



Colton Hills Community School

Confidence. Happiness. Courage. Success.

Co-Headteachers

Mr S Blower, Ms M Walker

**Colton Hills
Community School**

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Dear parents/guardians,

We write to you to update you on the last couple of weeks of school, and to share with you our best wishes as we move into the festive season for so many of the communities that make up our school.

The return to school after half-term has been peaceful, focused and successful, with students returning to school in excellent spirits. We have had a couple of quiet weeks at school with very little impact from coronavirus cases, and we hope that this will continue to be the case during the national lockdown which is currently taking place. We want to see all of our students in school as much as possible, and thank you for your support and trust in making this happen.

We also wanted to take the opportunity to share with you our celebrations for Diwali and Bandi Chhor Divas, which have taken place at school today. We know that many of our students will be unable to celebrate these important festivals over the weekend, so we wanted to give them chance to celebrate in school instead.

For our Diwali Day, we have allowed students to come in traditional cultural dress if they are celebrating, learned more about Diwali in assemblies, listened to traditional music and take part in activities in some lessons. We have also engaged with our local community through interfaith events with local City councillors and our local MP.

It has been a fantastic day in school, and it has been lovely to see so many students proud of their heritage and culture. One of our big priorities as a school this year is to do more to reach out to all of our communities and to celebrate what makes them all so special and unique. We hope that this will give them pride and confidence, and ultimately turn this into success at school.

Throughout the year, we will be doing more to mark all of the important festivals and milestones that mean so much in our ethnically diverse community, including celebrations of Christmas, Easter, Diwali, Eid, Ramadan and more, as well as marking important dates in the calendar and Black History Month.

We hope that you are able to support us in ensuring that our school community remains a harmonious place where children from all backgrounds can learn and achieve together, learning from one another in the process. This is one of the very best things about Colton Hills, and we are immensely proud of our diversity and what our students get from it.

For our Sikh and Hindu communities, we wish you happiness in your celebrations over the weekend, and for everyone, we thank you for your continued support of everything we try to do at our school, bringing light to students' lives in even the most challenging times.

Best wishes,

Stephen Blower and Mel Walker

Co-Headteachers, Colton Hills Community School