



# Kneesall C. of E. Primary Academy

School Lane, Kneesall, Newark, Notts. NG22 0AB  
Tel: 01623 861069 E-mail: [office@kneesall.snmat.org.uk](mailto:office@kneesall.snmat.org.uk)  
Head Teacher: Mr. C. Litchfield  
**'Together We Achieve'**



Dear Parents and Carers,

What a start to the first week of term we've had! It has been such a joy to welcome your children back into our school community. From their smiling faces to their gentle humour and understanding that I might not know everyone's names just yet... they have certainly made me (and other new members of staff) feel extremely welcome.

Over the past two mornings I've tried to speak to as many parents and children as I can but for those who I haven't had the chance to greet in person – hello! I am Mr. Litchfield, the new headteacher at Kneesall Primary School, and I am delighted to work alongside you, your children and the wider community. It is a great pleasure to have been given the opportunity to work at Kneesall. I know that it is a wonderful school (I've been told small but mighty) that has such excellent opportunities for all our children here.

## New Staff

It has been a joy to witness the new staff forging such excellent relationships with their new classes straight from the get-go. I took it upon myself to visit each and every child in school to see how they were settling in on their first two days back. I'm aware that the teachers have spent lots of time preparing fun activities for all the children to enjoy and it was a treat to see their plans 'in action'. Miss. Cheyette and Mr. Howitt have been full of praise for their classes commenting upon how well behaved they have been and how diligently they have worked which, as you can imagine, is always nice to hear!

In addition to this, we have welcomed our new caretaker, Mr. Stevenson, into school this week who has been a fabulous addition to our team. From fixing leaking pipes on day one to changing locks in the office on day two we've already felt his impact and are glad of his expertise.

## Celebration Worship

Whilst I am eager to keep school life similar – at least initially until I get to know the school – there is one minor change I would like to make to our celebration worships which take place on a Friday. One child per week will be selected based upon how they have 'stood out' and shown something above and beyond that is linked to one of our three school values: kindness, faith or courage. This will start on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> September.

We would like to invite parents or carers (please no more than two per child chosen) to come into school to witness their child receiving an award and praise from their teacher. We hope that it will provide a lovely opportunity for you to see your child's face light up as they are recognised for their achievements.

As such, please may I ask that you keep an eye on your inboxes and please don't reveal any surprises in advance of Friday's celebration to your child. In addition to this, perhaps now is a good opportunity to remind you to ensure that you provide Mrs. Childs with any updated contact details that may have changed over the summer holidays.

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*To grow as a community, within the love of God, so that all may flourish  
by nurturing courage, enabling kindness and instilling faith.*

**Kneesall School Vision**





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## Photos

The children have had a wonderful start back at school. We've enjoyed tasty school dinners, games on the playground and getting acquainted with friends old and new. Hopefully these happy, smiling faces give you a glimpse behind the curtain at the start of a new year at school.



I've taken lots of lovely photographs of the children over the first few days back but I've noticed many don't have permission to share them.

If you'd like to update your preferences please either e-mail, telephone or talk to Mrs. Childs in the office.



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## Dates for your diary

After a busy first two days back (for staff and children alike!) we've been able to confirm certain key events and dates for your diary. Please watch this space though, as future newsletters will be updated to reflect any changes and new events taking place. If there are any changes to dates or, to replace a placeholder, e.g. 'w.c. 21<sup>st</sup> September', updated dates will be issued with a **red colour** in subsequent newsletters to confirm an update.

| <b>Upcoming Events</b><br><b>If a date is in red this means it has been updated/changed from a previous newsletter.</b> |                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Date                                                                                                                    | Event                    | Further Information                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| 7 <sup>th</sup> September                                                                                               | Friends AGM              | This is at 6pm at school.<br>New and established parents are welcome to join our Friends of the School (PTA) at this time. Come along to find out more.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| 7 <sup>TH</sup> September                                                                                               | Clubs Start              | Mine craft club – Wednesdays<br>Multi Sports – Thursday                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| 10 <sup>th</sup> September                                                                                              | Eagles swimming begins   | Letters have been sent home for this. Please make sure you have returned your permission slip for goggles if your child would like to use them in the pool. If you need another slip please ask.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| 14 <sup>th</sup> September                                                                                              | School Photographs       | Please make sure your child is in school uniform <b>even if it is their P.E. day</b> . This specifically applies to Eagles class who have P.E. on a Monday.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| 16 <sup>th</sup> September                                                                                              | Open Night Showcase      | All parents for all classes are invited into school from 3:30pm – 4:30pm to see your child's/children's classroom and have an informal chance to meet-and-greet their new teacher. Please feel free to arrive at any time (between 3:30pm – 4:30pm) if you can't make 3:30pm                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| w.c. 21 <sup>st</sup> September                                                                                         | Macmillan Coffee Morning | This date has yet to be confirmed alongside the Friends Group but will be updated in subsequent newsletters. Historically, cakes have been donated for this home-made or store-bought; all are welcome.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| To be confirmed subject to AGM agreement.                                                                               | Film Night               | Children in Years 1 – 6 (Doves, Kingfishers and Eagles) are warmly invited to a film night! The film will start after school and finish at 5pm where parents are requested to pick up their children from their classrooms.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| 30 <sup>th</sup> September                                                                                              | Foundation Meeting       | Parents and carers are invited to come into school to hear all about phonics and ReadWriteInc. Ms. Lane and Mrs. Chase will deliver this will be on hand to answer any questions or queries you may have. Please note, if parents want to bring their children, please drop them off at the Year 1 & 2 class door (Doves) where a member of staff will take care of them for the duration of the event. A letter will be distributed to parents with further information closer to the time. |
| 30 <sup>th</sup> September                                                                                              | Bikeability              | Year six children <b>only</b> are requested to bring in their bike and helmet. Please ensure your 'bikeability' form has been completed and handed into the office                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |

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| – 1 <sup>st</sup><br>October                                                                                                                                                                 |                                      | <b>before</b> the start date. If a new form is needed, please contact the office and we will be happy to supply you with one.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| w.c 9 <sup>th</sup><br>October                                                                                                                                                               | Clubs finish                         | Clubs to finish                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 11 <sup>th</sup><br>November                                                                                                                                                                 | Remembrance Day                      | Parents and carers are invited into school to remember those who made the ultimate sacrifice. We plan to welcome you at 10:30am for a 10:45 start on the playground.                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| <b>October Half Term: 17<sup>th</sup> October – 2<sup>nd</sup> November</b><br><b>First Day Back: 3<sup>rd</sup> November</b>                                                                |                                      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Date                                                                                                                                                                                         | Event                                | Further Information                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| 11 <sup>th</sup><br>December                                                                                                                                                                 | Rock Steady Winter Music Performance | An end of term performance by those children who participated in Rock Steady Music tuition. All families of the children performing are welcome to attend and celebrate their children's success. Performers are welcome to come in non-uniform for their concert. Please arrive for a 10am start as the children will be doing last minute preparations up until this time. |
| 7 <sup>th</sup><br>December                                                                                                                                                                  | Foundation Christmas Singalong       | Foundation parents are warmly invited to come into school to see their child's performance at 2:45pm. Please be advised that there will be only <b>2 tickets</b> made available per child in Foundation. Children will be collected from classrooms afterwards.                                                                                                              |
| 8 <sup>th</sup> & 10 <sup>th</sup><br>December                                                                                                                                               | KS1 Nativity                         | Year 1 & 2 parents are warmly invited to come into school to see their child's performance at 2pm. Please be advised that there will be only <b>2 tickets</b> made available per child in Foundation. Children will be collected from classrooms afterwards.                                                                                                                 |
| 18 <sup>th</sup><br>December                                                                                                                                                                 | Christmas Service                    | Year 1 – 6 parents are invited to Church to join us for our Christmas Service. Children will sing carols and read aloud poems. We aim to start for 1:15pm. Service will finish for 2pm. Please collect your children from their classrooms <b>not</b> from church.                                                                                                           |
| <b>Christmas Holidays: 19<sup>th</sup> December – 4<sup>th</sup> January</b><br><b>First Day Back: 5<sup>th</sup> January 2027 (The 4<sup>th</sup> of January is an INSET day in school)</b> |                                      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |

I sincerely hope that your children have enjoyed the return to school after the holidays and that their friendships have been solidified, their learning impactful and their appetite for more whetted.

With my best wishes,

Chris Litchfield  
 Headteacher

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