



KINGSCLERE C of E PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Edition 19 – Friday 27 January 2023

Dear Parent/Carer,

This Monday we welcomed Revd Canon Dodie Marsden to lead our Collective Worship about the environment and creation. Dodie then worked with Year 1/2 talking to the children about our partnership with Kyankowe. The children asked lots of questions about our partnership school in Africa comparing similarities and differences between our own and Kyankowe's community. Dodie will soon fly out to Uganda to give our alphabet book of the United Kingdom, that Year 6 created, to the children in Kyankowe.

On Wednesday, we were delighted to support the St. Mary's church team inviting in one of the candidates for the new vicar's job in Kingsclere. The candidate led Collective Worship for the whole school and shared the message of looking after and caring for our world.

This week, staff shared their classes writing work with the Hampshire Local Authority advisor for English. The advisor was impressed with the progress children have made in their writing learning journey so far this academic year and also supported staff in considering how to further develop children's editing skills.

We say farewell to Miss Tamlin, Rowan Class teacher and our Year R, 1 and 2 Phase Leader, and wish her all the very best during her maternity leave. We warmly welcome Mrs Lisa Featherstone and Mrs Voke who will be teachers in Rowan Class from Monday. Mrs Lindsey Bowden will take over the role of Year R, 1 and 2 Phase Leader supporting in leading the Year R, 1 and 2 staff team as well as working in partnership with the children and parents/carers of these year groups.

We have now reviewed our Home Learning with children, staff and parents/carers and below are a few of the changes as a result of the review:

- We have changed the Deepening Understanding maths homework to a paper copy which many children have instantly told us is 'much better'
- Children and parents/carers at our parent/carer Home Learning working party asked about different ways to practise spellings. Practising spellings online and on paper are both useful ways to learn spellings. I have attached some strategies that can be used in KS1 and KS2 if children wish to practise their spellings on paper. Spelling Shed also has spelling games which will be useful for children to rehearse their spellings on too
- There were mixed views on whether work sent home should be called 'Home Learning' or 'Homework'. Following a conversation with our parent/carer Homework Working Party they suggested that the children voted. The children voted and 'Home Learning' was the overall preference!

Have a lovely weekend and thank you for your continued support.

We look forward to seeing you at our Book Fair next week!

Kind regards,
Jo Messenger
Acting Headteacher



Notices and Diary Dates

Year R sight test and Year 6 height and weight measures

Just a reminder that the School Nurse will visit on Monday between 09:00 – 12:00 to carry out the above. Details were sent out regarding this in September 2022 to parents/carers of Year R and Year 6.

Strike Action

We will send out information on 1 February by 07:30 regarding the option the school has had to take regarding NEU strike action. Please see the Strike Action Weduc letter, sent out to parents/carers on Wednesday, for further details. We apologise for any inconvenience caused.

O2 choir – no longer afterschool but on Monday lunchtime

Our O2 Key Stage 2 choir will now take place on MONDAY LUNCHTIME (at 12:30) and not afterschool on a Monday. Mrs Bowden is looking forward to rehearsing with the children in preparation for our Easter events!

Attendance

This week our attendance class winners were Ash Class who had a whole class attendance of 96.98% and Elm Class who had a whole class attendance of 92.22%. Attendance Teds are looking forward to spending next week with Ash and Elm classes.

Book Fair

From Tuesday 31 January to Thursday 2 February at 15:25, we will be hosting a book fair in the school hall at the end of the school day. If you would like to visit the book fair, please make your way to the hall (via the KS2 playground to the hall backdoor entrance) to choose from the books available with your child. This is a fantastic opportunity to celebrate reading for pleasure with your child and a chance to talk about and pick books together. Payments can be made by card at the fair via a QR code. Every book purchased will help for the school to earn rewards with our Scholastic account and we will be able to receive 50% off Book Packs for holding the book fair. Thank you for your ongoing support.

HELP NEEDED!

If you are available to come into school in the afternoon or first thing in the morning to hear children read, we would be so grateful. Please contact Mrs Messenger to find out more details of what this involves. If you are not DBS checked, we can arrange this with you, so you are able to volunteer in school. Any support you can offer would be very gratefully appreciated.

Mental Health Forum Resources

The Mental Health Forum has asked us to share the following resources to support families:

Home-Start UK is a leading family support charity. They offer support and practical help to families and children facing challenges around mental and physical health, isolation, disability, post-natal depression, money problems and more. More information can be found on their website www.Home-Start.org.uk

A referral can be made to the **Early Help Hub** through your child's school. The Early Help Hub provides support for the whole family and will discuss your concerns with you, offer advice and suggest the relevant support for you and your family.



Supporting Families in Hampshire provide practical help to families to stop problems getting worse. They ask families about the things that are important to them, about the things that might help and can be done to support them. More information can be found on their website: www.Hants.gov.uk/Supporting-Families or they can be contacted on: 01962 847 773 or Supporting.Families@hants.gov.uk

Family Support Service (FSS). The FSS offer single session appointments, courses and one to one work to support families of children and young people aged 0-18yrs with difficulties that are impacting on their lives. You can ask your health visitor, nursery or school to fill in a FSS Level 2 RFS form. This must be signed by both the parent(s) and professional referring.

The **Children’s Wellbeing Support Service** provides early intervention and support for parents of children with Social, Emotional and Mental Health (SEMH) needs which can present in a similar way to Autism, Attention Deficit Disorder, Attachment Disorder, anxiety and poor emotional wellbeing. Referrals to this service have to be made by a health professional such as your GP. Speak to your GP to find out more information linked to this service.

Calendar Dates (These dates can also be found on the Weduc calendar)

| Date | Event |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| Monday 30 January | St Gabriel’s Maths Challenge – Year 4 team |
| | Year R sight tests and Year 6 height and weight measures |
| Tuesday 31 January | School Book Fair |
| Wednesday 1 February | School Book Fair |
| Thursday 2 February | School Book Fair |
| Friday 10 February | St Gabriel’s Maths Challenge – Year 5 team |
| Thursday 9 February | Valentine’s Disco |
| | Year R, Year 1 and Year 2: 17:00 – 18:00 Year 3, Year 4, Year 5 and Year 6: 18:15 – 19:15 |
| Monday 13 February – 17 February | February Half term |
| Tuesday 14 March | Parent/Carer Consultation Evening |
| Thursday 16 March | Parent/Carer Consultation Evening |
| Friday 31 March | Last Day of Spring Term – finish at 15:15 |
| Monday 3 April – Friday 14 April | Easter Holiday |
| Monday 1 May | May Day Bank Holiday – School closed to pupils |
| Monday 8 May | Coronation Bank Holiday – School closed to pupils |
| Friday 12 May | Bag2School |
| Wed 24 – Friday 26 May | Year 5/6 Residential |
| Monday 29 May – Friday 2 June | May Half term |
| Monday 5 June | INSET DAY |
| Friday 21 July | Last day of the summer term – finish at 15:15 |