

Newsletter

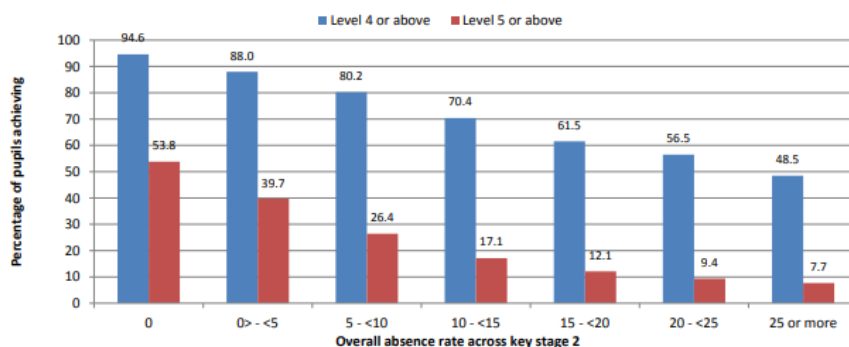
Monday 27th March 2023

Dear Parents,

Imagine the scene: your colleagues are all sat down listening to the person leading the meeting. They are deep in thought and conversation, and a check has already established that you are not present. You have to enter the room, attempting to make the least interruption possible knowing that everybody is looking at you, while the leader notes your arrival and fills you in on what you've missed.

This is the scenario some of our children find themselves in as they arrive to the playground at the very last minute, or even after the gates are closed. It can be embarrassing, and can heighten anxiety in children. The start of the day at Kingslea runs incredibly smoothly: there are learning activities for children to begin straight away, routines which take place before the register and key information about the day shared. Missing any of these vital elements can set a child up for a more difficult day than they need to have. Therefore, we'd like to remind you about the importance of punctuality at school. If you are regularly 10 minutes after the bell - which sounds at 8:40am - perhaps set your alarm clock for 10 minutes earlier and leave the house 10 minutes earlier. It may only be 10 minutes to you, but to your child it is the difference between a settled, calm start to the day and them missing out on key learning, routines and information. Please think of your child.

Similarly, it is important that children - when they are able to be - are in school. If your child is feeling slightly under the weather or tired, but isn't displaying any serious symptoms, they should be in school. In the same way our staff come into work when they aren't quite 100%. Your child should stay away from school if they have suffered from vomiting or diarrhoea within the last 48 hours, or are running a temperature, even one controlled by paracetamol. We will ring to ask you to collect your child if they display any of those symptoms. A child's attendance at primary school is a clear predictor of their academic success as found in [this research project](#). The table shows absence rates (starting at 0 days absent on the left) vs academic outcomes.



As we are half way through the academic year, I would like to reflect on our achievements over the last few months. The ongoing, core strength of Kingslea is the quality of teaching day in day out, not just in Maths and English but in all subjects across the curriculum. Every couple of terms, we have a whole-school focus and real push on one subject. Over the last few years, it has been Geography, History and Art. Recently, the focus has been on Design Technology, a subject that in previous times may have been relegated to the side-lines, yet a subject that so many children love. We've really pushed the design process: looking at pre-existing examples, key skills, the planning process, the making of the product and the evaluating what we have done. In the last few weeks, we've seen some wonderful outcomes including Y1 making their own Tudor houses in school (rather than making them at home), and Y6 designing and making their own working ski lifts as part of their mountains learning journey.

Kind Regards

Alexis Conway.

Welly Walk—Friday 31st March

This Friday we will be holding our annual Welly Walk, where we walk around the school grounds with our classes. It really is a fabulous morning: children and teachers walking together, chatting and getting quite a bit of fresh air. Please can the children bring their named wellies / walking shoes to school in a named plastic carrier bag on Friday morning. It will definitely be wet underfoot! They will also need a spare pair of socks, and a waterproof coat. Unless there is very heavy rain, the walk will take place. This is one of our biggest fundraising events of the year, so please do sponsor your child and share the link below with family members.



[Kingslea School is fundraising for KINGSLEA WELLY WALK \(justgiving.com\)](https://justgiving.com/KingsleaSchool)

All the money raised goes to buying resources to support your children's learning and the wider curriculum.

Clubs

You will have seen our club list come out last week. As always, the range of clubs is wide and varied, including sports, drama, singing, dance, board games and gardening. Our aim is to continue to provide these enriching experiences for the children, but to do that we need your support. Please don't use them for childcare, and please value them in the way that they are intended: to widen your children's life experiences.

Free Tickets for Horsham FC

On Saturday 1st April, all Kingslea families are invited along to watch Horsham verses Hornchurch at the Camping World Stadium. We have around 10 family tickets left, with each family ticket allowing entry for up to two adults and four children to the match. Parents can park at the Horsham Park and Ride (there will be qualified stewards to help cross Worthing Road) or to use public transport. If you would like a ticket please use this link:

[Request for Horsham FC Tickets](#) Lets see if we can get a bumper crowd at the game.



One Square Metre Mini-Meadow Challenge 2023

Horsham Forest Neighbourhood Council has invited all of our pupils to participate in their first ever One Square Metre (1M2) mini-meadow Challenge.

Wildflower meadows are a species-rich habitats that support a huge range of wildlife pollinators and other minibeasts.



This week we will be sending home a pack of British wildflower seeds with each child. Children are asked to find a small plot of land, no larger than 1 metre by 1 metre (1m2) to prepare and plant their seeds.

If you do not have access to a garden, you can also plant the seeds in smaller quantities in window boxes, plant pots, recycled plastic food containers or bottles, or any other suitable container.

Our gardening club will also be planting small patches of wild flowers around the school.

For more information, please visit [1m2 - Forest Neighbourhood Council \(forestnchorsham.org.uk\)](https://forestnchorsham.org.uk) or e-mail: fnchorsham@sky.com. A link will also be provided on the seed packet label.

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 Mrs Payne. 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.

Internet Safety Workshop

Thank you to the 70 or so parents who came to the workshop. We hope it was useful to find out more about what children are doing online and to consider how you can best support them at home. The presentation was workshop-based so the PowerPoint wouldn't be useful if you weren't in attendance. However, please find below some key points shared at the workshop.

- Spending time showing an interest in what your child is doing online, and holding regular conversations about their online use, is the best way to protect children. The onus is on adults to open these conversations, rather than expecting children to say if there's something which has upset them.
- The majority of KS2 children use YouTube, where it is very easy to end up viewing something inappropriate after a few clicks. YouTube Kids is a better site where the content is much more closely monitored.
- Lots of children are using Roblox and Fortnite. Roblox is a site with a huge amount of user-created content which isn't monitored, and there are no limits to friend requests on there. Please check your child's 'friend' list if they play Roblox, and spend some time looking at what they're playing. Fortnite is rated for young adults 12 and up. Therefore, this 'first-person shooter game' isn't appropriate for Kingslea pupils. If children *are* playing, there are parental control features which can be enabled to restrict who children can chat with and censor inappropriate language. Again, we'd encourage you to spend time playing with your child to decide if you're happy with them experiencing it.
- Finally, the website, [Internet Matters](#), has a huge wealth of information and 'how to' guides. Please take a look.

Reception Intake September 2023

Letters will be going out on Monday 17th April regarding allocation of places for the new Reception intake for September 2023. Please ensure acceptances are returned by 5th May, otherwise you risk losing your place.

Playtime snacks

As I'm sure you are aware, Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 are given fruit at breaktimes. 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

LOST PROPERTY

- *We will be disposing of all unclaimed lost property at the end of the week. If your child has lost something please take the opportunity to come and have a rummage before Friday.*
- *We will return any named items to their owner—however the majority of items we have are unfortunately unnamed.*



Spring Term 2023		
Tuesday 28th March	9.00am YR Stay & Play	12.30pm Y5&6 Tag Rugby @ HRC
Wednesday 29th March	9.00am YR Stay & Play	
Thursday 29th March	9.00am YR Stay & Play	
Friday 31st March	Last Day of Term	Welly Walk
Saturday 1st April	Free tickets for Kingslea families	Horsham FC v Hornchurch
EASTER HOLIDAYS— MONDAY 3RD APRIL-FRIDAY 14TH APRIL		
Wednesday 19th April	2.00pm Dance Festival Rehearsal	6.00pm Dance Festival @ Tanbridge
Thursday 20th April	4.00pm Rescheduled B Team Netball @ The Bridge	
Friday 21st April	4.00pm Y5&6 Basketball Tournament @ Kingslea	
Tuesday 25th April	6.00pm Y6 Swanage Trip meeting for parents	
Thursday 27th April	12.30pm Y3&4 Girls Cup Football @ Southwater JA	
Friday 28th April	4.00pm Y3&4 Basketball Festival @ Kingslea	
Monday 1st May	BANK HOLIDAY	
Wednesday 3rd May	9.00am YR Scooter Morning	
Friday 5th May	School Discos	
Monday 8th May	BANK HOLIDAY	
Tuesday 9th May	Reception trip to Bocketts Farm	
Thursday 11th May	Y1 trip to Arundel Castle	
Monday 15th May	9.15am/11.00am/1.30pm New Intake visits	
Tuesday 16th May	Class & Y6 Individual Photos	
Wednesday 17th May	Alternative Sports Festival @ Kingslea	9.15am/11.00am/1.30pm New Intake visits
Thursday 18th May	1.30pm Governors Resources	
Friday 19th May	2.00pm Grandparents' Afternoon	
Monday 22nd May	Y6 to Swanage (return Friday 26th May)	
Tuesday 23rd May	1.30pm Governors Curriculum	
Thursday 25th May	Y3 Stone Age to Iron Age Workshop	
HALF TERM— MONDAY 27TH MAY—FRIDAY 31ST MAY		
Tuesday 6th June	3.45pm & 7.00pm New Intake Parents' Meetings	
Wednesday 7th June	Y5&6 Stoolball @ Horsham CC	
Thursday 8th June	Y3&4 Cricket @ Horsham CC	Y5 Tom's Talking Reptiles visiting
Friday 9th June	Y2 trip to Drusilla's	6.00pm Y4 Camping Night
Tuesday 13th June	Horsham Schools Country Dancing Festival @ Shelley Primary School	
Wednesday 14th June	Y5&6 Rounders @ Millais	
Thursday 15th June	Y5&6 Cricket @ Southwater CC	
Friday 16th June	Y4 Maidstone Museum Trip	
Saturday 17th June	KingsleaFest	
Tuesday 27th June	Sports Day	

Term Dates 2022-23

Summer Term 2023			
First Day	Monday 17 th April 2023	Last Day	Friday 21 st July 2023
Half Term	Monday 29 th May – Friday 2 nd June	INSET Days	Friday 23 rd June 2023