

Newsletter

Tuesday 10th January 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

On the last day of last term we had very two special events. In the afternoon we had our end of term assembly which included the Headteacher Awards. These are awards given to children who have excelled in sport, the arts, reading, writing, kindness or maths. Congratulations to all those children who received an award. In the morning we had another special event, a West End quality performance of 'Pantomime Pandemonium' from the very talented and energetic staff of Kingslea. It was one of the funniest, entertaining and 'polished' performances I have had the pleasure to watch/be part of. I am very proud of the staff for the time, energy and effort they put in to practicing and it was absolutely worth it, based on the enjoyment of the children and as you can imagine it was a pretty lively morning! You can see further photos overleaf and on the front page of the website.



Looking forward there are significant challenges ahead for schools, notably pay, school funding and recruitment and retention of staff, all of which have the potential to negatively impact on the quality of education that children, nationally, receive over the next few years. However, there's enough doom and gloom out there at the moment so I'm not going to add to it now and this is a conversation for another day.

Let's focus on the good news. At the end of last term we held our progress meetings where we discussed every child in detail. Across the school we are very, very pleased with the progress children are making both academically, emotionally and socially. Last term was a real success story in these areas and I'm very proud of the teachers and children for all they achieved.

Now to 2023. We've had an excellent start to the term. The new Learning Journeys have really sparked the interest of the children, the energy and buzz around the school is noticeable and contagious (in a good way!) and we continue to move forward and innovate with our curriculum and provision.



In assembly we talked about doing something new. Be it new friends, reading genre, new food, new games, new attitude, just trying something new. A great example of this was our New Age Kurling team who were fabulous Kingslea representatives in December where they played against numerous other schools. Many of the children had never played NAK before but gave it a go and rightly felt positive and proud about themselves afterwards.

One of our aims this year is to work with other schools and look at good practice that we can develop at Kingslea. Over the course of the year teachers will be visiting other schools in Horsham and Crawley to see what we can learn from them. On the flip side we are one of a very small number of schools (known as system leaders) in West Sussex who have a formal role in supporting other schools. This year we are working with a number of schools to support them in areas such as coaching to develop the quality of teaching, Early Years, the teaching of maths and English, developing their curriculum and subject leadership. Supporting other schools helps develop our staff as leaders, allows us to reflect on our own provision and our ultimate goal is to improve the education provision for the children in those schools and in our community.

The learning journey overview for your child for this term, along with the vocabulary list for Y1-Y6 has been sent out with this newsletter. Please do have a read through the overview and feel free to do some extra learning about the subject at home.

As always thank you for your support, Alexis Conway and the Kingslea Team.

Parent/Carer Time to Talk Drop In Sessions:

Being a parent is one of the most rewarding jobs but is also, at times, one of the most difficult. We can all do with a little help and guidance now and then.

Would you like a listening ear? Would you like to discuss your child's behaviour at home, anxiety, routines, sleep, boundaries? Why not book a slot for our parent/carers drop in with Mrs Russell (Family Link Worker) for a confidential, informal chat. These will run half termly for different year groups.

We may not have all the answers but we can certainly listen without judgement, support you and signpost to other agencies if relevant.

Tuesday 24th January 2023 (2.40pm-4.30pm) - available to Reception and Year 1 parents initially (if there are appointments left they will be opened to other year groups).

Baby and Toddler Group

Every Wednesday (term time only) at Horsham Nursery (next door to Kingslea) 10.45am-11.45am

Horsham Nursery School have kindly offered us some free places at their Baby & Toddler Group, every Wednesday morning, 10:45am to 11:45am (term time). The sessions will be attended by Mrs Russell (Kingslea Family Link Worker).

There will be lots of great activities, messy play, sensory play, stories, singing and fun! Come along for a chat and play, we would love to see you there!

Details of how to book both sessions will be sent out shortly

Medical Tracker

In the next few weeks we be switching to an online system for the school to record accidents, incidents and medical treatment given. It will also be used for recording any administration of medicines at school and a database for pupil's medical conditions.

Therefore you may receive email notifications from Medical Tracker if your child has sustained a bump to the head at school (anything serious will be preceded by a telephone call) or if their medication (inhaler etc) at school is nearing its expiry date.

Hot Lunches — IMPORTANT INFORMATION

As we have informed you in previous newsletters, the way hot lunches are ordered will be changing this term for **ALL** pupils. All parents will be required to order their child a hot lunch and will be able to select the specific meal from each day's menu.

Next week parents of all children (only the primary contact parent initially) will be sent an email containing details of how to activate your ParentPay account. Once activated you will have access to order hot lunches for your child from Monday 20th February and for the following ten weeks.

If you would like your child to have hot lunches after half term, it is essential that you activate your ParentPay account. Those children in Reception, Year 1&2 will continue to receive free lunches and those in Year 3-6 will pay for lunches through the ParentPay system (unless eligible for free school meals).

Please look out for the ParentPay activation email next week and activate your account as soon as possible.



Safeguarding



If you have any concerns about a child, be it in school or out of school, you are able to report your concerns to one of our Designated Safeguarding Leads. These are Mrs Barrett, Mrs Howard and Mrs Payne. You can either approach us directly or ask to speak to us via the office. Whilst something might seem quite minor to you, it could be one piece of information that is part of a bigger picture.

Mental Health—Connections

Later this term it is Children's Mental Health Week with a focus on encouraging people to connect with others in healthy, rewarding and meaningful ways. As parents and carers, you are an important role model to your child. How you connect with friends and family will influence your child, and how they develop their own friendships and relationships. For example, how you greet people and maintain friendships, but also how you forgive people or say sorry when you need to.

Connect with your child in everyday ways

Moments of connection (and re-connection) are really important in child-caregiver relationships. For example, when you pick them up from school, or come in from work, try to give them your full attention and see if this helps you feel better connected as you hug, talk, smile and hear about their day. Watching your child play and joining in is really important to them – so put your phone away and have a bit of fun – being playful is good for adults, too!

Talk to your child about important connections

This could include talking about family members, friends, neighbours, childminders, people in the local community and others in your faith group (if you have one). Remember it's ok to talk about people they miss, for example, family members who live in a different country or people who have died. Children learn a lot from their parents about how to express their feelings, including the joy that comes with feeling connected to others and the sadness that comes with missing others.

Talk to your child about their friends

As children become teenagers, their friendship groups become increasingly important to them. Be open to hearing about their friendships and try to listen without judgement. tips for parents and carers childrensmentalhealthweek.org.uk Ask them about their life in real life and online. You may not think online friends are 'real friends', but your child may feel differently. Losing friends, feeling left out or being bullied is very painful and your child needs to know you will support them through these difficult times

Try to resolve conflict and re-connect after arguments

Arguments and moments of disconnection are bound to happen in families - between your children, between yourself and your children and between yourself and your partner, if you have one. It is important that children learn how to disagree in appropriate ways, how to say sorry and how to make amends when they have done something wrong. They will learn a lot about how to do these things from you - so try to model the behaviour you want to see in your children. Talk to them about how to re-connect with friends after arguments including what they can do to help repair relationships.

Notes from the School Office

- *Please ensure we have up to date information for all children and parents, this includes phone numbers, addresses and living arrangements for children who do not live with both parents. This enables the school to contact the relevant person should it be necessary at any time.*



Spring Term 2023	
Wednesday 18th January	Y1 Rainbow Theatre Workshop
Thursday 19th January	4.00pm Y5&6 Netball @ The Bridge
Friday 20th January	4.30pm Y5&6 Table Tennis Competition @ Kingslea
Tuesday 24th January	Choir to Young Voices @ O2 12.30pm Y1&2 New Age Kurling @ Millais
Thursday 26th January	10.00am Y6 Indoor Athletics @ Forest
Wednesday 1st February	1.00pm Dance Festival Rehearsal @ Tanbridge 7.00pm Dance Festival @ Tanbridge
Thursday 2nd February	10.00am Y5 Indoor Athletics @ Forest
Monday 6th February	3.40-7.00pm Parents' Evening
Tuesday 7th February	Y2 Geography Field Trip (Horsham) Y4 Viking/Saxon Workshop
Wednesday 8th February	3.40-7.00pm Parents' Evening
Thursday 9th February	9.00am Y4 Indoor Athletics @ Millais Deadline for hot lunch order for wc 20th Feb
HALF TERM—MONDAY 13TH-FRIDAY 17TH FEBRUARY	
Tuesday 21st February	1.00pm Cross Country @ Christs Hospital 1.30pm Governors Resources
Thursday 23rd February	10.00am Y3 Indoor Athletics @ Millais
Friday 24th February	4.00pm Y6 Football Cup @ Tanbridge
Tuesday 28th February	12.45pm Y3&4 Tag Rugby Festival @ Horsham RFC
Wednesday 1st March	Y3 visit to Wakehurst Place Y4 Viking Day 1.30pm Governors Curriculum
Friday 3rd March	9.30am Y3 to Horsham Park 4.00pm Y5&6 Girls Football Cup @ Tanbridge
Monday 6th March	12.30pm Y3&4 Inclusive Football @ Heron Way
Monday 13th March	12.30pm Y2 Football Festival @ Leechpool
Tuesday 14th March	Y2 trip to Arundel Wetlands Y5 trip to Greenwich Museum 9.00am & 6.00pm Safer Internet Workshop for parents 7.00pm FGB
Friday 17th March	4.00pm Y4 Football Cup @ Tanbridge

Term Dates 2022-23

Spring Term 2023			
First Day	Wednesday 4 th January 2023	Last Day	Friday 31 st March 2023
Half Term	Monday 13 th – Friday 17 th February	INSET Days	Tuesday 3 rd January 2023

Summer Term 2023			
First Day	Monday 17 th April 2023	Last Day	Friday 21 st July 2023
Half Term	Monday 29 th May – Friday 2 nd June	INSET Days	Friday 23 rd June 2023

Term Dates 2023-24

Autumn Term 2023			
First Day	Monday 4 th September 2023	Last Day	Friday 15 th December 2023
Half Term	Monday 23 rd – Friday 27 th October	INSET Days	Friday 1 st September 2023

Spring Term 2024			
First Day	Wednesday 3 rd January 2024	Last Day	Thursday 28 th March 2024
Half Term	Monday 12 th – Friday 16 th February	INSET Days	Tuesday 2 nd January 2024

Summer Term 2024			
First Day	Monday 15 th April 2024	Last Day	Friday 19 th July 2024
Half Term	Monday 27 th May-Friday 31 st May	INSET Days	Friday 21 st June 2024 Monday 22 nd & Tuesday 23rd July 2024