedures – as it will mean that they would hit the ground running. If we do not appoint following an internal advert, we will go external to the wider market. We have advertised early so we would have time to do this if needed. I will keep you posted as the process continues – but these are very exciting times for us at Cambrai!

### The Nest

Remember that from now on, the only way that you can book sessions in The Nest will be through our new website – KidsClubHQ. It seems to be straightforward and we like it at our end, but if you have any problems, please get in touch. Again, invoices are sent automatically by the system – but none need to be paid until the following month, just like now. Any payments made will be reconciled and the website updated once Mrs Monahan joins us.

When booking sessions, please don't forget to choose which sandwich choice your child wants. If you cancel a session after you have paid for it, you will be refunded the next time that we 'balance the books'. Sessions, like now, however should be cancelled more than 24 hours in advance.

For after school club sessions, we ask that they are booked, as far as possible, before 9am on the day needed – as that is when we print the registers and pass to the kitchen.

The link, and further information is here: <https://www.cambraiprimaryschool.co.uk/the-nest-wraparound-care>

### Free Maths App

A brilliant **free** app for phones and tablets to help your child with early maths skills is called White Rose 1 minute maths! If you can, download it and have a go.. we will be downloading it in school, too

<https://whiterosemaths.com/resources/1-minute-maths>

### Bike Day

We are pleased to inform you that we have a visiting cycle coach coming into school on **Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> January** to work with children in all of our classes. The day will be an opportunity for your child to take part in an exciting and fun packed program. The children will be doing lots of exciting cycling activities using balance bikes that will be provided by the company, Pro-Ride Coaching Ltd. You can look them up at [www.proridecoaching.co.uk](http://www.proridecoaching.co.uk)

Activities will include skill games, challenges and a series of mini races. Please could you send your child to school dressed ready for the activity. We recommend a track suit or loose-fitting leisure clothing, sensible shoes (trainers or strong school shoes, not boots) and a waterproof in case it rains. You may also want to send a pair of gloves if it's cold on the day.

If your child is in Year 2 they are invited to bring in their own bicycle or scooter providing they can ride it – no stabilisers please! Their bike should be in good working order and the tyres pumped up. If your child doesn't have a bike, or still uses stabilisers, then we will have balance bikes on hand – so don't worry. Just let us know at [office@cambraiprimaryschool.co.uk](mailto:office@cambraiprimaryschool.co.uk) if they'll need to loan one.

Helmets will be provided for those that don't have one, but if you have one, please send it in. Children in reception and year 1 do not need to bring in their own bikes.

### Self-Isolation Rules... again!

Children can now return to school on day 6, if they have had negative tests on the morning of day 5 and day 6. Remember, day 0 is the day that symptoms start, or when a positive test is received – whichever is sooner. You no longer need to book a PCR to confirm a lateral flow test, but you are still able to book PCR tests if you wish, if the person has symptoms. Remember, if a person in the family (or another close contact) has COVID, children over 5 should test daily for 7 days to ensure that they have not caught COVID and are bringing it in to school.

### OPAL Play

You will see that children now have even more to play with at Cambrai on a playtime... our loose parts are going down a treat! Our next project is a digging area – so we'd love any donations of spades, shovels or hand tools... but no pitch forks please! Don't forget – ALL children also require a pair of wellies to be kept at school too.

Many thanks – and stay safe,



Mr. Mark Dent  
Executive Headteacher  
Cambrai Primary School

