



Friday 21st May 2021

Dear parents

I am writing to you on a very cold and windy Friday. Someone told me yesterday that summer will be arriving on the 21st of June - fingers crossed! My letter today contains the usual round up of information and news.

Vacancy at Ulcombe

Caterlink, the school dinner catering company used in all Aspire schools, is advertising for a member of staff to work at Ulcombe. Please see the below details if you are interested.

A vacancy for a kitchen assistant has come up at Ulcombe Primary School for 10 hours per week. Duties will include, putting out tables and chairs, serving and general cleaning. If you are interested please send a CV to cmehurst@caterlinkltd.co.uk

May Half term - supermarket vouchers

Yesterday I received a letter from KCC informing me that we were able to issue supermarket vouchers for May Half term. The vouchers are for children who receive free school meals as their family has a low income or is in receipt of benefits. If this applies to you will receive a £15 supermarket voucher per child. These will be issued at the end next week/beginning of the half term week. Please contact your child's school office if you have any queries. Thank you

The Big Ask

The DFE has asked all headteachers to remind parents to encourage their children to take part in the Big Ask, the survey from the children's commissioner. I sent out the details a few weeks ago but here they are again for ease.

<https://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/thebigask/>

Hi, my name is Rachel de Souza and I'm the Children's Commissioner for England. My job is to speak up for children in England, stand up for their rights, and make sure that the people in power listen to what children need and want. It's time to give something big back to young people like you after COVID — and **we need your help** to do it.

This is the largest ever survey of children and young people in England. We'll use what you tell us to show the government what you think, and what children need to live happier lives.

Fair share Tesco donations.

This week Kingswood have benefitted from the Tesco donations through the fair share scheme. Next week Platts Heath will have the deliveries on Monday and Tuesday. Please look out for the boxes if you can make use of any of the produce.

Mrs Knight at Kingswood

Mrs Knight is leaving Kingswood at half term. Mrs Knight has been a friendly smiling face in the Kingswood office for nearly twenty years! I have worked with her since I started at Kingswood in 2003 and will be very sad to see her go. I am sure you will all join me in thanking her for her hard work. We all wish you luck in the future Mrs Knight!

Brigade - uniform suppliers

This week I have been informed by Brigade who will be the supplier for the new uniform and are in the process of developing a web page for each of our four schools. As soon as I have the links I will send them out. All uniforms will need to be ordered directly from the website. As stated before we ask that as a minimum all children have the logoed hooded sweatshirt or zipped jacket for activewear and the jumper/ cardigan if you are purchasing the traditional uniform as well. All other items can be purchased from other retailers, in line with the new laws about affordable uniforms. The traditional uniform is optional and does not have to be worn.

Changeable weather

The weather at the moment is not summer like. Please make sure your child has a coat in school. Thank you

Wishing you all happy family weekends, whatever the weather!

Kind regards,

Emma Hickling
Executive Headteacher
Aspire Federation