

Newsletter

Wednesday 17th November 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

I'm sure you will have seen the poppy display on the bridge over Harwood Road. A number of years ago, as part of our whole school work on WW1, every child in the school painted a poppy. Over the last few years, Reception children have painted their own poppy to add to the wave, which is now displayed on the bridge. If you haven't seen it, please do have a look.

Our house captains have been in the playground selling poppies and the focus for last week's assemblies was on the history of the poppy and Remembrance Day. We read the story 'Where the poppies grow'. With the younger children we watched [Beautiful animation sees war as experienced by animals | Poppies - BBC - Bing video](#)



In other assemblies we talked about Guy Fawkes and Firework safety and this week we talked about COP26 and watched and discussed the David Attenborough documentary, 'How to save our planet', a WWF documentary where Sir David Attenborough explains how humans can take charge of our future and save our planet. It's only eight minutes long, beautifully shot and well worth a watch.

Throughout this term we have been playing different music at the start and end of assemblies. Music has included folk, classical, disco, jazz, soul and ragtime.

As we approach Christmas, I thought I would share with you some of the events that we have planned. On Friday 3rd December, we will hold our Christmas Decoration afternoon. Children get to spend time making Christmas decorations, with children from different classes and of different ages, or with their own class (we will decide nearer the time). Whichever way we do it, it is a lovely afternoon.

We will be having our Christmas lunch on 16th December. Y3/4/5/6 parents please ensure you read the letter and pay for lunches by **Wednesday 2nd December** if your child would like a meal on this day. Reception/Y1/Y2 will have a hot lunch as usual. Thank you to KLASS for providing the crackers. Wednesday 16th is also Christmas Dress-Up Day. Children can wear anything 'Christmassy', be it Christmas colours, tinsel in hair, a Christmas jumper, or they can dress as an elf—it's up to you!

We have already sent you information about the Christmas performances for Reception, Year 1 and Year 2. Thank you for your very positive feedback regarding our plans.

If you haven't filled out your parent questionnaire please can you do so by Monday 22nd November, here are the links :

[Parents Questionnaire](#)

[Reception Parents Questionnaire](#)

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>

Christmas Cards

Children will be able to send Christmas cards this year. The post boxes will open on Monday 6th December. Whilst House Captains are very talented, they do need the recipients name and class clearly written on the envelope in order to deliver them.

Covid Update

Since we returned from half-term, we have seen a significant increase in the number of positive cases in Y5. Many of the children had stomach ache and/or sore eyes. Once these were shared as possible symptoms and parents tested more frequently, we saw another increase in positive test results. Whilst most children have had very mild symptoms, some have been quite poorly. We keep all our control measures under review, and the control measures we have had in place, and have in place, at least meet the Public Health England guidance. In most cases the measures surpass the guidance, for example the use of HEPA filters, CO2 monitors and promoting regular LFT for family members where there has been a positive case. Since Wednesday 10th November, Y5 have gone back to being in their own bubble at school, both in class and at break time. Whilst we can bubble the children at school, we need parent support to decrease mixing outside of school, as well as using LFT tests. At this time, we are not planning on restricting Y5 attendance at school and moving to online learning. I would like to thank Y5 parents for their support over the last few weeks with keeping us informed about testing and ensuring that children have their home learning packs.

Playtimes

Playtimes are an important part of the school day, in many ways they are just as important as classroom based lessons.

At Kingslea the children from Year 1 to Year 6 have two break times: a morning break and a lunchtime break. They are more than just a welcome pause in the day; they are an important time when children get to be themselves, to do what's meaningful to them and to learn important social, emotional and communication skills.

For Reception, Y1 and Y2 we have different sets of play equipment out each day. These may be small world toys, hoops and wobble boards. The children also use the slide and the trim trail, as well as the new playground markings. Playground leaders (Y5 children) organise games and activities for children who want to take part in more structured activities. The Y1 teachers and Mr Mothee have used some of the PE time to teach the children games that they can play in the playground, and we have trained up our midday supervisors in a similar fashion.



In Y3/4/5/6, the children have the MUGA on a daily rota (usually to play football in), the basketball court, the building area on a weekly rota and the table tennis tables. At this time of year we have a leaf sweeping team, which is surprisingly popular and involves anyone who wants to sweep up some leaves. Various play equipment is also brought out on different days.

At Kingslea we aim to balance structured and unstructured play. We do not want to 'over-organise' the children. Over the years the nature of play, particularly out of school, has changed significantly, with the amount of unstructured play decreasing. This may be due to a greater reliance on screens, children not being given as much freedom to play out as previous generations as well as more parental involvement in children's lives in organising children's free time. When I say unstructured play, I am talking about play where children use their creativity while developing their imagination, dexterity, and physical, cognitive, and emotional strength. Unstructured play is activities that children make up on their own without adult intervention. It is through play that children at a very early age engage and interact with the world around them. As they further their understanding, their interaction with others helps children develop new skills that lead to enhanced confidence and the resiliency that they will need in order to face future challenges. Undirected play allows children to learn how to work in groups, to share, to negotiate, to resolve conflicts, and to learn self-advocacy skills.

It is very interesting watching the children in the playground, seeing those children who are able to make up their own games, play with different groups of children and use their imagination. There are also children who struggle with unstructured time and are not clear about boundaries in the playground. Just like we support children in the classroom, we also support children in the playground to develop the skills and understanding they need to play with and alongside others.

As I said we aim to balance structured and unstructured play so that children enjoy playtimes and learn and develop key life skills alongside their peers.

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

We are very much looking forward to seeing everyone in their colourful clothing this Friday. It's not too late to make a donation via ParentMail. Simply go into Payments & Shop.



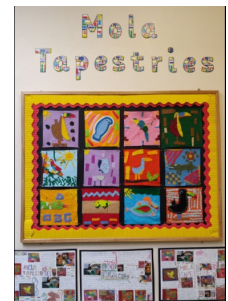
Art at Kingslea

Art lessons at Kingslea provide children with opportunities to explore a wide range of materials, tools and techniques. Children are given time to practice and experiment and therefore become independent artists with the confidence to try new things.

In Reception, children are given time to craft, paint, draw and build. They have access to materials they may not have experienced before, such as clay. Children are given freedom to investigate and be creative with their ideas. They begin to learn how to use pencils to draw and paint to create pictures. Children have access to a variety of tools and resources to use as they please. In addition to this, teachers carefully plan creative activities, such as observational drawing to link art experiences with what the children are learning about.

In the summer term in Year 1, children enjoy learning about castles. With this brings lots of opportunities to explore print and pattern and children study the work of Paul Klee to make their own collage. Year 2 look at the beautiful, natural artwork of dyer and embroiderer, Vivien Prideaux. Children develop their printing, tie dyeing and business (!) skills to create products for their Earth Café! In KS2, Year 3 experiment with a variety of tools, such as sticks, tubes, bones and sponges to create their own cave paintings. Year 4 leap head first into learning about the Ancient Egyptians and make their own wall painting and Year 5 design their own Mola artwork. Further up the school in Year 6, children delve into coastal art and inspired by artist Gill Williams, create their own piece with a watercolour wash and very careful sketches of a coastal feature as well as visiting Leonardslee to study the sculptures of Anton Smit.

In the summer term, all year groups took part in a very special art day! The day gave all children the opportunity to engage with different art activities related to their learning journey, with parents attending many of the sessions. We hope to repeat this in Summer 2022.



Notes from the School Office

Reporting Absences

- *Just a reminder that if your child is absent from school, or late due to an appointment please notify the school office either using the ParentMail tool, by ringing and leaving a message on the absence line, by email or popping into the office. The message does not always get through if you only notify classroom staff. If we have not heard from you we will ring down the list of contacts we have to ascertain the whereabouts of your child. We are required to do this to ensure the safety and wellbeing of our pupils, we are not just being nosy!!!*

Autumn Term 2021	
Friday 19th November	4.00pm Girls Football @ Tanbridge
Tuesday 23rd November	Y3&4 Badminton Festival @ Collyers
Friday 26th November	Y2 Rainbow Theatre Visit Y3 Mayan Day Y6 WWII Day
Wednesday 1st December	1.30pm Governors Curriculum
Thursday 2nd December	9.00am Governors Resources
Friday 3rd December	Christmas Decoration Afternoon 4.00pm Girls Football @ Tanbridge
Wednesday 8th December	Y5 to Pantomime @ Capitol Y4 Church Visit (TBC)
Thursday 9th December	am Reception Christmas performance pm Reception Christmas performance 6.00pm Full Governing Body
Tuesday 14th December	am Y1 Christmas performance pm Y1 Christmas performance
Wednesday 15th December	am Y2 Christmas performance pm Y2 Christmas performance
Thursday 16th December	Christmas Dress Up Day /Christmas Lunch
Friday 17th December	Last Day of Term
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	
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

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