

21 September 2023

Dear Parents / Carers

As the new term starts, I would like to take the opportunity to remind parents of two important requests.

1. Every Child to Bring a Water Bottle to School

We would like to encourage all students to bring in an appropriate reusable water bottle and refrain from bringing any other drinks to School. The School now has six cooled water fountains. In addition to the two that are located in the Canteen, four other external water filling stations are spread across the site. These are solely for refilling bottles.

Water is an important step toward improving young people's health and academic performance. The Eatwell Guide recommends that young people should aim to drink approximately 6-8 glasses of fluid per day [on top of the water provided by food in their diet]. Water is a healthy and cheap choice for quenching thirst at any time. It has no calories and contains no sugars that can damage teeth.

Please encourage your child to bring in their water bottles to support this initiative.

2. Road Safety is Crucial for All Our Community.

We would like to encourage all parents to refrain from:

- Attempting three-point turns in front of the School
- Parking on the zig zag lines of the crossing
- Dropping students off in the middle of the road whilst in slow traffic
- Attempting to drive on site
- Dropping students off close to the School entrances
- Anti-social parking/waiting, particularly at the junction between Heston Road and Hogarth Gardens.

Some of the behaviours observed, although highly convenient for individuals, raise the risk level to the rest of our students. In short, the anti-social behaviours of a few are endangering others. Undoubtedly, some drivers may feel the rules should not apply to them simply because they have more than one drop off to complete or that parking spaces are hard to find. When a serious accident happens, any such excuses will be of little comfort to the student's parents we are informing. We would ask:

- Parents and children begin their journeys earlier and not be on the last minute
- Parents to drop their child safely away from the front of the School
- Arrange a suitable pick up point well away from the front of School
- Avoid anti-social parking/waiting in the side roads around the School

The majority of the parents who drive their child to School abide by the rules and social expectations. The decision to bring this issue to everyone's attention was made after observing the deterioration from a small number of parent drivers. We hope that by raising everyone's awareness all our community will be safer.

Yours faithfully



M O'Hagan
Deputy Headteacher

Headteacher
Ranjit Berdesha BSc (Hons)

Heston Road
Heston
Hounslow TW5 0QR

T 020 8572 1931
E info@hestoncs.org
W www.hestoncommunityschool.co.uk