

# The good news newsletter

Wednesday 23rd September 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

As I've already said, it has been a fantastic start to the term. It is lovely to have the children back. It is obvious that they want to be here with their teachers and with their friends, they are enjoying the routine and structure of school, and they are really engaging with their learning in such a positive way.

We all know that children missed a significant part of last year and, whilst we did provide comprehensive remote learning, it wasn't a substitute for time with teachers in school. It could be said that the days missed earlier this year cannot be replaced – well, here at Kingslea, we like to find solutions to such problems so we're going to do our best to make up some of that lost time.

Every school is being given money as part of the £1billion universal Coronavirus catch-up premium announced earlier this year. The fund is designed to mitigate the effects of the unique disruption caused by coronavirus.

As a school, there are many options for spending this extra money, including:

- Employ an external tutor to teach a few children for an hour a week after school
- Employ a new Teaching Assistant to provide maths/English interventions for individuals/groups while their class have P.E., music and art lessons.
- Provide 1:1 support for children eligible for free schools meals
- Provide early morning sessions for identified children
- Provide laptops for up to 15% of pupils

However, we know that every child should be given the opportunity to recover any learning that might have been lost as a result of lockdown. We also know that all children deserve and have the right to a holistic education, taking part in all subjects and activities. Similarly, the staff and teachers who already know your child(ren) here at Kingslea are, without doubt, the best professionals to meet the catch-up needs of our pupils.

With that said, onto our "good news"...

To ensure that all Kingslea pupils benefit from the whole-class catch-up activities that we have planned in throughout the school day, the teachers and teaching assistants have taken inspiration from Rishi Sunak and have declared,

"Stay late, we'll educate."

Therefore, from Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> November until Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> May (autumn half term to summer half term), collection times for all

children will be 3:40pm, 3:45pm or 3:50pm, thirty minutes later than your current pick up times on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. This will allow us to teach the full curriculum as well as implementing additional key skills sessions in maths and English for all our children. Rocketeers sessions will run until 6pm on these days. Collection times will remain as normal on Monday and Friday. And you as parents get some extra time to use in what ever way you want.

We understand that for a few families this "good news" may present questions regarding logistics; please do not hesitate to speak me on the school gate or via the school office.

Thank you all for your ongoing support, Alexis Conway and the Kingslea Team



### Start /finish times after October half-term

Start of Day	Current	After October half-term
A-G	8.30am	8.30am
H-O	8.40am	8.40am
P-Z	8.50am	8.50am

End of day	Current (Reception only)	After October half-term (Reception only)
A-G	3.10pm (3.05pm)	3.40pm (3.35pm)
H-O	3.15pm (3.10pm)	3.45pm (3.40pm)
P-Z	3.20pm (3.15pm)	3.50pm (3.45pm)

### Reception

We are extremely proud of how well the children have settled in. They have quickly adapted to the new structure and routines of school. Many of the other members of staff have praised the children for their behaviour, kindness and the way they help each other around the classroom and school. I personally have been very impressed with their cutlery skills! There has been a significant decrease in the number of peas on the floor in the dinner hall! The children have also shown a fantastic attitude towards learning, are very kind towards each other and we look forward to the year ahead.

### Parents' Evening

We will be holding parents' evenings the week of Monday 19th October. However, this term it will be a virtual session rather than physical. Having hundreds of adults in the school and children mixing across bubbles at parents' evening is not a sensible idea. Early next week we will send you detailed instructions of how to book your appointment and how you login at the relevant time for your video connection with your child's class teacher.

### Follow us on Twitter

Please remember you can follow us on Twitter

[@kingsleapprimary](#)

[@PEKingslea](#)



### Reading

It is lovely to hear from class teachers that the vast majority of children are reading at least five nights a week. We have again spent hundreds of pounds on new books for Reception all the way up to Y6. As we always say at Kingslea, 'reading makes you more interesting'. Please take the time every night to read with your child, talk about their reading and introduce them to a range of reading materials such as recipe books, instructions for games and magazines.

### Kindness

Last week in assembly, we focussed on kindness across our school community. We expect all our children to be kind to one another, to think of others and to ensure that Kingslea is a place where everyone feels safe, supported and cared for. If you would like a reminder of what kindness means at Kingslea, please watch one of our kindness videos with your child. <https://kingslea.w-sussex.sch.uk/kindness.html>

## Conkers

It will soon be time for the 5th Annual Kingslea Conker Championship. It has been lovely to see more and more children enter each year. A Parentmail will be coming out soon, but we thought we would warn you in advance so you can collect your conker, string it and practice. The 'competition' is open to Year 1 to Year 6 and runs at lunchtime on Monday 12th October and Tuesday 13th October.



## Continuation of learning if there is class or year group isolation at home

We know that where there has been a positive Covid case, classes and year groups throughout the country are being sent home to isolate for 14 days. If one of our classes or year groups has to isolate, we will be using Microsoft Teams to upload a daily video, set learning and communicate with the children. Teachers are currently uploading a welcome video and set the learning "assignments" for a potential first school day in quarantine. Children have been given their username and password, and some classes have had the chance to use Teams in school. Please do take the time to log in at home, download the app (if appropriate), check everything works, familiarise yourself with the interface and view the learning "assignments". However, please only complete the work if your child(ren)'s class/year group have all been asked to isolate. More detailed instructions on Microsoft Teams were sent home earlier today.



## Reception places September 2021

If you are applying for a Reception place for September 2021 the application process opens on Monday 5th October and closes on Friday 15th January. There are no physical tours this year but we have made a video for parents which can be accessed by signing up at <https://kingslea.w-sussex.sch.uk> Once the video has been completed, you will sent a link to watch the video. As always, please make sure you apply by the deadline.

## Collection Sussex Aid for Refugees

One of our parents is organising a collection for Sussex Aid for Refugees, who will be sending supplies out to Greece to refugees impacted by the fire in the Moria camp in Lesbos and to other camps in Greece. They are collecting hygiene essentials such as nappies, toothpaste, deodorant, shampoo, shower gel and soap. The collection will take place after school on Tuesday 29th September in the staff car park. Just look for the car with it's boot open.

## *Notes from the School Office*

### **Absences & Illnesses**

*In these very strange times it can be difficult to know your mucous cough from your dry cough. We totally understand this, however what we ask is that:*

- If your child or anyone in your household is displaying **any one** of the three main coronavirus symptoms — do not come to school, self isolate and try to book a test. Remain isolated until you receive a negative test result or you have completed 10 (for the person with symptoms) or 14 days isolation. In these circumstances children cannot return to school early if they 'feel better'.*
- If your child is showing none of the three main symptoms but are not 100%, runny nose, phlegmy cough, sore throat etc, simply ask yourself if you would normally send them to school if it wasn't for COVID. If the answer is yes then send them in.*

Autumn Term 2020		
Thursday 1st October	Class 3S visiting Mr Simms	
Friday 2nd October	Class 3L visiting Mr Simms	
Tuesday 6th October	Y4 visiting Brighton	
Monday 12th October	Class 4U Mosque visit	Y1 / Y2 Conker Competition
Tuesday 13th October	Class 4B Mosque visit	Y3/4/5/6 Conker Competition
Thursday 15th October	Individual and sibling photos	6.00pm Governors Curriculum meeting
Week of 19th October	Virtual Parents’ Evening	
Tuesday 20th October	Y6 Homefront Bus	
Wednesday 21st October	2.20pm Reception Stay & Play (postponed for this term)	
Friday 23rd October	INSET DAY	
HALF TERM : MONDAY 26th OCTOBER –FRIDAY 30th OCTOBER		
Monday 2nd November	Flu Vaccinations (all year groups)	
Wednesday 4th November	9.00am Governors morning (TBC)	
Thursday 5th November	Big Draw (postponed)	
Friday 6th November	Y2 Victorian House Walk	Firework Night (?)
Friday 13th November	Children in Need	
Tuesday 17th November	9.00am Governors Resources meeting	
Wednesday 2nd September	Y2 Rainbow Theatre visit	
Thursday 3rd December	Y3 Mayan Day	
Friday 4th December	Christmas Decoration Afternoon	
Wednesday 9th December	am Reception Christmas performance	pm Reception Christmas performance
Friday 11th December	am Y1 Christmas performance	pm Y1 Christmas performance
Tuesday 15th December	am Y2 Christmas performance	pm Y2 Christmas performance
Wednesday 16th December	Y5 Greek Workshop	
Thursday 17th December	Christmas Dress up day /Christmas lunch	am Y6 WW2 Workshop
Friday 18th December	Last Day of Term	

#### **Message from the Nursery**

Thank you for respecting the no parking rule in the nursery car park, it is currently much safer for nursery parents and children. Sadly the front play area will be closed for Kingslea children from today. Yesterday there were 12 families in it after school undoing all the work that the school and nursery are doing in trying to keep groups separate.