

# Kingslea Primary School

## NEWSLETTER

11<sup>th</sup> September 2017

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to all our children and parents; we hope you have had a lovely summer. The first few days of the new term have gone very, very well. It's lovely to hear the teachers commenting on how impressed they are with their new class. Children have quickly settled into their new classes, learning new routines and expectations.

As always it has been a busy summer preparing for the new school year. Our highly talented Premises Manager, Mr Richmond, aided by his wife, have been very, very busy and I would like to thank them for all their hard work.

- We have refurbished our first aid room, and even taken the piano to another room in the school. No longer will injured children be serenaded by the tinkle of ivory!
- You may have noticed that our Reception outdoor area has been spruced up. This has included laying astroturf over the matting, removing the large climbing frame, additional fencing and a new shed for the Reception bikes.
- We have been installing new computers in various classrooms.
- Our library is looking much more inviting thanks to the new paintings, painted by Mr Harman and Mrs Wingfield.
- We have also been reviewing our curriculum. We are introducing two new languages, Spanish and Mandarin, to the curriculum. Year 3 and Year 4 will continue to learn French, Year 5 will learn Spanish and Year 6 will learn Mandarin. We feel this gives the children the opportunity to study a range of languages, giving them more confidence and awareness of language, ready for secondary school.
- We have also employed a specialist art teacher, Mr Harman. Initially he will be working with Y4 and Y5.
- Mr Townsley, our outdoor education teacher has been timetabled to work with all year groups, over the school year. Mr Townsley has a background in outdoor learning, forestry, woodland management and nature. He really helped develop the curriculum in Reception and Y1 last year and we are now extending this to other year groups.



As mentioned in the newsletter at the end of last term we are very proud of our academic results this year;

- Our end of Reception results showed very high levels of progress from entry.
- Our Y1 phonics are above the national average.
- Our Y2 Reading, Writing, Maths results showed that our pupils have made well above expected progress since the end of Reception.
- Our Y6 results are significantly above the national average in Reading, Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling, and Maths and above the West Sussex average in Writing.
- The progress the Y6 pupils made in Maths was in the top 5% and the top 10% in reading, in England
- Our percentage of more able pupils achieving the higher standard at the end of Year 6 was around double the national average in Maths, Reading and Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling, with around 50% of our pupils reaching the higher standard in these subjects.

We are very fortunate to have an amazing team of teachers, support staff, office and premises staff. They work incredibly hard and do their very best to ensure that your children are happy, cared for, enjoy school and are making great strides with their learning. We look forward to another successful year and with your support, I know we can achieve fantastic things for your children.

Yours sincerely,

Alexis Conway

## **Meet the teachers**

On Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> September, we would like to invite all parents to come and meet the class teachers. We will be running the meeting twice, at 2.30pm and 6.00pm. For both meetings please enter the school via the office. The meeting will last for approximately 20/30 minutes and you are welcome to take your child home once the afternoon meeting has finished. It is important that every child has a representative at the meeting to ensure all parents are clear about the curriculum, routines and expectations.

## **Uniform**

I am always very proud with how smart and well-presented our children are. Just a reminder that school shoes should be black and should not have flashing lights!!! Earrings must be studs and hair over shoulder length should be tied back.



## **Performances for 2017/18**

As per my last newsletter you can see from the date sheet attached that we are continuing with the separate Reception and Y1/Y2 Christmas performances. We have booked in an additional performance for each; this will allow more family members to come and watch. Rather than limiting each family to two tickets we hope to offer each family 4 or 5 tickets for the performances. At parent forum we discussed the importance of 'performance' and my thoughts on bringing more variety into what the children perform over the course of a year. Rather than each year group do a Christmas performance year after year, only Reception and Y1/2 will do a Christmas Production and we will vary the other year group's performances. For example, one year group may do an Easter performance or a play; more information to follow for Y3 – Y6 next term.

## **Chartered College**

We are very proud to announce that Kingslea has been selected to be a founding network school for the Chartered College of Teaching. The Chartered College aims to achieve excellence in teaching and leadership in schools across the country by supporting, developing and giving a voice to teachers, enabling them to be the very best they can be. As a network school we will be hosting events and supporting collaborative knowledge-sharing alongside schools, universities and other educational organisations across the country. If you would like to find out more please see <https://chartered.college/networks>



## **Clubs**

We had an overwhelming response to our extra-curricular club offering. Thank you to all of you who have requested a place. You will receive an email next week for each club to which your child has been allocated a place. Many of the clubs were heavily oversubscribed\* so if you do not receive an email, please presume you haven't got a place at that club. Clubs start on Monday 18th September and run until Friday 8th December. Please note that during the week of 17th October (Parents' Evening) only Code Club, Karate Club and Mrs Jagota's, clubs will run. Please remember that if your child would like to sing at the O2 they do need to attend Choir Club. If they would like to be considered to represent the school at tournaments and other events they need to attend the relevant club e.g. football, netball etc. \*Waiting lists will operate for all oversubscribed clubs, we aim to offer all children on the waiting list a place in their chosen club for the following term (subject to numbers).



## **Start/end of the day**

Please remember that the school gates will be open from 8.30am and the bell will ring at 8.45am for children to enter classrooms. Teachers will be setting early morning work from 8.45am. The gates will be locked at 8.55am. If you arrive after that time you must enter via the school office, where children will be marked in late. You may also meet a grumpy Mr Conway!! At the end of the day learning finishes at 3.10pm for Reception, 3.15pm for Year 1,2 and 3.20pm for Year 3,4,5,6. Children will be dismissed from classrooms once they have packed up and are ready to leave. This will be a few minutes after the stated end of the day time.



## Conkers

It's that time of year again. After last year's great success we are organising the 2<sup>nd</sup> Kingslea Conker Championship. A letter 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.



## INSET

You may wonder what teachers do on an INSET day. This year all teachers and teaching assistants spent time looking at how we teach reading comprehension and how we can instil a love of reading into our children. We looked at coaching and how we use coaching to develop our teaching. We also looked at particular aspects of teaching that we want to develop across the school, namely; habits of discussion, modelling, using errors to develop learning and 'beginning with the end'. We also discussed the wider curriculum and how we can develop pupils skills and outcomes in Art.

## KLASS EVENTS

Welcome to a new school year, and this year is no exception from the last, we have a fabulous range of events lined up for this term. Everyone is invited to our AGM (date to be confirmed) and we shall be holding a coffee morning and second hand uniform sale...A chance to meet the committee and others parents for a relaxed natter! (Date to be confirmed). KLASS is vital in raising funds for the school and organising events for children and parents, which bring our school community together. Remember what another wonderful Summer Fayre we had in July. Please come along to find out more about plans for this year. We shall also be running a disco for all year groups on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> November and our annual Firework night is on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> November 6.00pm to 8.00pm. We will be holding our Christmas Bazaar for the children on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> December. There will also be a special evening event for parents and teachers - details to follow - watch this space!!

## Mathletics / Times Table Rockstars / My Maths

We are varying the online maths homework this year. Year 1 to Year 3 will continue with Mathletics. We would like Y1 to aim for 600 points, Y2 800 points and Y3 1000 points. Remember, to get a certificate you need to get 1000 during the week. (The Mathletics week ends on a Sunday evening). We are introducing Times Table Rockstars to Y4 and Y5, and Y6 will be completing My Maths, which we feel is more appropriate for their age group. If you have any questions regarding online maths homework please speak to your child's teacher at the curriculum meeting.

## Parent Forum

I have booked in two parent forums for this term; both are on the 31<sup>st</sup> October at 9.15am and 6.30pm. The agenda will be sent out nearer the time but the 6.30pm meeting will involve a session on coding. If you would like to come along for an informal chat about a wide variety of topics and our aims for this year, do put the date in your diary.

## Volunteers meeting

If you would like to volunteer in school on a regular basis we are holding our volunteers meeting on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> September at 9.15am and Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> September at 2.30pm. It is important that all volunteers, new and experienced attend the meeting. Please contact Mrs King in the school office to book your place.

## Reception Applications for September 2018

Applications open on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2017 for children due to start school in September 2018. Applications close on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> January 2018. Application details can be found at [www.westsussex.gov.uk](http://www.westsussex.gov.uk). Even if you have a sibling currently at Kingslea you still need to apply. We have several dates available for prospective Reception parents and children to visit the school. Please contact Mrs King in the school office to book.

### *Notes from the School Office*

- ***Medications/Inhalers etc. – Many of you have already returned medications and inhalers to school. If you have not yet done so, please ensure that any medication your child requires is returned either to the classroom or the school office as soon as possible.***  
***If your child no longer requires an inhaler in school please let Mrs Hill in the Office know so we can amend our records.***
- ***Old £1.00 Coins – Just a reminder that the old style £1.00 coin stops being legal tender in October, therefore the school will not accept any old £1.00 coins in payment after 29<sup>th</sup> September.***



# Autumn Term 2017

Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> September	1.45pm 3K swimming and then every Tuesday	3.20pm Karate restarts
Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> September	Curriculum meetings 2.30pm and 6.00pm	
Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> September	6.00pm Full Governing Body Meeting	
Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> September	Clubs start	Reception start full -time
Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> September	Volunteers' meeting 9.15am	
Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> September	Volunteers' meeting 2.30pm	
Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> September	Year 5 Maths Competition @ Christ's Hospital	
Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> September	Parents evening appointments released	
Tuesday 26 <sup>th</sup> September	Year 6 Maths Competition @ Windlesham House	
Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> September	2.00pm Reading meeting for Reception parents	
Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> October	Individual pupil photos	
Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup> October	Flu Vaccinations – Reception to Year 4	6.00pm Governors Curriculum Meeting
Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> October	9.15am Reading Workshop for parents and time together in class	6.30pm Reading Workshop
Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup> October	9.00am Governors Resources Meeting	3.30pm – 7.00pm Parents' Evening
Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> October	3.30pm – 7.00pm Parents' Evening	
Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> October	INSET	
<b>Half Term : Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> October to Friday 27<sup>th</sup> October</b>		
Tuesday 31 <sup>st</sup> October	9.15am Parent Forum	6.30pm Parent Forum (including Coding Presentation)
Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> November	Big Draw	
Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> November	Firework night @ Kingslea	
Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> November	KLASS Disco	
Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> November	Assessment Week	
Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> December	Christmas Decoration making afternoon (mixed year groups)	
Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Bazaar for pupils	
Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> December	10.00am Y1/2 Christmas Production	2.15pm Reception Christmas Production
Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> December	2.15pm Y1/2 Christmas Production	
Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> December	10.00am Reception Christmas Production	2.15pm Y1/2 Christmas Production
Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> December	Last day of term	

<b>Autumn Term 2017</b>	
First Day Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup> September	Last Day – Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> December
Half Term – 23 <sup>rd</sup> – 27 <sup>th</sup> October	INSET Days 4 <sup>th</sup> /5 <sup>th</sup> September & Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> October
<b>Spring Term 2018</b>	
First Day Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> January	Last Day – Thursday 29 <sup>th</sup> March 2018
Half Term – 12 <sup>th</sup> February – 16 <sup>th</sup> February	INSET Day Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> January
<b>Summer Term 2018</b>	
First Day Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> April	Last Day – Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> July
Half Term – Monday 28 <sup>th</sup> May to Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> June	INSET Day Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> June