



Kidmore End CE Primary School

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7th September 2018



Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome back – or if this is your first time as a part of our school family – welcome! As always staff have been in school over the holidays making preparations, and we had a very positive couple of days INSET training but with the arrival of the children yesterday morning, our school has really come alive again.

Our school values

Each term we consider in worship and in class a different value, including hearing Bible stories, stories from a range of faiths and examples from everyday life of good citizenship and care for others. The six core values are Thankfulness, Hope, Truthfulness, Courage, Responsibility and Friendship. If you visit the school hall, please do look up above the projector to the beautiful artwork we made last term, which celebrates our values and which features contributions from every child in school at the time.

This term we will focus on **Thankfulness**, and consider how we express our gratitude and how we can show compassion for others who may not be so fortunate. This will link to our Harvest Service in Church, which will be held on Friday 5th October at 2.30pm.

Behaviour in school

This morning in assembly the children were word perfect in reminding me of our three behaviour expectations, which apply in all areas of the school.

Our expectations are:

- **Be safe**
- **Be respectful**
- **Be ready to learn**

We would be delighted if you were able to support and discuss these expectations at home as well, as a consistent approach is a very powerful thing!

Parking and road safety

Parking can often be tricky around school, particularly at the start of a new term. We ask that you also follow our school expectations of being safe and respectful, and particularly avoiding blocking the mirror by the well or stopping our neighbours from safe access to and from their homes. Please park considerately at the pub, as they grant us use of the car park as a favour.

Morning Routines

Please help us keep the very busy playground safe before and after school by reminding your children not to play football or go on the climbing frame. It would also really help your children if when they line up you could say a swift goodbye and then step back from the line – it can be rather overwhelming for them to be surrounded by adults. Finally, do encourage your child to be independent and carry their own bags – we will help if a child is struggling but it is always our aim to encourage independence as much as possible.

Breakfast Club

Breakfast Club begins on Monday 10th at 7.30am. Please contact Lucy at breakfastclub@kidmore-end.co.uk if you are interested in a place. After School Club has already begun – bookings can be made on asc@kidmore-end.co.uk.

Clubs

There will be a Clubs letter out in due course, with details of school-run clubs, which will begin on Wednesday 26th September. In addition, information about roller-skiing, tag rugby and Spanish clubs has been sent separately.

Summer Reading Challenge

If your child completed the Summer Reading Challenge, we would love to display a copy of their certificate or a photograph of them with their certificate in the Learning Zone. We would also love to receive children's book recommendations and KESA are poised with the chequebook to fund some book-buying! Please give recommendations or certificates for copying to your child's class teacher.

We have also taken delivery of lots of lovely new class reading books from Oxford University Press over the Summer – this is a major investment in reading from Foundation to Year 3 in particular and has been generously funded by KESA – so thank you all!

We have been talking as a team about the many ways we can encourage a love of reading across the school. If you see your children's class teacher with their nose in a book, it is all part of the plan! We are all enjoying reading more children's books – I am currently reading *The House with Chicken Legs* which I would recommend for Y5/6. Don't forget if you wish to swap birthday sweets for a class book, we always love to share a story.

Foundation Stage

Parents of Foundation Stage children are warmly invited to join us for a coffee on Friday 14th, 21st or 28th September (or all three if you fancy it!) This will be an informal opportunity to meet other parents and ask any questions you have about school, as Mrs Hull will be available.

Woodlands

We send our Y6 children off to the Wye Valley next week on their residential, accompanied by Miss Dove, Mrs Jones and Mrs Wilson, who are all hoping for just a little sleep. Mrs Watkins will be teaching in Y4 all week. We wish you a brilliant week away and know you will be excellent representatives of our school – being safe, respectful and definitely ready to learn!

Swimming

After a review of provision by governors, Year 4 will be swimming this term (until Christmas) and Year 3 in the Spring Term (until Easter). There will be no swimming in the Summer Term.

Den building

You will have noticed some large wooden structures at the end of the field. These are den frames, for which the children requested funding from KESA. We have many large pieces of fabric to cover them, so the children have been enjoying creating hideouts this week.

Letters from important people!

Over the Summer holidays, three interesting letters arrived at school. The first was from 10 Downing Street, in which Prime Minister Theresa May thanked the children for their letters in support of the 'Send my Friend to School' Campaign. Children from across the school had written asking the government to give support to the global development goals and in particular support the right to a safe school. This is the sixth year we have supported this campaign.

Mrs May wrote "Thank you all for sending me your wonderful letters...as you have shown in your drawings, schools should be safe for all children, but sadly this is not the case for 75 million children around the world" and went on to explain how the UK had recently backed the 'Safe Schools Declaration'.

The second letter was from Buckingham Palace, and was swiftly followed by another from Clarence House. Both these letters were in response to letters written by Year 5 pupils following their research into threats to rainforest habitats and in particular, the problems associated with palm oil production. The Queen and Duke and Duchess of Cornwall were clearly impressed by the knowledge and passion shown by the children about this issue, and the letter from Buckingham Palace said, "Her Majesty was encouraged to know of your interest in environment issues." Thanks to Mrs Thomas for giving the children these inspiring curriculum opportunities and real purpose to persuasive writing!

And finally...

This Sunday, September 9th, is Education Sunday, an event organized by Churches Together in England. We would like to bring our school and church community together in an All Age Service at 11am at St John the Baptist Church, Kidmore End, with tea and cake afterwards. Mrs Thomas has already spoken to children in the choir to ask if they could think about attending to join with the St John's Choir to sing Living and Learning, one of our favourites! All families are very welcome to join us – it would be lovely to see a full church and to meet our friends from the church.

With very best wishes,

Linda Hull
Headteacher

COMMUNITY NOTICES

Sonning Common Sport and Recreation Ground

A consultation day will be held this Saturday, 8th September in the Village Hall 10am-3pm. Please come along and give us your views about the site, which is off Reades Lane.

FoSCL Short story competition

The deadline is 15th September! Details on the poster on the noticeboard or

<http://friendsofsonningcommonlibrary.org.uk/shortstory>

You will find attached to this newsletter our 'really useful card' in which we have set 'whole school' dates as far ahead as possible. There is also information on the reverse, which should prove useful. We will also send home a hard copy for your convenience. Dates for each term will continue to appear in the newsletter.

Dates for your diary

We have given dates as far in advance as possible, so some may be subject to change.

SEPTEMBER

Sun 9 th	Education Sunday Service 11am
Mon 10 th	Y6 to Woodlands Breakfast Club starts
Thurs 13 th	Y5 trip to Reading Museum Mrs Hull visiting Y6 at Woodlands
Fri 14 th	Foundation Coffee Morning 9.00am Y6 return
Fri 21 st	Foundation Coffee Morning 9.00am
Tues 25 th	Open Morning for prospective parents
Weds 26 th	CLUBS START (details to follow)
Thurs 27 th	KS1 Reading Tea Party 2.15pm
Fri 28 th	Foundation Coffee Morning 9am

OCTOBER

Fri 5 th	Harvest Church Service 2.30pm KESA Discos
Tues 9 th	KESA Bags to School
Fri 12 th	Y6 Sharing Assembly
Mon 15 th	Y3 Trip to Ufton Court
Tues 16 th	FS Parents' Evening 3.20-6.30
Thurs 18 th	FS Parents' Evening 3.20-5.30
Mon 22 nd	HALF TERM BREAK
Mon 29 th	Term 2 begins 8.55am

NOVEMBER

Mon 5 th	Parents' Evening 3.20-6.30pm
Thurs 8 th	Parents' Evening 3.20-5.30pm
Fri 9 th	Remembrance Assembly (in school)
Sun 11 th	Remembrance Day (Church)
Mon 12 th	Anti-Bullying Week begins
Fri 16 th	Y5 Sharing Assembly
Sat 17 th	KESA Christmas Fair
Weds 28 th	Big Sing (Oxford) for Choir

DECEMBER

Sun 2 nd	<i>Christingle Service (TBC)</i>
Mon 3 rd	Christmas Tree Assembly
Mon 10 th	Y1/FS Nativity 9.30pm
Tues 11 th	Y1/FS Nativity 9.30am
Thurs 13 th	Y2 Nativity 2.15pm
Fri 14 th	Y2 Nativity 2.15pm
Tues 18 th	<i>Christmas Dinner – Infants (TBC)</i>
Weds 19 th	<i>Christmas Dinner – Juniors (TBC)</i>
Thurs 20 th	<i>Church Service 9.15am</i>
	END OF SCHOOL 1.30pm

