

Monday 16th November 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

I'm sure you 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 two years all 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 weeks assemblies was on the history of the poppy and Remembrance Day. This year we have sold far more poppies, and raised significantly more money than ever before. Thank you.

We continue to be impressed with the frequency of reading across the school and the quality of books that the children are reading. On the whole we are very, very pleased to see that nearly all of our children are reading at least 5 times a week. Research indicates that children who read daily outside school are five times more likely to be reading above the expected level for their age than those who do not read at home. The more a child reads, the better their writing is likely to be, as well as their speaking and listening skills. Literacy empowers children to do better at school and beyond, transforming their life chances. It also makes you a much more interesting person and many would argue more empathetic as reading can help children build developmental skills of emotional intelligence and empathy, enabling readers to better connect with other perspectives and human experiences. You also never know when you need to know what the capital of Guyana is or that all the ants on Earth weigh about as much as all the humans. With Christmas coming up a book makes a worthwhile present or failing that why not take a visit to the library?

Rather than whole school assembly we have moved to year group assemblies. At each assembly we present the 'Star of the Week' certificates, look at how many house points each house has and then a focus for the week be it Remembrance Day, friendships, the Windrush generation or Guy Fawkes. For Star of the Week, one child in each class is chosen, by their class teacher, for doing something 'above and beyond'. Recent examples include 'working hard to improve handwriting' and 'wonderful focus and desire to tackle new challenges'. Other times it is about relationships, for example, 'always showing kindness to all the other children in the class' and 'helping another child who was finding their work difficult'. You can imagine that every week there are some very difficult decisions to be made as so many children are deserving of the Star of the Week award. In the assembly the chosen children come up to the front of the hall, we talk about their award and then we spin round three times (we usually spin on Mr Conway's or Mrs Payne's chair!).

Thank you all for your support this half-term,

Alexis Conway and the Kingslea Team.



Christmas Dates

As we approach Christmas I thought I would share with you some of the events that we have planned. On Friday 4th December we will hold our Christmas Decoration afternoon. Usually we mix the children up across the school but this year children will be in their own classrooms making things like hanging paper stockings, paper plate baubles, elves and hanging penguins.

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 your 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, dress as an elf, it's up to you!

We have already sent you information about the Christmas performances. Thank you for your very positive feedback regarding our plans.

Christmas Cards

Children will be able to send Christmas cards to just their year group this year (rather than the whole school). Christmas cards need to be sent in between Wednesday 2nd December and Wednesday 9th December (inclusive), for your child's year group only, with the recipients name and class clearly written on the envelope. The cards will be quarantined until the week of Monday 14th December then distributed.

Quadrants in Y4

As part of their geography fieldwork Y4 have been spending time on the field learning about quadrants.



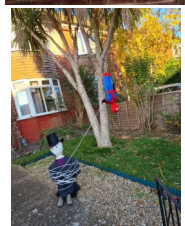
Children in Need 2020

It was fabulous to see such a fabulous range of socks and tights on display on Friday, thank you also for your donations. It's not too late to make a donation via ParentMail. Simply go into Payments & Shop.



KLASS Guy Fawkes trail

Thank you to KLASS and all the families involved with the Guy Fawkes trial. It was a fabulous success and such a well thought out event. If you didn't do the trail, here are some of the guys.



Support

Please remember we are able to access or signpost you to services to support you during these challenging times please do get in touch with Mr Conway, Mrs Payne or Mrs Barrett.

- If you require any emotional support for yourself please see the letter of Tuesday 9th November regarding free remote counselling via telephone, zoom/skype or email: tara.cresswell@thomasbennett-takt.org
- We can also signpost you to services that may be able to support your individual situation e.g. Horsham Matters, Worth services

Virtual learning—reminder

If the whole bubble has to quarantine — Learning will be set on Microsoft Teams. Please see the letter sent 23rd September for all the information about this and make sure you have tried logging in and downloading the app(s). Children will be able to view, ask questions about and submit their learning all on Microsoft Teams. Three lessons and activities selected by the teachers to fit the Kingslea Curriculum will be set each day along with a short video from the teacher to keep in touch and briefly explain the day's learning. Lessons will be from the Oak Academy, BBC Bitesize or another high-quality provider.

If individuals quarantine for up to 2 weeks — A link to the Kingslea website will be shared where you can find a 10-day English and maths plan for morning activities, and an afternoon grid with choices for activities linked to a video stimulus. Any work can be sent to the year group email address (yearX@kingslea.org.uk) which will be monitored by Mrs Payne. If your child is only off for a couple of days (e.g.) awaiting test results, then they complete only those days of learning.

NSPCC Casper weekly update—online safety

The NSPCC provides a series of easily understandable guide to the apps, games and social media sites that I would advise parents to read.

The other week there was an article entitled 'Should I be worried about my child sharing videos and images online?'

From Snapchat to Instagram, more and more young people are using video sharing apps to create and share their own content with their friends online. While it's normal for children to be curious about using these types of apps, it's important to talk to them about what they're sharing online and how they can use them safely. Do take a look at the website.

<https://www.net-aware.org.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 Payne, Mrs Barrett 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**



Notes from the School Office

LUNCHES FOR RECEPTION, YEARS 1&2



Please remember that children must opt either in or out for hot lunches for the whole term, they cannot pick and choose which days they choose to have a hot meal, this is due to the way the food is ordered.

*If your child brings in a packed lunch when they are meant to be having a hot meal, their hot meal will be thrown away and the school will have to pay for the meal. If just 10% of children brought a packed lunch in when they were meant to be having a hot meal the food wastage would be phenomenal and it would cost the school around **£10,000 a year**. Money that should be spent on your child's education.*

If your child wishes to change to or from bringing a packed lunch in the Spring term, please let the office know by 14th December as we will cancel their hot meal.

Autumn Term 2020

Tuesday 24th November	Y3 Mayan Day	1.30pm KCLASS EcoKids collection
Wednesday 2nd December	Y2 Victorian Day	First day for year group Christmas cards to be brought in
Wednesday 9th December	Last day for year group Christmas Cards to be brought in	
Thursday 3rd December	6.00pm Full Governing Body meeting	
Friday 4th December	Christmas Decoration Afternoon	
Thursday 10th December	9.00am Governors Resources meeting	
Wednesday 16th December	Christmas Dress Up Day /Christmas Lunch	
Thursday 17th December	am Y6 WW2 Workshop	
Friday 18th December	Last Day of Term	

CHRISTMAS BREAK : MONDAY 21st DECEMBER—FRIDAY 1st JANUARY

Spring Term 2021

Monday 4th January	INSET DAY
Tuesday 5th January	First day of term for pupils
HALF TERM : MONDAY 15th FEBRUARY —FRIDAY 19th FEBRUARY	
Tuesday 23rd February	Y4 Viking Workshop
Wednesday 24th February	1.30pm Governors Curriculum meeting



Housepoints

Autumn 2020

12/11/2020

