

KEDINGTON PRIMARY ACADEMY

September 2018

Welcome Back!

Welcome back to the new school year. It is lovely to see everyone again and hear all your news about the summer break.

We are delighted to welcome new faces to our school community. We have lots of new friends in the Kittens class. We know that it takes a little while to get used to new routines but please come and speak to us if you have any questions.

We also have some new members of staff; in Tigers we have Miss Jolland and Mrs Parsons and in Jaguars we have Mr Andrews. I'm sure many of you will have met Mr Gallacher around the school already but I would like to welcome him to Kedington as he joins us for the Autumn Term. Please do come and introduce yourself to the new members of staff!

Looking ahead, we have lots to look forward to over the next year. There are going to be some big and little changes, from a new Headteacher, and a Year 6 residential trip to a new venue in Woodbridge which I know lots of people are excited about. There will also be many of the 'Kedington Traditions' such as Harvest Festival and the PTFA Quiz night! As we continue on our journey as a community we hold on to the values that make Kedington such a special place.

Keep your eyes peeled for 'Dates for the Diary' and ClassDojo. We will endeavour to give as much notice as possible for special events. And don't forget Family Assembly on Friday mornings at 9.00am. It would be lovely to see lots of you there.

As always, please come and speak to me with any questions of comments.

Kind regards

Michaela Harris

School Uniform

While the weather is still warm (fingers crossed this continues!) the children are welcome to wear their summer uniform if they are more comfortable in it. As the weather turns increasingly wintry, 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.

Dates for your Diary

◆ 15th September

Family Gardening Day

◆ 12th October

Year 2 Class Assembly

◆ 16th October

Inter House School Games Day

◆ 18th October

Harvest Festival

PTFA Halloween Disco

◆ 19th October

PD Day

Please see separate sheet for more important dates

Thank you for the warm welcome I have received from pupils, staff and parents. I hope to get to know you over time as part of this lovely school community.

Sam Gallacher
Executive Headteacher

Clubs

There is a wide range of extra-curricular activities on offer this term.

All the sports clubs are free of charge because the school is funding them through the Sports Premium. This is to encourage children to try something new and develop healthy habits for a lifetime.

Keep your eyes open and sign up !



Germs around school

There are always lots of germs in schools, especially at this time of year. With the children being in close contact with each other much of the day germs can spread very quickly and easily. We are already aware of some skin viruses within the community; impetigo and molluscum contagiosum. Both of these are generally harmless but can be unpleasant. We encourage children to regularly wash their hands with soap and water to try and prevent the spread of any germs.

School Games Award

Mrs Masson did a fantastic job in organising so many extra PE days for the children throughout the summer term, including Bollywood, Zumba, Skipping and many more.

We are delighted to announce that we have been accredited with the Silver 'School Games' Award.

This term, we have already got an inter-house School Games Day where the children will have football and netball matches between houses. All points will contribute towards the House Cup at the end of the year!

Curriculum

This year we are boosting our broad and balanced curriculum. Each term your child will have a different topic which will be inspiring and engaging through lots of real life experiences. We are hoping that you will be an active part in their learning too! To enable high quality lessons to take place, classes will be working together in phases ie. Years 1 and 2, Years 3 and 4 and Years 5 and 6.

Safety

In order to keep all our families safe, please use the path when entering and leaving the school premises rather than cutting across the car park. Similarly, please consider others when parking your car at drop off and pick up time. If driving over the bridge at busy times, please be extra aware of families crossing the road. I am sure you will join me in making children's safety our number one priority.

New Tech Room

Over the Summer Holiday, the old Tech Room was completely ripped out and replaced. We have a brand new floor and kitchen. The units have been adapted to be the correct height for children. New appliances have been installed and there is a huge island unit for children to work collaboratively. There is still a board in the room so a wide range of sessions can take place in there. We look forward to the children getting in there and using it!

Attendance

Last year our attendance figure was **95.6%** which is fantastic. Thank you to all of you that work really hard to ensure that your child's attendance and punctuality is high. **THANK YOU** for getting these important habits established early on in your child's life as it will make a difference in their future.

- **Why is good attendance and punctuality important?** Education lays the vital foundations of a child's life. Regular and punctual attendance at school is key to both academic and social development, which in turn will improve the life chances of children and young people. **What does 90% attendance mean?**
- 90% attendance = ½ school day missed every week!
- One school year at 90% attendance = 4 weeks of learning missed!
- Over 5 school years of school = ½ school year missed!

All children and young people nationally whose school attendance is 90% or below are considered to be persistent absentees.

Family holidays and term time leave

Parents/carers should not remove their child from school during term time without having first requested a leave of absence in writing from the Headteacher. All requests for authorised absence will be responded to and will only be authorised in the most extreme circumstances. If permission is not granted, but the child is still absent, the absence is classed as unauthorised and parents/carers may be issued with a penalty notice.