



Kents Hill School Newsletter

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Happy New Year!

We have been lucky to have some very mild weather conditions in the run up to and during the holiday period. In the event of severe weather conditions, it is always very difficult to take a decision to close the school and it is always as a last resort. If you have not yet subscribed to the MKC School Closure system please can we urge you to log on and do so- www.milton-keynes.gov.uk/schoolclosures. Last year the Council provided us with a salt bin which is situated in the car park in front of school, which should help if we do have snow. In the event of severe weather, we do make every effort to clear paths but please do take care when moving around the school grounds in icy conditions.



Communication with Parents

We hope that you have found the text/email system useful for getting information out to parents quickly and efficiently. We only have a small number of parents who do not have internet access and we will continue to provide paper copies for these children.

Please remember if you change your mobile telephone number or email address to please let the school office know as soon as possible so we can update our records.

SURE START CHILDREN'S CENTRE SURVEY

Do you live in Milton Keynes and are the parent/carer of a child aged under 5 years? If yes then Sure Start are seeking your experiences of their Children's Centre to see how they can best support you in the future. Please click on this link to answer a few questions: <https://public01.milton-keynes.gov.uk/SNAPSurvey/Satisfaction%20Survey%202011/childrencentresatisfactionssurvey.htm>. Your views are very important to Sure Start to help them to plan services more effectively for you.

Kents Hill Care Club

Care Club still have spaces available in Early Bird, Lunchtime and Twilight sessions. Also Nursery slots (AM/PM) are available. If you would like to book (ad-hoc or permanent), or would like more information, please contact Debbi Brook, the Care Club manager, via the school office.

- A reminder that the deadline for applications for Reception and Year 3 places is Tuesday 17th January at 5pm. Please advise the school office if you have applied online.
- If you know of anyone who has a child born between 1/9/08 and 31/8/09, we are taking applications for places in our Nursery for September 2012—please ask them to contact the school office for an application form as the closing date for Nursery places is Friday 10th February at 3pm.

Dates for your diary

12.1.12	Student Council toy sale—hall 3pm
16.1.12	Numicon for parents—hall 6-7pm
30.1.12	SATs meeting for Year 2 parents 6pm
1.2.12	SATs meeting for Year 2 parents 2:15pm
6.2.12	Arts week
9.2.12	Numicon for parents 1:40-2:40pm
10.2.12	Children break up
20.2.12	Return to school
27.2.12	Parent Consultations 3:15-7:45pm
27.2.12	Consultations for Nursery parents this week (dates to be advised)
29.2.12	Parent Consultations 3:15—5pm
23.2.12	Governors' Meeting 7pm
8.3.12	Bedtime Read -details to follow
12.3.12	Science Week
30.3.12	Easter Fun Day - Children break up

Staff News

Congratulations to Mr and Mrs Leadbeater, who had a baby boy, Finlay, on Friday 23rd December at 6:12am. Finlay weighed in at a very healthy 7lb 8ozs.



USED POSTAGE STAMPS

We have been contacted by an organisation who is collecting used postage stamps for Guide Dogs for the Blind. Please bring any used stamps into the school office and we will pass them on to this very worthwhile cause.

PUSHCHAIRS IN THE PARK

This is a FREE event run by Milton Keynes Pre-school Learning Alliance and The Parks Trust. All parents of Under 5's are welcome to go along—please see the noticeboards for dates. Fun whatever the weather for parents and their little ones. Pushchairs optional, wellies essential! If you require any more information please call the Pre School Learning Alliance on 01908 263700 or The Parks Trust on 01908 233600.

Governors

Governors would like to thank all staff and children for putting on such wonderful Christmas performances. The hard work, extra time and commitment of all involved was evident and very much appreciated. From the Nursery children who had only been in school a few weeks, the reception classes who performed A Snowman at Sunset to a very crowded hall, through to the extremely high standard, creative and individual key stage one shows, the audiences clearly enjoyed themselves and we are very proud of you all. Thank you



100% Attendance

Well done to the following children who had 100% attendance and no late marks in the Autumn Term. They all received a certificate at the end of term.

Ash -	Basheer Alwan, Niamh Bardell, Sam Cox, Jamie Devanney, Livia Efthimiou, Isaac Gray, Oscar Green, Wojciech Lipski, Elliott Myles, Jake O'Grady, Isobel Powell, Finley Wymer
Beech -	Alfie Brooks, Kiera-Faye Ellis, Isaiah Phillip
Chestnut -	Alfie Barnes, Lucy Mansfield
Elm -	Jasmine Barnes, Warren Fraser, Charlotte Martin, Precious Otukoya
Oak -	Mohammed Abdulle, Rachel Alofe, Anna Sofia Bristow Hernandez, Elizabeth Burridge, Ciaran Devanney, Lucy MacDonald, Lola-Rose Morrison, Eve Newall, Kai Powell, Kaden Roberts
Willow -	Luca Agathokli, Hannah Burridge, Reece Cleary, Baran Hamarat, Aaron Purewal

Hot Meals—changes to the admin system

Please be aware that Cygnet are now doing the administration of the hot meals orders. This should not affect parents at all but it does mean that orders MUST be in school by Wednesday morning at 9am as they are collected promptly at 9:30am by a member of Cygnet staff. Please continue to place your order in the normal way, in a named envelope and with the CORRECT money, in the red box just inside the main entrance..

Change 4 Life

Change4Life recognise that planning and preparing tasty meals every day of the week can feel like a big job. In January they have launched a new initiative: Change4Life Super-meals, which aims to help families prepare healthier and tasty meals quickly, cheaply and easily. They have produced recipe cards and a cookbook with meals costing around £5 for 4 servings and these can be ordered free of charge from the website. There will also be lots of special offers on healthier foods in participating supermarkets. Please click on the link for more information: Change4Life.

Charity Donations

Thank you to everyone who donated to Water Aid through the Christmas performance collections. We have raised just over £200 for this very worthy charity so thank you very much. We also raised £67.42 for the Poppy Appeal—thank you to our Year 2 children who took it in turns to sell the poppies each day! Children-in-need raised a total of £154.62.

School Bank

A reminder that the school bank is open every Wednesday at 8:45am until 9am. It is a great way to teach your child about saving for their future.



Please note the playground must be clear by 3:10pm—we need to lock the gates as we have Care Club children and after school clubs in operation. Parents are responsible for their children when they are using the playground facilities both before and after school.

TERM DATES

2011-2012

Spring	4.1.12	10.2.12
	20.2.12	30.3.12
Summer	16.4.12	31.5.12
	11.6.12	20.7.12

Training Days: 1.6.12 and 23.7.12.

Bank Holidays: 7.5.12 (the Queen's Diamond Jubilee is 5.6.12, during the summer half-term break).

CHILDREN WILL NOT BE IN SCHOOL ON THESE DAYS.

Gardening Club

We are looking for any 'green fingered' volunteers to take on a Gardening Club after school from next term—we have lots of lovely resources and ideas. Please let the school office know if you are interested.

SCHOOL LIBRARY

The school library is open from 8:40—9am every Tuesday. We are looking to extend this to other mornings and possibly an afternoon but would need some voluntary help to do this (a letter will be issued shortly regarding this).



NUMICON

If you have completed and returned a slip booking a session on the Numicon training for parents (either for 16th January 6-7pm or 9th February 1:40-2:40pm), a place has been reserved for you.

Reminders—for your children's health and safety

- ☺ Please make sure your child has appropriate clothes in school for our varied weather conditions (change of shoes, warm coat, gloves etc.). All items need to be named.
- ☺ All children need named indoor and outdoor P.E. kit in school. Outdoor kit needs to be warm and must include a change of footwear.
- ☺ Water bottles, for use during the day, should ONLY have WATER in them please! Children can have squash to drink with their lunch.
- ☺ Please ensure that children WALK with their scooters and bicycles within school grounds.