

Newsletter

Monday 14th January 2019

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to the first newsletter of 2019. It is lovely to be back at school and we have had an excellent start to the term. The children are enthused, look smart and are working hard.

It was a busy and exciting end of term with fabulous productions from Reception, Y1/2, the choir and the drama club, and of course the staff panto to children. (Photos on Twitter) Thank you to the Y5 and Y6 parents who attended the workshops, there was a lot of laughter and enjoyment during those afternoons!



A number of parents have congratulated us on our 2018 SATs results and our 'standing' in the school league tables. This was highlighted in the West Sussex County Times and on the government's performance table site, with Kingslea pupils making 'well above average' progress in reading, writing and maths; one of only three schools in West Sussex to make such progress.

We are obviously very pleased with the progress our children make and a lot of hard work goes into what we do here at Kingslea. However, I do urge a degree of caution when looking at such data.

As I said to the local paper, 'Due to the hard work and commitment of school leaders, teachers and parents we are fortunate to have excellent schools across Horsham. Whilst achievement data is important, snapshot data over one year has its limitations. Other important factors, which are more difficult to measure—such as the quality of the curriculum, the children's enjoyment of school and wellbeing, the quality of teaching and inclusivity—are key in ensuring that our children are brought up as happy, well-rounded members of our community who Horsham can be proud of. I am very proud to be a school leader in Horsham and very proud of the achievements of all our schools'.

Whilst our data has been very strong for the last few years, just taking one year's worth of results is like taking Leicester Football Club's premiership winning season in 2015/16 or Manchester City's time in League 1 in and judging their success or failure based on that one year!

We also need to remember the narrowness of the measures used to develop this table. Of course, we want our children to be literate and numerate, but schools are much more than a narrow set of data. We are very proud of our curriculum: the art, the computing, the history, the geography, the kindness we show to each other, the additional support we give to children who need it, the trips children go on, the sport we play, the productions we put on and the general day-to-day feeling of the school. We wouldn't judge the government's record on one aspect of what it does, for example Brexit(!), but on a range of factors.

So yes, it's nice to be at the top of a table, but Kingslea and all schools are much more than a set of numbers.

Looking forward to this term,

Alexis Conway



Multi-Use Games Area

As most of you will be aware, the MUGA has been completed. This has allowed us to extend our KS2 playground and have a dedicated sports area. There will be a rota for its use, with one year group at a time using the MUGA at break time and lunchtime. It will also be used for PE lessons. Thank you to KLASS for their signification donation towards the building of the MUGA.

Poppy appeal

Thank you to all of you who donated to the Poppy Appeal. We raised £159.03.



Reading—non-fiction focus

Over the last few years we have seen a significant improvement in the quantity and quality of our children's reading. This is due to your support, the thousands of pounds we have spent on books (maybe £20,000), the introduction of benchmarking and the push we have had from class teachers in sharing quality books and enthusing children to enjoy reading.

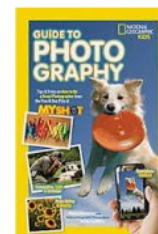


We would now like to adapt our reading expectations to bring in more non-fiction books, including books about nature, science, history, the world around us, hobbies and culture. Reception, Y1 and Y2 already have lots of non-fiction books in their book boxes and we will continue to encourage them to read both fiction and non-fiction. For Y3-Y6 we will be buying hundreds of non-fiction books and putting them into classrooms. We would like children to read their fiction book and then spend a few days/a week reading one or two non-fiction books.



The aim of this is to extend children understanding of the world, to develop their vocabulary and for them to find out about things they didn't previously know about. We want our children to be curious about the world around them and we feel reading more non-fiction will help that.

Whilst we aim to have a selection of books at school, children can read non-fiction books, magazines and newspapers from home e.g. The Week Junior and First News, recipe books or encyclopedias. They just need to record their reading as usual in their reading journals/home-school contact books.



We will be talking about this in assembly and in classrooms. But if you have any ideas of topics we could buy books about, or even better if you'd like to donate books to our collection, please do send them in via the office.

Cycling to school

It's lovely to see so many children cycling to school. Please can I remind everyone that children should be wearing cycle helmets.



Headteacher Awards

Congratulations to our children who were presented with Headteacher Awards at the end of last term. Each term the teachers choose one child from their class to receive a certificate for kindness, reading, maths, writing, sports and creative arts.



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 Mr Conway, Miss Hancock and Mrs Russell. 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.

**Keeping
children safe
is everyone's
responsibility**



E-safety

As we have mentioned before, some parents are giving children unsupervised access to sites such as YouTube and to online, multiplayer gaming (e.g. Fortnite). Please remember that these sites have ratings which are above the age of pupils at Kingslea. Even though there is a restricted mode to YouTube and you may have a filtering program, children still need supervising when on the internet. Parents should be checking who children are playing with when using online games. Below are some tips on how to help ensure your child's safety online.

How else can I help ensure my child's safety online?

The tips below will help you to set rules for your child about accessing videos on the internet and their online behaviour, and support them to understand the risks and what to do if something happens.

- ☐ Try to have your child in the same room as you when they are using the internet, and discourage them from using headphones
- ☐ Chat to your child about what online videos might not be suitable for them to watch and share
- ☐ Regularly check the history of videos they have watched online for anything inappropriate, or create a playlist for them
- ☐ Encourage your child to tell you if they see something they find worrying or nasty
- ☐ If your child wants to share a video they have recorded, check they get permission from anyone who features in it before they upload it
- ☐ Tell your child not to give out any personal information or anything that can identify them, such as a school uniform or street name
- ☐ Regularly check comments made on your child's videos. Talk to your child about how they could receive nasty or negative comments from other people, and what they should do if this happens
- ☐ If another YouTube user posts a video of your child or shares personal information without consent, you can ask for this content to be removed by using YouTube's privacy complaint process

Parking

Please can I remind parents not to park across residents' driveways, use the nursery car park if you don't have a child at the nursery or to leave your car's running whilst parked. We are part of the community and I would like to ensure we have a positive relationship with our neighbours. The Civil Enforcement Officers will be patrolling the roads around the school and will be issuing fines where cars are parked illegally.

Last week there was an incident when a fire engine was trying to drive down Kingslea but was unable to due to double parked cars. **They could have been trying to attend an incident at the school—need we say more?**

Playtime snacks

As I'm sure you are aware, Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 are given fruit at break times. Year 3,4,5 and 6 are encouraged to bring a healthy snack for their break time. Whilst the definition of 'healthy' can be varied, the Oxford English dictionary uses it in this example sentence '*stimulates physical and mental performance, supplying the body readily usable energy and vitamins.*' We would recommend fruits and vegetables, as little packaging as possible, if any, and as unprocessed as possible.

Notes from the School Office

CLUBS

All clubs start this week.

- **Please ensure your child is aware each day if they have a club either at lunchtime or after school**
- **If for any reason your child is unable to attend their club please inform the school office and ask your child to inform the club leader out of courtesy. If your child misses more than two sessions they may be removed from the club and their place offered to someone from the waiting list**

Spring Term 2019		
Monday 14th January	First week of clubs	2.20pm Reception Stay and Play
Wednesday 16th January	4.00pm Netball at Collyers	
Monday 21st January	2.20pm Reception Stay and Play	
Wednesday 23rd January	2.45pm Y1 Parent classroom visit	
Monday 28th January	2.20pm Reception Stay and Play	
Wednesday 30th January	Y5 STEM Workshop	
Thursday 31st January	Y5 Boys Tag Rugby @ Forest	Choir to O2 for Young Voices
Friday 1st February	Y3 to Wakehurst Place	5.00pm Y5&6 Table Tennis @ Collyers
Monday 4th February	2.20pm Reception Stay and Play	
Tuesday 5th February	7.30pm KLASS meeting—all invited to find out more about the PTA	
Wednesday 6th February	2.45pm Y1 Parent Classroom visit	
Thursday 7th February	am Y3&4 Sports Hall Athletics @ Forest	Y5 Boys Forest transition roadshow
Friday 8th February	5.00pm Y5&6 Table Tennis @ Collyers	
Monday 11th February	2.20pm Reception Stay and Play	
Tuesday 12th February	Parents’ Evening 3.30-7.00pm	
Wednesday 13th February	Parents’ Evening 3.30-7.00pm	
Thursday 14th February	pm Cross Country @ Christ’s Hospital	New Age Kurling @ Millais
Friday 15th February	INSET - developing writing through reading and planning the wider curriculum	
18th-22nd February Half Term		
Monday 25th February	2.20pm Reception Stay and Play	
Tuesday 26th February	Y4 Viking Workshop	pm Music Festival Rehearsal @ Arunside 3L First swimming lesson
Wednesday 27th February	2.42pm Y1 Parent Classroom visit	6.00pm Governors Curriculum Committee
Thursday 28th February	9.00am Governors Resources Committee	
Friday 1st March	Y2 Space Day	5.00pm Y5&6 Table Tennis @ Collyers
Monday 4th March	Y1 Rainbow Theatre Visit	2.20pm Reception Stay and Play
Tuesday 5th March	Pancake Cafe	pm Y3&4 Tag Rugby Festival @ Collyers
Wednesday 6th March	4.00pm Netball @ Collyers	
Thursday 7th March	World Book Day—parent workshop in morning	
Friday 8th March	Y4 Football Cup @ Horsham Park	5.00pm Y5&Y6 Table Tennis @ Collyers
Monday 11th March	2.20pm Reception Stay and Play	
Wednesday 13th March	2.45pm Y1 Parent Classroom visit	
Friday 15th March	Y5 Football Cup @ Horsham Park	
Sunday 17th March	am Y5/Y6 Dance rehearsal	pm Y2/Y3 Dance rehearsal
Monday 18th March	Dance Rehearsal @ Capitol	2.20pm YR Stay and Play 7.00pm Dance Festival @ Capitol
Wednesday 20th March	pm Music Festival Rehearsal @ Arunside	6.00pm Full Governing Body meeting
Friday 22nd March	pm Y2 Space Café	Y6 Football Cup @ Horsham Park
Monday 25th March	2.20pm Reception Stay and Play	
Tuesday 26th March	pm Y5&6 Tag Rugby competition @ Horsham Rugby Club	
Wednesday 27th March	2.45pm Y1 Parent Classroom visit	
Thursday 28th March	Family Quiz night	
Friday 29th March	Non-uniform day	Disco’s
Monday 1st April	2.20pm Reception Stay and Play	
Wednesday 3rd April	Y6 Citizenship Day @ Drill Hall	
Thursday 4th April	Class & Y6 Individual Photos	4.30pm Basketball Competition @ Collyers
Friday 5th April	Last Day of Term	Welly Walk

Summer Term 2019	
First Day - Tuesday 23 rd April 2019	Last Day – Friday 19 th July 2019
Half Term – Monday 27 th May to Friday 31 st May 2019	INSET Day - Friday 21 st June 2019