

Newsletter

Thursday 30th September 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

Thank you all for a great start to the term. We've been very impressed with punctuality, attendance, how well the children have settled into their new year groups and how enthusiastic the children are about their learning. My office has had a constant flow of children coming to show me their work and share their learning. Do remember that you can see regular updates of life at school on our Twitter pages @Kingsleaprimary and @PEKingslea



One of the highlights of my day is walking around the school, popping into classrooms and seeing the quality of teaching, the high expectations in place and engaged children. The way teachers use their visualisers to model learning on the Interactive whiteboard, the support from the teaching assistants and the structured approach to learning are all things that I am proud to see in every classroom.

But learning at Kingslea isn't just confined to the classroom. We have already been off site and have a number of visits planned over this term. Y6 have already been to Southwater Country Park, Y1 flown to Africa courtesy of British Airways, Y3 to Mr Simms and to the Pavilions for swimming. We have Leeds Castle, a visit to Horsham, a visit to Brighton and a visit to Leonardslee Gardens all booked in. We said that we wanted this year to be memorable (in a positive way) for the children and that we would do what we can to make up for missed experiences and visits.



It has also been lovely to see so many children attending clubs. We know these are very popular and we continue to provide them at no cost to parents. We are running over 20 clubs every week this term, with over 500 places allocated across the school. I really don't think there are many other schools in the country that provide so many extra-curricular activities.

Assemblies this term have included: people who inspire us, teachers introducing themselves to all the children across the school, a celebration of the Y6 children who stood for House Captain positions, an introduction to House Captains and a look at flags from around the world and what they stand for. We also listen to a different piece of music at each assembly. Genres for this term include Rag-Time, Jazz, Glam Rock, Disco, Reggae, RnB, Musical Theatre, Classical, Folk and Soul.



Alexis Conway and the Kingslea Team



Reception

It has been a fantastic first couple of weeks for the Reception children. They have settled in wonderfully and quickly learnt the new expectations and routines. They have enjoyed exploring their new classroom and outside area, and have made plenty of new friends. We have been learning about ourselves and others, explored the woods, taken part in yoga, started phonics and sorted our socks!

The Reception Team have been very impressed with how eager to learn, friendly and kind the children are, and they can't wait for the great year ahead!



Staffing

Mrs Payne is now on maternity leave and will return towards the end of the academic year. After teaching in Y6 for the last few years, Miss Nicholls is teaching Y5 and Y6 maths this year and will be taking on a number of Mrs Payne's roles, together with other members of the leadership team. You will see Miss Nicholls on the gate in the mornings and afternoons, her photo is on the opposite page under safeguarding.

After many years at Kingslea, Mrs George (currently a TA in Class 3S) will be retiring. We would like to thank her for dedication and hard work over the years and wish her the best in her retirement. 3S's new TA will be Miss Beaven, who will be visiting over the next few weeks and starting full-time after half-term.

Conkers

The 6th Annual Kingslea Conker Championship will be held on Monday 11th October for Y1 and Y2, and Tuesday 12th October for Y3 to Y6. We will be reminding the children of the rules in assembly. If you would like your child to take part you please sign them up here

[Conker Competition Sign Up](#)

The quality of the strikes has increased significantly over the years and it is very obvious how much the children love playing the game. The children have their lunch and then come out into the playground with their conkers. They then pair off and competition begins!

Please, please, please ensure that your child brings in a conker with a very LARGE knot at the bottom as we do seem to spend along time re-threading conkers.



House Captains

Congratulations to our new House Captains: Will, Oliver, Khushi, Aadrika, Lauren, Donnie, Seb and Dominique. All children in Y6 have the opportunity to stand for election and this year we had the largest number of candidates for many years. Those that chose to stand presented their thoughts and ideas as to why they would make excellent House Captains and be role models for other children. Mrs Whitley and Miss Laker were blown away by the quality of the presentations. Over the course of this term House Captain duties will include counting up the house points, attending events school events and supporting other children across the school.



Clubs

Thank you for your positive feedback about the new sign-up system for clubs. Please do remember that our staff run clubs to enhance your child's education, they are not there for solely for childcare purposes, if there are children that obviously don't want to be at the club we will talk to you about their attendance. Whilst we expect children to attend club every week, if your child is in school but not going to club you must inform the office.

Play Leaders

Our Y5 play leaders are back in the KS1 playground. Having been trained up by Mrs Smith and Mr Mothee, and introduced to the children in assembly, they are bringing their energy, enthusiasm and leadership into the playground at lunchtime, leading games and playing with the younger children.



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.

Safeguarding—Computer Games

A safeguarding issue that regularly comes up is children talking about computer games that are inappropriate for their age. Children may have been playing them, watching someone else play them or watching videos of the games on sites such as YouTube. Fortnite and Grand Theft Auto are two such games, but there are many others. Age ratings are there for a reason and should be adhered to. Children can mimic what they see in such games, including fighting and use of inappropriate language. If we are concerned that children are being exposed to inappropriate gaming, we will contact parents and it will be recorded as a safeguarding incident on the child's records. We will then proceed in line with West Sussex Safeguarding Children Board's guidance. Please keep your children safe and follow the guidance.



Parking

Please remember to park considerately around the school for the sake of local residents and for other parents. That includes not parking in front of the school gates, blocking driveways and not parking on pavements, causing adults, children and buggies to have to walk on the road.

Isolating

So far this term we have had one known positive child COVID case and one adult case. In both instances the year group were informed and encouraged to take additional precautions, including regular testing. If children do have to isolate we have put together home learning packs that reflect the learning that is going on in the classroom. You will be sent details of the learning in the event of isolation.

Last day of Summer Term 2022

The last day of term for Kingslea (and I believe all other West Sussex schools) will now be Thursday 21st July 2022. This is due to the additional Bank Holiday in June. The late May Bank Holiday will be moved to Thursday 2nd June and an extra Bank Holiday added on Friday 3rd June which will create a four-day weekend to celebrate Her Majesty The Queen's Platinum Jubilee. As this falls in half-term it has been agreed that schools will finish a day earlier in July.

Notes from the School Office

Lost Property

- *We cannot emphasise enough the need to ensure that everything that comes to school is clearly labelled with your child's name.*
- *We have 425 children all wearing identical green sweatshirts, cardigans and PE hoodies. Please give us a chance of getting lost items back to their owners by clearly marking them.*
- *If you write your child's name in their items in pen, please remark them regularly as ink will fade dramatically even with one wash*

Each year we give £100s worth of nearly new uniform to KLASS to resell to parents—don't pay twice for yours!

Autumn Term 2021	
Friday 1st October	4.00pm Y5&6 Football @ Tanbridge
Monday 4th October	Y5 Greek Workshop
Wednesday 6th October	Y4 Trip to Brighton
Thursday 7th October	Individual & Sibling Group Photos
Friday 8th October	Y2 Horsham Museum Workshop (in school) 4.00pm Y3&4 Football @ Tanbridge
Monday 11th October	Y1 / Y2 Conker Competition
Tuesday 12th October	Y3/4/5/6 Conker Competition
Friday 15th October	4.00pm Y5&6 Football @ Tanbridge
Tuesday 19th October	3.45pm—7.00pm Parents' Evening
Thursday 21st October	Y6 Trip to Leonardslee am Governor's Morning 3.45pm—7.00pm Parents' Evening
Friday 22nd October	INSET DAY 4.00pm Y3&4 Football @ Tanbridge
HALF TERM : MONDAY 25th OCTOBER –FRIDAY 29th OCTOBER	
Thursday 4th November	Y6 Homefront Bus Fireworks Night
Friday 5th November	Y2 Historical Walk 4.00pm Girls Football @ Tanbridge
Friday 19th November	4.00pm Girls Football @ Tanbridge
Friday 26th November	Y2 Rainbow Theatre Visit
Thursday 2nd December	9.00am Governors Resources
Friday 3rd December	Christmas Decoration Afternoon 4.00pm Girls Football @ Tanbridge
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 (provisional)
Friday 17th December	Last Day of Term

Autumn Term 2021			
First Day	Monday 6 th September 2021	Last Day	Friday 17 th December 2021
Half Term	Monday 25 th – Friday 29 th October	INSET Days	Thursday 3 rd & Friday 4 th September Friday 22 nd October 2021

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