

# Newsletter

Monday 5th November 2018

Dear Parents/Carers,

Along with the usual day-to-day housekeeping information, this newsletter will give you a glimpse into how we develop teaching and learning at Kingslea. I will also explain the four key areas we are focusing on this year and what they mean in the classroom and at home.

But first, let me tell you about Dave Brailsford. Up until 2014, Dave was the director of performance for British Cycling. Prior to his employment in 2003, Team GB cyclists had won just a single gold medal at the Olympics in 95 years. Since he managed the team, his athletes have won more than 20 golds, topping the medal table at both the 2012 and 2016 games. It's a very impressive story but the curious among you will be wondering how Dave Brailsford and his team achieved this.

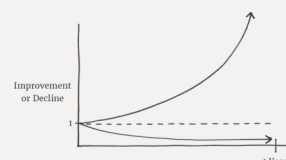


Dave is regularly quoted referring to something called *marginal gains*: the idea that if you improve elements of your performance by just 1%, the overall result will be much improved. All professional athletes follow a similar idea. They have a coach who observes their skills, identifying areas for improvement (e.g. the power in a tennis serve, the angle a foot strikes the ball in a soccer free kick, the height of the ball when shooting in netball), practising the improvement of this area over and over. This helps athletes to get at least 1% better in that area before identifying another area to improve—all of this with the hope of improving the athlete's overall performance in competitive situations.

Teaching is, in many ways, very different to professional sports (!) but our own experience at Kingslea supports the research which states that the most effective way for teachers to improve follows a similar process. As part of my role as Deputy Headteacher, I lead on teaching and learning in the school with a team of coaches. There are five of us who spend time in classrooms and with teachers having discussions which improve learning for your children. We observe teachers, identifying an area where—with the teacher putting in time to practise and develop that area—learning could be improved by at least 1%. This area is practised with the teacher and then embedded in daily teaching.

## The Power of Tiny Gains

1% better every day  $1.01^{365} = 37.78$   
1% worse every day  $0.99^{365} = 0.03$



Currently, as a school we are collectively working to develop four key areas of teaching and learning:

Effective Questioning—using questions which make children think deeply about their learning.

Feedback—ensuring both teachers and children know how well they are doing with the learning and putting things in place to help children improve further or to support them.

Retrieval Practice—giving the time for children to remember and practise what they've already learned so they don't forget it.

Use of Teaching Assistants—making best use of support staff, particularly during the teaching time at the start of a lesson.

At home, you can help with some of these areas. When you're reading with your child, encourage them to develop their understanding of the story by asking questions about what has happened so far and why. Also, encourage children to explain some of their learning to you as this will help secure their new knowledge and skills in their long-term memory. This is the purpose of the homework we set but you could also look over the school Twitter feed to find out what they've been learning and ask them to give you further details. Activities like these help to forge the link between home and school to enable Kingslea pupils to be even more successful in their learning.

Yours faithfully,  
Jo Payne  
(Deputy Headteacher)

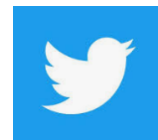
### Eco Committee

At Eco-Warriors, we are passionate about looking after our school, caring for our grounds and considering how we can help the environment. Our current team are collecting bottles to make eco-bricks which, once completed, will allow us to make something interesting for the school grounds. The bottles are filled with non-recyclable plastic and, once full, are very hard and act as a brick! We are also making posters to encourage our school to save electricity. I have also been personally keeping a record of how the grounds currently look and how they can be improved. Watch this space for even more ideas from your Eco-Warrior team! By Matthew and the Eco Committee.



### Twitter

Remember you can keep up to date with what is going on at school on our Twitter pages. For general school activities you can follow us on @KingsleaPrimary and for sporting updates there is @PEKingslea



### Pupil Governors

Meet our new Pupils Governors for this year: Aimee (Chair of Pupil Governors), Mya (Vice Chair), Caitlin, Zuzanna, Cristian, Alice, Ema, Dominique, Owen, Sophie, Siena, Jude and Rocco. Our Pupil Governors have been working hard to think about what they enjoyed at Kingslea last year and what they would like to improve this year. Last year, they felt that their learning was varied and fun, they had lots of opportunities to try out new things, the clubs were creative and the behaviour of children was very good across the school, to name a few. They would like to further develop more opportunities for brain breaks throughout the day, create a box for children to write their worries in and help to



promote use of an outdoor reading area.

From the left, our Wellbeing, Pupil Voice, Teaching and Learning and Building and Grounds Teams.

### Unwanted Uniform

If you have any old uniform, please remember you can drop it off at school and KLASS will put it in their 'nearly new' uniform sale that we have on a regular basis. Please wash it first and then drop it off at the office.

### Children in Need

On Friday 16<sup>th</sup> November, we will be collecting for Children in Need. Our school theme this year is pyjamas! Your child can dress up in any pyjamas they own, including onesies and dressing gowns. Please bring in a minimum of £1 to go towards this fantastic cause.



### 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 Mr Conway, Miss Hancock 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**



### KLASS

All of us want a school that is part of the community, that goes beyond the basics and that provides a great start to life. You are all very aware of the lack of funding currently going into schools. We provide a wide and varied curriculum and we have a great team of people but with more funding we could do more. At Kingslea, we are very fortunate to have a group of parents who work together to provide the 'little extras' (far more so than provided by Philip Hammond in last week's budget!) but they are in a minority. I am asking the majority to do their bit for our school rather than leaving it up to others.

Many of you enjoyed the fireworks on Friday and as always it was an excellent evening.



Thank you to all of you who signed up to come along to the next KLASS meeting on Friday 16th November at 9.00am. Please contact the office if you haven't signed up and would like to come along. (Please don't worry if you will be late, just turn up) . We are also just confirming an evening date and will let you know the date ASAP. As you know, KLASS puts on a wonderful series of events throughout the year and this requires your help. The funding they raise is vital for our school and your children. Please do come along to one of the next meetings to hear more about what KLASS does and how you can help.

## Big Draw



### World War One Focus

Mr Townsley, our outdoor learning teacher, also happens to be a WW1 expert and documentary/re-enactment actor; he can be seen in the CBBC show Operation Ouch, a medical history programme. Mr Townsley tours the country teaching mainly secondary pupils about WW1. At Kingslea, Mr Townsley has been working with each year group, talking about the life of a soldier, showing the children a soldier's kit and weaponry, discussing life in the trenches and the symbolism of the poppy.

This week, all year groups will be focusing on WW1 at a level appropriate to their age. Each year group will have a book as a stimulus for the work they are doing and will focus on a particular area of WW1.

Reception and Year 1: *Elfa and the Box of Memories*—looking at what life was like in the 1910s, with a focus on toys.

Year 2: *Where the Poppies now grow*—focusing on the life of a soldier.

Year 3: *Flo of the Somme*—with a particular focus on animals at war.

Year 4 : *Archie's War*—with a particular focus on Horsham during WW1 and family life during the war.

Year 5: *Walter Tull's Scrapbook*—with a focus on the contribution of the Commonwealth.

Year 6 are studying many aspects of WW1 all term, including the role of women during the war.

### Poppy display

As part of our work on WW1 every child in the school has painted a poppy. During half-term the poppies were put together to form a wave which is now displayed on the bridge over Harwood Road. If you haven't seen it please do have a look, it is very powerful.

Our pupil governors will be in the playground selling poppies this week, with all funds raised going to the British Legion Poppy Appeal.



## Notes from the School Office

**'REMEMBER TO BRING EVERYTHING TO SCHOOL WEEK'**

**Monday 5th - Friday 9th November**

*This week we would like to repeat our challenge from last year—to all parents & children to have one week when everyone remembers to bring everything they need for school every day!*

*This includes water bottles, coats, PE kits, homework, lunches etc. The Office Staff get their 10,000 steps a day just in reuniting children with forgotten items!!*



### Autumn Term 2018

Week of 5th November	World War 1 Commemoration Week	
Wednesday 7th November	Governors' Morning	4.00pm Netball @Collyers
Thursday 8th November	9.00am Governors Resources meeting	2.45pm Y1 Parent Visit
Friday 9th November	4.00pm Hockey Tournament @ Tanbridge	
Monday 12th November	9.00am East Horsham Pupil Governors meeting	
Friday 16th November	Children in Need—pyjama theme. 9.00am KLAS (PTA) meeting 3.15-6.30pm Discos 4.00pm Girls Football Tournament @Tanbridge	
Wednesday 21st November	Y5 Girls to Millais for computing	
Thursday 22nd November	2.45pm Y1 parent visit	
Friday 23rd November	4.00pm Hockey Tournament at Tanbridge	
Tuesday 27th November	pm Y3&4 Badminton Tournament @ Collyers	
Wednesday 28th November	Y2 Horsham Maze visit	
Friday 30th November	Christmas Decoration Afternoon 5W to recording studio 4.00pm Girls Football Tournament @ Tanbridge	
Monday 3rd December	Christmas Bazaar for pupils	
Tuesday 4th December	Y3 Mayan Day	pm Y5 Greek Workshop
Wednesday 5th December	6.00pm Full Governing Body meeting	
Friday 7th December	Y2 Dinosaur Day pm 5K to recording studio 4.00pm Hockey Tournament @ Tanbridge	
Wednesday 12th December	Christmas Lunch	
Friday 14th December	am Y1/2 Christmas Performance	pm Reception Christmas Performance
Monday 17th December	pm Y1/2 Christmas Performance	
Tuesday 18th December	am Reception Christmas Performance 7.00pm Choir Candlelit service	pm Y1/2 Christmas Performance
Wednesday 19th December	Christmas Dress up day	7.00pm Drama Club production
Thursday 20th December	Last day of term	

### Spring Term 2019

Thursday 3rd January	Back to school	
Wednesday 16th January	4.00pm Netball at Collyers	
Thursday 31st January	Y5 Boys Tag Rugby @ Forest	Choir 02 for Young Voices
Friday 1st February	Y3 to Wakehurst Place	
Tuesday 12th February	Parents' Evening	
Wednesday 13th February	Parents' Evening	
Friday 15th February	INSET Day	

### 18th-22nd February Half Term

Tuesday 26th February	Y4 Viking Workshop	pm 3L First swimming lesson
Friday 1st March	Y2 Space Day	
Friday 4th March	Y1 Rainbow Theatre Visit	
Wednesday 6th March	4.00pm Netball @ Collyers	