



November 2017

New Beginning

Welcome to the final newsletter of 2017 and my final newsletter as Headteacher at Kedington. As myself and Mrs Miller begin to hand over to the new leadership team, we are delighted to confirm that from January **Mr. Matt Martin** will be joined by **Mrs. Michaela Harris**. Mrs. Harris, an experienced Deputy Headteacher, has recently relocated to Suffolk from Buckinghamshire. She has a passion for science as well as cooking and gardening and I am sure that these skills (especially the baking!) will be fully utilised. Over the remaining weeks of the term, Mr. Martin will be spending time at the school getting to know the children, staff and our families. We are also pleased to welcome Mrs. Sandy Duers to our office team. Please do take the time to pop in and say hello.

The new year will see the return of Mrs. Laura Murray to Year 6 for three days a week. She too is looking forward to coming in to school during December to meet her class. Ms Willis will not be returning to Kedington from her maternity leave, but will be starting a new teaching post in January. We would like to wish her every success for the future.

Finally, I would like to thank you all for your support over the past seven years and thank you, your children, the governing body and of course the dedicated team, for making Kedington such a special place to work. I have enjoyed every moment and will miss you all greatly.

Kind regards

Karen Sheargold

Special Educational Needs

We are delighted to confirm that Ms Kat Tillmanns has been appointed as the school's Special Educational Needs Coordinator (SENCo). Ms Tillmanns will oversee the provision for children on the SEN register, as well as coordinating catch up programmes. Your child's class teacher will continue to be the first person to speak to if you have concerns over progress, however, please do not hesitate to make an appointment to speak to Ms Tillmanns as well.

Dates for your Diary

◆ **17th November**

Jaguars Assembly

◆ **24th November**

Cougars Assembly

◆ **1st December**

Tigers Assembly

◆ **1st December**

Christmas Fayre

◆ **4th (afternoon) & 6th December (evening)**

Y1 & 2 Nativity

◆ **8th December**

Leopards Assembly

◆ **11th December**

Kittens Christmas Performance
@2.00pm

◆ **13th December**

Carol Service @ 1.30pm

◆ **14th December**

Christmas Lunch

◆ **15th December**

Last Family Assembly

◆ **20th December**

Last day

Children home @ 1.30pm





School Uniform

As the weather turns increasingly wintery, please ensure your child is wearing the school's winter uniform. This includes a white shirt and tie. Please note boots are not part of our uniform policy and can only be worn on the playground. For more information please refer to our website. We are also delighted to confirm that **Tesco** will also be stocking our uniform, with the new logo, very soon.

Lights, Camel, Action! - The hall has recently witnessed 59 'funky camels getting ready for this year's nativity. With moves to rival the Strictly contestants and voices of very excitable angels, our Tigers and Panthers promise another memorable performance this year. We look forward to welcoming the families of the children on Wednesday 6th December, with the dress rehearsal taking place on Monday 4th December. Places are limited so please book your seats soon.

Children In Need - Friday 17th November will see our school council raising money for this very special cause. We look forward to seeing a spotty audience at Friday's family assembly.

PTFA Christmas Fayre - Please put Friday 1st December in your diary for this year's festive fundraiser. It will also be a non-uniform day in return for a chocolate donation. Please see the flyer for more information. As always, the PTFA is in desperate need of helping hands to man the stalls across the evening. Can you give some of your time to help raise money for our school?

New Changing Rooms & Toilets

Building work will begin in January 2018 to create a new changing room and toilets for upper Key Stage 2. This will be located in the space between the Technology Room, Library and external storage area, backing onto the Year 3 & 4 wet area. The builders will mark off a section of the car park before Christmas, ready to start on 4th January. The existing toilets will have a 'make over' becoming an additional learning area in Years 5 & 6. We hope that this project allows our older children a higher degree of privacy and will meet their growing needs.

New Website

Mr Boxall is currently beavering away, populating our new website. We look forward to launching the new site before Christmas and we promise it will be easier to use!

Attendance

The Autumn term has got off to a flying start with attendance being 1.2% above the national average, with our attendance rate currently standing at 97.2% . Good attendance makes a significant difference to a child's progress and I would like to thank you for giving this matter such careful consideration.

Proposed Change to Autumn Half-Terms

Please ensure all feedback on the proposed extended holiday is forwarded by Thursday 23rd November. I would like to offer my reassurances that no teaching days are being lost as additional days have been added to the end of each term. It is hoped that a 2 week break will allow for batteries to be recharged and that absences due to illness will be reduced. As always, your feedback is appreciated and valued.

Safety

In order to keep all our families safe, please use the path when entering and leaving the school premises. The number of adults and children cutting across the car park is becoming of increasing concern and is a risk which can be avoided. Similarly, please consider others when parking your car at drop off and pick up time. I am sure you will join me in making children's safety our number one priority.