



HALTON LODGE PRIMARY SCHOOL

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NEWSLETTER 08

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16th October 2020

With just one more week of school, before Half Term, we thought we would use this week's school newsletter to inform you about some events that are taking place locally.

Halton's **Health Improvement Team** are running online sessions to support families who face challenges with getting their children to sleep, trying to successfully limit their screen time and/or want to address fussy eating.  *All the details you need to access these sessions are given below.*

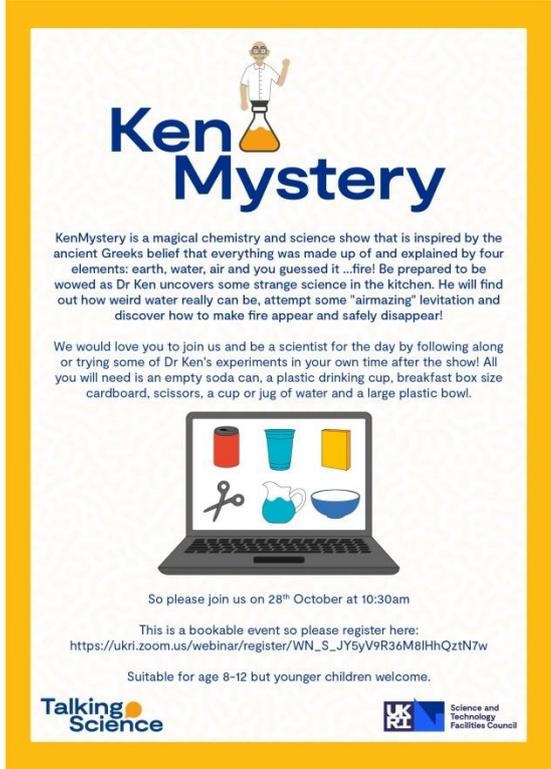


Daresbury Laboratory are also keen to promote their **magical chemistry and science show** that is taking place during half term – on 28th October. *If you wish to take part, you will need to register.*

Next week, the children in Year 5 who have signed up to take part in **Bikeability** will need to remember to bring their bike and cycle helmet to school on Monday and Tuesday. For those children in Year 6 who are taking part, you will need your bike and cycle helmet on Wednesday. 



If you wish to order a Christmas card, gift label, mug, placemat or fridge magnet – with your child's design – from the **School Christmas Card Project**, the deadline for orders is 10am on Friday 23rd October. *We will not be able to accept any late orders this year as we need to ensure that we take delivery of all ordered items in good time for delivery before Christmas.*



KenMystery

KenMystery is a magical chemistry and science show that is inspired by the ancient Greeks belief that everything was made up of and explained by four elements: earth, water, air and you guessed it ...fire! Be prepared to be wowed as Dr Ken uncovers some strange sciences in the kitchen. He will find out how weird water really can be, attempt some 'aimazing' levitation and discover how to make fire appear and safely disappear!

We would love you to join us and be a scientist for the day by following along or trying some of Dr Ken's experiments in your own time after the show! All you will need is an empty soda can, a plastic drinking cup, breakfast box size cardboard, scissors, a cup or jug of water and a large plastic bowl.

So please join us on 28th October at 10:30am

This is a bookable event so please register here:
<https://ukri.zoom.us/j/936M8IHhQ2tN7w>

Suitable for age 8-12 but younger children welcome.

Talking Science 



HALTON HEALTH IMPROVEMENT

Fit 4 Life
Bite Size Sessions

START WELL

SLEEP AND SCREENS

Did your children sleep well last night? Did it take them a while to get to sleep? Did you all wake up happy and refreshed this morning?

Join us for this bite-sized workshop on sleep to explore how the length and quality of our sleep can effect us and our children.

We will look at simple changes to routine that can promote good quality, restful sleep. We will also look at how screens effect our children, and how this impacts on sleep quality.

DATES:
Thursday 12th November 2020 1pm Online via Skype for Business
Tuesday 8th December 2020 6pm Online via Skype for Business

To book your place, email HIT@halton.gov.uk

FUSSY EATING AND SNACKING

Are meal times a battle? Are your children always hungry or asking for snacks? Looking for healthy snack ideas?

We know how hard it can be when children just want treat foods and refuse to eat proper meals. Meal times can be stressful for everyone when children are 'fussy eaters'.

We all want our children to grow up healthy, but it's easier said than done to get them to try healthy foods. During this session we will look at alternatives to sugary snack favourites, as well as techniques to help your child try and accept new foods.

DATES:
Wednesday 18th November 6pm Online via Skype for Business
Wednesday 9th December 2020 11am Online via Skype for Business

To book your place, email HIT@halton.gov.uk

These sessions are for parents/carers. You will need Skype for Business installed on your device.



HALTON HEALTH IMPROVEMENT

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START WELL

Mental Health and Emotional Wellbeing

Everyone has Mental Health and looking after your child's Mental Health has never been so important.

This workshop is based on the 5 ways to wellbeing and will give you tips and advice on how to support your child's mental health.

It will look at resources that promote positive mental health and easy techniques you can use to build resilience.

DATES:
Tuesday 17th November 10am Online via Skype for Business
Tuesday 1st December 6pm Online via Skype for Business

To book your place, email HIT@halton.gov.uk

These sessions are for parents/carers. You will need Skype for Business installed on your device.

For more information call the team on:
0300 029 0029

or visit www.haltonhealthimprovement.co.uk

 @HaltonBC  Halton BC



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Pupil Premium and Free School Meals

Despite the reports that the number of families accessing Universal Credit in Halton, and in the country as a whole, has increased significantly since the start of the pandemic, the number of children (and families) at our school who are eligible for free school meals is at a record low.

In addition to covering the cost of a hot school meal – which is equivalent to £475 each year for each child – children who are entitled to free school meals (whether they take a school meal or bring a packed lunch from home) also receive a ‘pupil premium’ that is added to our school budget.

Our school utilises the Pupil Premium to fund an extra adult in Reception, an extra teacher in each of the other key stages (KS1, LKS2 and UKS2) and to have a specialist reading teacher – who all help us to narrow the gap in attainment between our most disadvantaged pupils and their peers.

The amount of funding that schools receive is substantial. We received an extra £155,950 this year! However, if the existing numbers of families who are currently claiming their ‘free school meal’ entitlement is correct, our school stands to lose over £49,000 from April 2021. *Details of how we invest the Pupil Premium allocated to our school and the impact this has had over the last three years is detailed in the Pupil Premium section, on the School Office page of our school website.*

If you believe you may be entitled to claim for free school meals and are yet to do so, please submit a claim this weekend.

Simply click on the following link: <https://cyp.halton.gov.uk/Synergy/Live/SynergyWeb/Parents/default.aspx>, send an email to RutlandHouseSharedAdminTeam@halton.gov.uk (informing them that you have a child who attends Halton Lodge Primary School and you wish to check if they are eligible for free school meals) or by telephoning 0151 511 7188.

Our records suggest that we have 39 children who are entitled to free schools but are not claiming.

Families eligible for Free School Meals include anybody who gets:

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker’s Allowance

- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you’re not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on - paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit - if you apply on or after 1 April 2018 your household income must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get)

Children who get paid these benefits directly, instead of through a parent or guardian, can also get free school meals.



Parents’ Evening Update

To give us time to make mutually agreeable appointment times – as these will be conducted via Seesaw, Google Meet and/or telephone - we have taken the decision to hold our online/telephone Parents’ Evening Meetings during the week beginning 16th November – rather than the first week back after half term.

Further details of how to schedule an appointment will be sent out during the first week in November.

School Uniform Orders Ready for Collection

Unless you have been contacted this week to be informed that any school cardigans that you have ordered are still yet to be delivered, all school uniform orders that have been placed are now ready for collection. These can be collected from the school office at any time this week, or next week.

We do have a few extra items in stock, so – with the exception of school cardigans – if you need any extra items, this may be the time to submit an enquiry (and place an order).