Kneesall C. of E. Primary Academy

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

DIOCESE OF SOUTHWELL & NOTTINGHAM
MULTI ACADEMY TRUST

Dear Parents and Carers,

I want to start this week's newsletter with a heartfelt thank you. There have been two events that have taken place this week which have made me both equally proud and happy for our school that I'd like to give you a little more information about.

Community

This Wednesday we opened our doors for you to come into your children's classrooms. It was such a delight to spend the time talking with you (I tried to visit every classroom) and to see your children's faces light up as they took you on a tour of their daily life. From where they sit to work already proudly displayed on the classroom walls, I could see happiness clearly on their faces. I remember the pride I felt showing my parents what I did at school and my hope is you saw it in your children too.



Additionally, we started our new Celebration Worship and invited the parents and carers of children who had been selected into school to witness them receiving their brand-new certificates. Class teachers gave wonderful accounts of how children had earned their accolades. Kindness, Courage and Faith are the cornerstone of our school values for life here at Kneesall and these children have consistently displayed them since returning in September. My sincere congratulations go out to them. Please be aware that Mrs. Childs in the office will send out e-mails to parents and carers inviting them into school should your child be selected for the following week's Celebration Worship. As such, do make sure that your contact details are up-to-date and let the office know if anything has changed.

Mrs. Childs and Miss. Stephens

As you may have already worked out, Mrs. Childs is due to start her maternity leave in the coming weeks. We have been tremendously fortunate to benefit from the expertise of Miss. Stevens and her willingness to start early in order to facilitate a smooth transition between now and when Mrs. Childs starts her maternity leave. As such, we wish Mrs. Childs (and the extended family) good luck, health and happiness as and when baby arrives. Know that you are in the hearts, minds and prayers of everyone within the wider Kneesall family.

Parents' Evening

Parents' Evening is due to take place in the final week of the Autumn 1 half term. Our hope is that it will give you the opportunity to discuss how your child has settled into their new year group, how their friendships have developed and the chance for you to ask any questions of your child's teacher. There is a small change from previous years: appointments will be **ten minutes** rather than the historical **five minutes**. Hopefully this will allow for a longer conversation, or, if the additional time isn't required, more prompt timings throughout the evening. Letters for appointments will follow in due course with further information regarding how to book an appointment.

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Book Fair

Throughout the week of parents' evening appointments, a book fair will be in school. The mobile bookcases are jam-packed with over two hundred of the newest and best books from over 60 publishers! What a chance to get your bookshelves topped up with some of the latest books you can get your hands on. Please note, payments are made using card only.

End of the day

I have been asked to pass on a reminder to parents and carers about timings at the end of the school day. Please be aware that we will lock the school gates at 3:45pm so that any afterschool provision, such as The Nest or afterschool clubs, are able to use the school grounds without fear of safeguarding issues relating to children leaving the premises. As such, please make sure that you have left the school grounds by this time.

Parking Request

I have also been asked to share some information regarding how to best facilitate parking during drop off and pick-ups. Apparently, an unofficial one-way system has been tried and tested over many years which helps facilitate the flow of traffic around our school. Please refer to the map on the right as to how this works.



In addition to this, please can parents and carers avoid waiting, stopping or parking on the yellow zig-zag lines directly outside of school. Whilst we are blessed with our environment, it does occasionally present its issues with regards to traffic. As I'm sure you'll agree, we want all of our children and families to have a safe arrival and departure to and from school.

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Celebration Worship

Please see the information below to find out which children have been selected for our Celebration Worship this week. All the staff at Kneesall send out our congratulations to them on their hard work and deserved praise; well done to each and every one of you!









Robins	Doves	Kingfishers	Eagles
Ava	Essi	Ailish	Grace

The Nest Update

We are pleased to share an update regarding The Nest wraparound care booking and payment system. As families are aware, we have been awaiting the rollout of the new booking and payment system. We can now confirm that this has been approved and we are hopeful that the system will be launched to parents next week.

Once the system goes live, families will be notified with full details on how to access and use it. Charges for The Nest wraparound care sessions will then be added to your account based on your child's attendance through your ParentPay account. We appreciate your patience whilst these arrangements have been finalised and look forward to providing a smoother and more convenient booking and payment process for all families.



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Settling In

Throughout the first two weeks back to school, we have had the chance to settle back into our routines and begin the new year on the front step. As you can imagine, there have been several opportunities to capture your children's learning and the staff wanted to share them with you. I hope you enjoy peeking behind the curtain and looking at the smiling faces of your children having a wonderful time in our school.












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Dates for your diary

As ever, please remember that if there are any changes to dates or, to replace a placeholder, updated dates will be issued with a **red colour**. The most current newsletter will always be the most up to date with regards to events taking place in school.

Upcoming Events **If a date is in red this means it has been updated/changed from a previous newsletter.**		
Date	**Event**	**Further Information**
25th September	McMillan Coffee Morning 8 am start	**Breakfast Club**: Please bring children to **Eagles Class** door (class 3) at the front of the school. Children will be in here whilst the hall is used for the coffee morning. Doors will open for the coffee morning at **8am**. Please be aware this is a cash only event as we cannot process card payments. Parents and carers, please be aware that you are responsible for your children until **8:35am**. At this time, you are welcome to send your child through to their classrooms. Parents are welcome to remain until 9am to finish any final slices of cake, cups of coffee and conversation. Historically, cakes have been donated for this home-made or store-bought; all are welcome.
29th September	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 **5:30pm** where parents are requested to pick up their children from their classrooms. The cost of tickets is £3.50 and will be sold of the playground by the PTA.
29th 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.
30th September – 1st October	Bikeability	Year six children **only** are requested to bring in their bike and helmet. Please ensure your 'bikeability' form has been completed and handed into the office **before** the start date. If a new form is needed, please contact the office and we will be happy to supply you with one.
Date to be confirmed	Harvest Festival Worship at Church	Please can you begin to save cans, tins and other non-perishables ready for our service. Children will be encouraged to bring in these items to school where we

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		will take them to church for our service. Afterwards, they will be taken to a local foodbank, the Lifespring Centre. https://lifespringchurchandcentre.co.uk/
12th – 16th October	Travelling Book Fair Week	Throughout the week we will be hosting the Travelling Book Fair. The mobile bookcases are jam-packed with over **two hundred** of the newest and best books from over 60 publishers! What a chance to get your bookshelves topped up with some of the latest books you can get your hands on. Please note, payments are made using card only.
13th October	Parents' Evening	A chance for you to come into school and discuss how your child has settled into the new academic year. A letter will be issued in due course to provide you with specific details on how to book a slot.
15th October	Parents' Evening	
October Half Term: 19th October – 30th October		
Date	**Event**	**Further Information**
2nd November	Children return to school	Children return to school for the first day of the Autumn 2 half term.
11th 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.
16th November	Odd Socks Day	Children are invited to wear their own odd socks to school today as we are led by the Anti-Bullying Alliance alongside children's TV presenter Andy Day and his band, Andy and the Odd Socks.
20th November	Children in Need	Children In Need will be supported in school this year. Children will take part in lots of themed activities throughout the day and with a BBC 1 Broadcast starting at 7:00 PM this evening, the message will surely hit home. School Uniform is to be worn but Children in Need accessories are certainly welcomed.
26th November	Christmas Craft Day	All children will spend 30 minutes in their year group with members of the PTA to make a Christmas Craft item which will be taken home on the same day unless it's a little wet and needs to dry! Each year group will produce a unique piece of craft.
2nd December	Secret Shopper	Taking place between 1:00pm and 3:30pm it is £2 per gift or 3 for a £5. The PTA have kindly said they will set up a range of little stalls. I'm sure it will be a delightful afternoon for the children to take part in.
11th 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.

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7th December	Foundation 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 **2 tickets** made available per child in Foundation. Children will be collected from classrooms afterwards.
8th & 10th 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 **2 tickets** made available per child in Doves. Children will be collected from classrooms afterwards.
10th December	Christmas Day Extravaganza! Christmas Dinner, Jumper and Party Day.	An extravaganza of a day! Please can all children come in their Christmas jumpers (if they chose to). Christmas activities galore will take place throughout the morning, followed up by a Christmas Dinner for lunch and in the afternoon Christmas parties. What a fun day!
18th December	Christmas Service & Christmas Coffee Afternoon	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 **not** from church.
Christmas Holidays: 21st December – 1st January		

I hope that the sunshine persists into the weekend for all of us and that whatever your plans may be, may you find peace, comfort and rest.

With my best wishes,

Chris Litchfield

Chris Litchfield
Headteacher

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