



Friday 15th July 2022

Dear Parents/Carers,

It is hard to believe that this will be my last Friday letter of the school year! Although I am tired and more than need a break, I have enjoyed this year and feel positive about what Aspire has achieved.

Weather warning

The DFE has today issued the following advice. As per the advice below, school will still be open next week. We will do all we can to keep children and staff as cool as possible.

Predicted Extreme Heat Weather Warnings

The Met Office has extended an [amber extreme heat warning](#) for Sunday 17 July, Monday 18 July and Tuesday 19 July, as temperatures will build this weekend and early next week for much of England and Wales.

The amber warning highlights likely adverse health effects for the public, not just limited to those most vulnerable to extreme heat.

Temperatures could be in excess of 35 °C in the southeast, and more widely around 32 °C within the [warning area](#), with Monday and Tuesday most likely to see temperatures around this level.

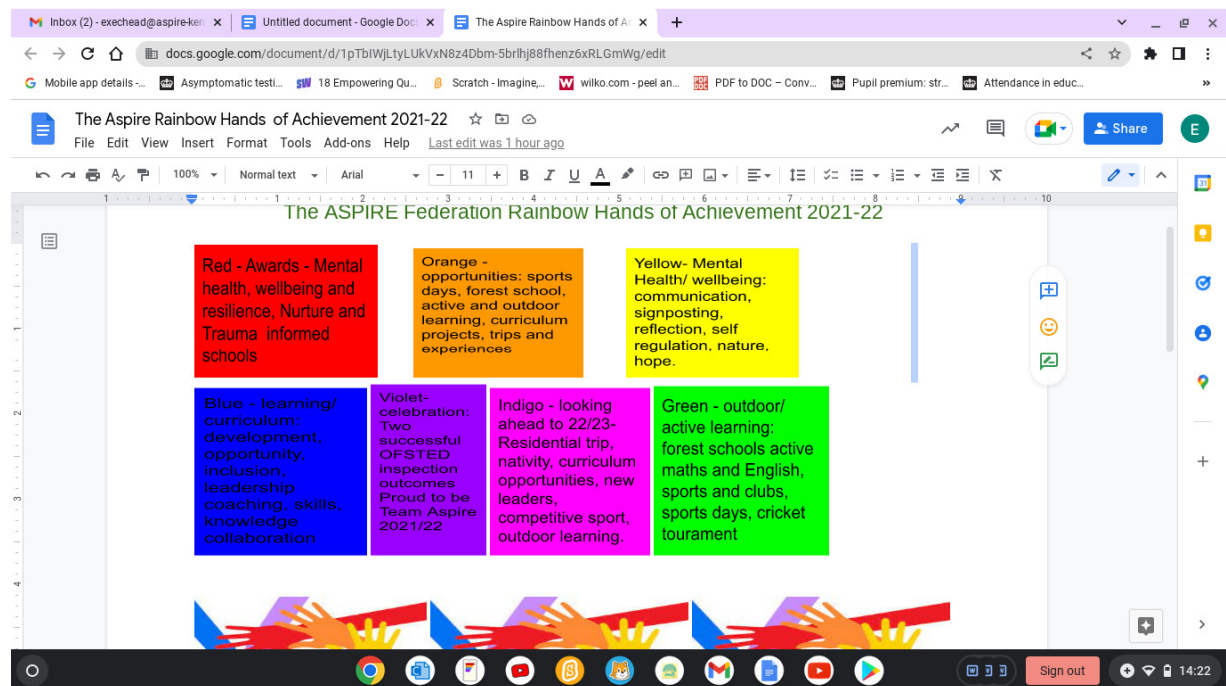
There is clear government guidance on [looking after children and those in early years settings during heatwaves](#), including the use of ventilation, keeping children hydrated, and avoiding vigorous physical activity, encouraging children to wear loose, light coloured clothing and sunhats with wide brims, to use sunscreen, and providing them with plenty of water.

Individual school leaders are responsible for managing their own local circumstances. We are not advising schools to close.

Rainbow Hands

The Aspire leadership team has produced a simple pictorial representation of what has been achieved this year, you should receive a copy of this, as it will be sent home with your child next week.

Please do take the time to discuss this with your child and remember all the exciting things they have done in school this year. Here is a screen shot so you know what to look for.



Holiday Activities

If your child is entitled to benefits related free school meals, here is some information about free holiday activities. I have included the contact information at the end so you can email or phone if you have any questions. You will need to use the activity vouchers to register that have been issued by our school offices.

The Stones Community Trust (The SCT) are once again running their very successful FREE Activity Clubs for children from 5 to 12 years old entitled to Free School Meals during various dates in August 2022.

Activities include numerous sports as well as arts and crafts. The children will also get a Free Hot Meal and dessert as well as healthy snacks to eat during the day.

Parents can book their child onto the course for either 1 day, a number of days or the whole 3 or 4 weeks.

To book on this Free Activity Club at one of our 3 venues at Greenfields, Tree Tops or South Borough, please go to www.evouchers.com, input your data as well as the voucher code and look for:

The SCT @ Greenfields Schools Out Programme
The SCT @ Tree Tops Schools Out Programme
The SCT @ South Borough Schools Out Programme

We are running the 3 Schools Out venues during the following dates, times and locations as follows:

The SCT @ Greenfields

- from 10am to 3.20pm on Monday 8 August 2022 to Thursday 11 August 2022
- from 10am to 3.20pm on Monday 15 August 2022 to Thursday 18 August 2022
- from 10am to 3.20pm on Monday 22 August 2022 to Thursday 25 August 2022

The SCT @ Tree Tops

- from 10am to 2.15pm on Monday 1 August 2022 to Friday 5 August 2022
- from 10am to 2.15pm on Monday 8 August 2022 to Friday 12 August 2022
- from 10am to 2.15pm on Monday 15 August 2022 to Friday 19 August 2022

The SCT @ South Borough

- from 10am to 2pm on Monday 1 August 2022 to Thursday 4 August 2022
- from 10am to 2pm on Monday 8 August 2022 to Thursday 11 August 2022
- from 10am to 2pm on Monday 15 August 2022 to Thursday 18 August 2022
- from 10am to 2pm on Monday 22 August 2022 to Thursday 25 August 2022

Mobile: 07913 625280

Email: mike.littleboy@stonesct.org.uk

Web: www.stonesct.org.uk

Facebook: The Stones Community Trust

Twitter: @StonesTrust

Summer Activity Packs

The Weald of Kent Rotary Club has very kindly donated some money to us to provide summer activity packs for some of our families. These will be organised before the end of term and sent home with the relevant children. They will include outdoor and indoor games and toys which will allow our children to enjoy their time in the summer.

Aspire Events

As you know I am stepping away from running a school in September so that I can focus on the strategic leadership of the Federation. The leadership team and I have also recently launched a training offer for other small schools, called Aspire Events. We have developed a website and are beginning to take bookings for resources and training. This work will bring in some revenue

for Aspire and allow us to purchase additional resources for use with the curriculum. Our website is www.aspire-events.org.uk. The bookings we have taken already mean that we are able to purchase some children's faith resource boxes to support the pupil's learning in RE/ Understanding Beliefs.

Weather next week

The weather next week is set to be even hotter! Please make sure your child has a water bottle that can be refilled in school, a hat and has sun cream put on before school. Thank you. We are trying to manage in the heat as best as we can so we may adjust times outside or ask the children to stay in the shade - our aim is always just to keep the children safe.

September

School starts back for all Aspire pupils on Monday 5th September 2022. The staff have two training days on Thursday 1st and Friday 2nd September, so the schools are not open for children. New year R pupils will be attending part time the first week. Please contact the school office if you have not received details of this transition week.

Aspire Uniform

Just a reminder that the changes to the school uniform are policy from September 2022 and so each child should be wearing either formal or active uniform in the correct colour for their school. Please refer to the school website or contact the school office if you are unsure. The school colours are as follows: Kingswood - Bottle Green, Leeds and Broomfield - Burgundy Red, Platts Heath - Purple and Ulcombe - Royal Blue

As a reminder:

School Uniform Guidance - September 2022

Our federation uniform plays a valuable role in contributing to the ethos of our federation schools. We ask you to respect and support our policy and in doing so ensure that your child comes to school wearing the correct uniform and be of clean and tidy personal appearance.

At Aspire we have thought carefully about our school uniform and have chosen it to be comfortable and practical for primary aged children whilst also being affordable for families.

The hooded sweatshirt/ hooded jacket/ sweatshirt/cardigan is the only part of the school uniform that requires the school logo, which means that many other items can be purchased in supermarkets and children's clothes shops, as well as the Brigade online shop.

Active uniform

Can be worn by all children all day every day, but must be worn on PE days.

- Hooded sweatshirt or hooded jacket in school colour with Logo
- Plain white t-shirt or logoed white t-shirt
- Black jogging bottoms/ black sports leggings/ black shorts/ Black skirt - all items can be bought with the logo
- Black trainers or plimsolls
- Baseball cap in the school colour

Traditional uniform

Can be worn on days that the children do not have PE

- Sweatshirt or cardigan in school colour with logo
- White polo shirt/ logoed white polo shirt
- Black trousers/ skirt/ pinafore/ black shorts
- Summer only - checked dress in school colour
- Black school shoes

Book bags can be purchased in the school colour.

Other Guidance

Hats/Hair Coverings: Children may not wear hats, caps, handkerchiefs, bandanas, scarves, or other head coverings indoors at school. Exceptions can be made for religious and/or medical reasons

Hair: Hair should be neat, brushed and tied back if long –for both girls and boys. It should not have tramlines, dyed elements, Mohicans or similar.

Piercings: Earrings if worn must only be small studs and either be removed by the child or left at home on PE days. Facial piercings are not permitted.

Necklaces/Chains/Watches: Necklaces and chains are not permitted. Watches can be worn, but must be removed by the child for sporting activities.

Hands/Nails/Make up: Children may not wear bracelets, armbands, or multiple rings. Nails should be free of any artificial enhancements (varnish, acrylic, silk wraps, press-ons, rhinestones, etc.) Make up is not permitted.

All uniform items are available from <https://www.brigade.uk.com/parents/> . Parents should order before the 22nd July if they would like items to arrive before September.

Thank you to all members of our Aspire community for all your support over the last year. To the parents, pupils and staff we thank you and wish you a lovely family summer break.

Wishing all of our pupils who are moving onto secondary school, all the very best. You are all stars and just need to keep being yourselves.

I can be contacted over the summer at exechead@aspire-kent.org.uk if needed. I will be taking a break myself so please bear with me, if I don't reply immediately.

Kind regards,

Emma Hickling
Executive Headteacher