

Newsletter

Tuesday 14th December 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

I don't usually start a newsletter with academic achievement but we've recently completed our assessment week for this term as well as the national phonics assessments that we are required to do for Y1 (although for this year they were taken by the children when they were in Y2). What the results are showing is that the vast majority of children are working at the level we would have expected them to be working at, Covid interruptions or not.

I believe a host of factors, including the daily high quality teaching in school, the extended school day last term, the high quality online learning and the support that you give children at home, has meant that the vast majority of children in each year group are working at their expected level of achievement. It is particularly noticeable that the children who are supported at home to do their homework and children who completed the work set in the lockdowns have made, at least, the progress that we would have expected and are achieving where we would expect them to be. We believe this rate of progress will continue as long as absence rates amongst children and staff do not increase further than their current already high position.

Of course there are areas that we are having to work on as a school, for example stamina in writing and appropriate use of grammar, but we can see the progress being made. We are also working on developing children's reasoning skills in maths and ensuring our curriculum is inclusive and diverse.

As we approach the end of term, it has been lovely that we've been able to go ahead with the Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 productions and that we have had a real life audience in the hall. Thank you to everyone for your support in helping your children learn their lines, songs, dances and with the costumes. Videos of the production will be up on Teams later this week.

This Thursday is our Christmas dress-up day. Children can be as Christmassy as they want; no uniform needs to be worn. Anything from full elf outfit to tinsel in the hair is fine. Also on the day, we are having Christmas lunch with crackers provided by KLASS.

You will have seen that there are over 30 clubs running across the week next term. I'd like to thank the staff of Kingslea for putting on such an array of clubs for our children.

And a final piece of good news, Mrs Payne has had a lovely baby girl who she has called Emma. Thank you to all of you who was asking after her.

Have a lovely Christmas and we look forward to seeing you all in the New Year 🍷 (see over the page)

Alexis Conway and the Kingslea Team



Reception Admissions for September 2022

Please remember that if you have a sibling starting school in September 2022 you need to fill out your application by Saturday 15th January at <https://eadmissions.westsussex.gov.uk/prefs.php>

Covid Update

In total this term, we have had 56 positive cases in children and 7 in staff. There was a peak in one year group in November, which didn't seem to spread across to other year groups. This week we have 3 children and 1 member of staff off with Covid. Whilst we can never be sure where contagion happened, it does seem to be a mix of in-school transmission and transmission within families. Whilst we can limit mixing in school, we can't limit siblings not mixing outside of school or children from different year groups mixing socially or at non-school clubs. I would also like to remind parents that school guidance comes via the school, not via class *WhatsApp* groups where I know some of you have found certain messages upsetting or inappropriate.

The Department of Education has asked all education settings to review their 'contingency framework' for January, which includes possible 'attendance restrictions'. Measures we have taken include updating our Teams system, reminding the KS2 children on how to use Teams and issuing Reception with Teams usernames and passwords just in case the government decides to delay any return to school in the New Year, as it did last year. Last year, in many schools, children came back for a day, then schools partially closed. If this scenario plays out again this year, I expect the decision to be very last minute.



Online safety talk for parents—13th January 2021 at 7pm

On Thursday 13th January the Breck Foundation will be giving three online safety presentations. To Y3/4 and Y5/6 during the school day and at 7.00pm an online talk to Kingslea parents (a link will be sent for this). Whatever the age of your child, I would urge all parents to attend this 7.00pm meeting. The last time we had an e-safety talk, parents who didn't attend regretted it when they heard such positive feedback from parents who did attend. Please do take the time to join.

Who are Breck and what do they do?

The Breck Foundation is a self-funded charity set up by Lorin LaFave, in memory of her son Breck who lost his life to an online groomer through a gaming relationship. Since then, Lorin has made numerous TV and radio appearances to raise awareness of online grooming and promote digital resilience. She also speaks regularly at police and school training sessions, as well as safeguarding, policy change and Ofsted conferences.

The foundation use Breck's story to educate young people, teachers, support staff and parents about the risks of online grooming to empower young people to make better choices when interacting online, leading to safer outcomes.

What will your child learn?

Early intervention is key to their work. They present to children of all ages in an age-appropriate and engaging way using Breck's real-life story, teaching an ethos of Play Virtual / Live Real and emphasising that online friendships are not the same as real-life relationships. They remind everyone to never meet up alone or in a private place if meeting an online friend.

FAQs

What should I do if I have concerns about the content of the presentation?

The foundation make sure that the content of talks is age appropriate, but if you have any concerns please contact Mr Conway.

What should I do after the presentation? Speak to your child about what they thought of the presentation. Ask if they have any concerns about the subject. Reassure your child they can talk to you about any concerns relating to online behaviour. Remind them to look out for their friends too.

Where to go for help if you have any concerns about your child or someone you know:

CEOP - The Child Exploitation Online Protection Agency - www.ceop.police.uk

NSPCC – www.nspcc.org.uk Find out more about grooming and staying safe online at www.thinkuknow.co.uk

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 Miss Nicholls. 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.

Children in Need 2021

Thank you to everyone for their participation in Children in Need, we raised just over £900.



Religious Education

RE is taught throughout the school year, in all year groups, and within some other areas of the curriculum. The majority of topics we cover are Christian based, but they also include areas such as the Jewish ceremonies of Shabbat and Passover, prayer and worship in the Hindu faith and the Muslim pilgrimage of Hajj. In Year 6, children tackle the very substantial question of whether anything is eternal, providing opportunities for debate and discussion, which the classes really enjoy.

If we take the end of the spring term as an example of what children learn about, most year groups start learning about many different aspects of the Easter Story. Children in Year 1 focus on Palm Sunday and spend time thinking about why Jesus was welcomed like a celebrity on his arrival in Jerusalem. Year 2 take a broader look at the whole Easter Story and begin their learning by thinking about which elements of our modern Easter are related to religion and which aren't. Last year, children were joined (on Zoom) by Lisa Barnett, the Reverend Canon at St Mary's Church in Horsham, who helped them to think about Easter as well as answering more general questions about her job. Also last spring, Year 3 spent time during their home learning, pondering the difficult question of why Christians believe Good Friday is 'good'.

In both Reception classes, the focus throughout has been on 'Celebrations'. This includes learning about Diwali (the Hindu Festival of Light), Christmas, Easter and also looking at Chinese New Year festivities.

This term, Year 2 had a visit from Reverend Lisa Barnett and Year 4 visited St. Mary's Church.



Whilst the Spring Term has a Christian focus other terms look at other faiths and we are currently reviewing our curriculum ready for September 2022.

Notes from the School Office

Lost Property

- The huge amount of lost property we have accumulated this term will be on display after school on the KS1 Playground on Tuesday and Wednesday this week. Any unclaimed items after this will be either passed to KLASS for their second-hand uniform sale, or, disposed of.*



Mrs Hill, Mrs Webster, Mrs Leyland and Mrs King wish you all a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

Spring Term 2022	
Tuesday 4th January	INSET Day
Wednesday 12th January	Young Voices @ O2
Friday 28th January	Y2 Australia Day
Wednesday 2nd February	Y4 Viking Day
Friday 4th February	Y2 Horsham Geography Field Trip (one class)
Wednesday 16th February	3.30pm-7.00pm Parents' Evening & Book Fayre
Thursday 17th February	3.30pm-7.00pm Parents' Evening & Book Fayre
Friday 18th February	Y2 Horsham Geography Field Trip (one class)
HALF TERM : MONDAY 21st—FRIDAY 25th FEBRUARY	
Tuesday 1st March	Class 3K First swimming @ Pavilions
Friday 4th March	Y3 Wakehurst Place Trip
Wednesday 9th March	Y1 Rainbow Theatre Visit Y2 Arundel Wetland Trust Visit
Thursday 10th March	9.00am Governors Resources Committee
Thursday 17th March	6.00pm Full Governing Body
Wednesday 23rd March	Y3 Bronze/Iron Age Workshop
Friday 8th April	Last Day of Spring Term

Term Dates 2021-22

Spring Term 2022			
First Day	Wednesday 5 th January 2022	Last Day	Friday 8 th April 2022
Half Term	Monday 21 st – Friday 25 th February	INSET Days	Tuesday 4 th January 2022

Summer Term 2022			
First Day	Monday 25 th April 2022	Last Day	Thursday 21st July 2022
Half Term	Monday 30 th May-Friday 3 rd June	INSET Days	Friday 24 th June 2022

Term Dates 2022-23

Autumn Term 2022			
First Day	Monday 5 th September 2022	Last Day	Friday 16 th December 2022
Half Term	Monday 24 th – Friday 28 th October	INSET Days	Thursday 1 st & Friday 2 nd September Friday 21 st October 2022

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 2021	Last Day	Friday 21 st July 2023
Half Term	Monday 29 th May – Friday 2 nd June	INSET Days	Friday 23 rd June 2023