

Magical Moments

Tigers' Maths

Year 1 did some great work this week on efficient methods for addition, working out that it is better to add the biggest number first.



New Outdoor Clock

This amazing clock was a special gift from Ms Kirby to the school to mark her retirement. It is bigger than it looks in the picture. It has the school logo, the school name and all sorts of plants and creatures that link to the school on it. We love it! Thank you Ms Kirby!



Rocks and Soils in Lions' Class

The Lions are really enjoying their science study about rocks and soil. I know this as they keep bringing in rocks and showing me and telling me all about them! I have been very impressed with how much they know.



Bike to School Week – NEXT WEEK

This is a week long event across the UK to encourage families to cycle and scoot to school. As many of you will know, the Women's Tour 2021 will be coming to Haverhill on 9th October 2021. We are marking this by encouraging children to get involved in the 'Bike to School Week'. Each class will have a poster in their classroom for the children to colour in a block each morning for their active five minutes.

For this week only, please can children put bikes/scooters in the bike shed by Kittens' class, before walking their usual route to their classrooms. The Kittens will come round the back of the school in the morning, the same as the other classes, and will enter Kittens through the rear exit. This will also be the same at the end of the day, the Kittens will need to be picked up by the rear exit. At the end of the day, the children will be dismissed from their classes as usual and they can then collect their bike/scooters from the bike shed.

PTFA Meeting

All are very welcome to join the first PTFA meeting of the new school year on Thursday 30th September at 7.00pm. This will be online on Teams. The link is [here](#).





Crossing Patrol

I am sure you will have heard about the situation regarding the supervised school crossing in the village. This is the statement that the Parish Council published this week:

Kedington Parish Council have to announce that Mrs Pauline Beasley has decided to resign from the role of School Crossing Supervisor. Mrs Beasley will be greatly missed and the Parish Council wishes her the very best for the future.

The Parish Council is aware that there is some confusion with regards to the role of School Crossing Supervisor and would like to clarify this.

The Parish Council has previously been advised that prior to 2006 Mrs Beasley was employed by Suffolk County Council as a School Crossing Patrol in Kedington. However, recent enquires with the Suffolk County Council School Crossing Patrol Supervisor and an examination of the Parish Council meeting minutes, reveal that the Parish Council has in fact employed a School Crossing Supervisor, independently of Suffolk County Council, since at least May 1991.

Following an incident at the school crossing on West End Lane on 21st June 2021, it became apparent that a car approached Mrs Beasley whilst she was showing children across the road. The car didn't stop until Mrs Beasley and parents shouted at the driver to do so. One parent had to grab their child out of the way and Mrs Beasley had to jump out of the way to avoid being hit.

As a result of this the Clerk of the Parish Council reviewed the post and the roles and responsibilities to ensure all the necessary support was in place for Mrs Beasley. This review raised concerns that Mrs Beasley was stopping vehicles without the authority to do so as, in accordance with Sections 26 and 28 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, only a School Crossing Patrol appointed by or on behalf of Suffolk County Council, wearing a uniform approved by them shall have power, by exhibiting a prescribed sign, to require a person driving or propelling a vehicle to stop it. The "lollipop" used by Mrs Beasley was one purchased by the Parish Council and is not a prescribed sign. It is not currently being used by Mrs Beasley. It is also worth mentioning that even when a Suffolk County Council appointed School Crossing Patrol is at a post, legally the responsibility for a child's journey to and from school remains a parental one.

Mrs Beasley commenced the role of School Crossing Supervisor on 27th February 2006. The role description dated 13th February 2006, states "not an 'approved' crossing so no power to stop traffic. Use judgement in helping people to cross the road safely without forcing traffic to stop suddenly."

The Chair and Clerk of the Parish Council met with Mrs Beasley on 1st July 2021 to discuss this review. Mrs Beasley was quite taken aback by the news that she has no power to stop traffic and that her lack of power to stop vehicles had never been fully explained to her until now. Mrs Beasley questioned what she could now do to supervise children crossing the road. It was explained that if there are vehicles approaching, she cannot step out into the road to stop them to allow the children to cross and if she is already in the road and a vehicle approaches, she and any children she is supervising must get out of the road.

Mrs Beasley's overriding desire since then has been to continue as the School Crossing Supervisor but has found it difficult to do so without the power to stop vehicles.



Kedington Parish Council has a duty of care to Mrs Beasley under the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974 and takes its responsibilities very seriously. If there had been an incident at the school crossing and any person(s) were injured, Kedington Parish Council would have undoubtedly been held to account. There could have been a health and safety investigation and/or a police investigation and/or a private prosecution. The Council doubts it would have been protected by its insurance.

The Parish Council has also been in contact with Suffolk County Council to establish the position with regards to the County Council appointing a School Crossing Patrol in Kedington. This has involved a Pedestrian and Vehicle Count that took place at both morning and afternoon crossing times on Monday 13th September 2021, once the new school year had started. Unfortunately, the pedestrian numbers crossing Westend Lane do not reach Suffolk County Council criteria to warrant a formal School Crossing Patrol.

The Clerk of the Parish Council met with Mrs Beasley on Thursday 16th September 2021 and advised her of this outcome. The Clerk stressed to Mrs Beasley that she should be in no doubt that the Parish Council wanted her to continue in the role and would do whatever it could to support her. Sadly, the following day Mrs Beasley advised the Clerk that she would be tendering her resignation.

Kat Umande (Chair of Governors) and I met with the Chair of the Parish Council and Parish Clerk this week and they reiterated the Parish Council's commitment to continuing to fund the role, something which very, very few Parish Councils do. Please encourage anyone who may be interested to apply!

Pauline's presence on the crossing everyday will be greatly missed by parents and children. If you would like to contribute to a gift collection, please give your contribution to Kelly Butler (Ellouise's mum) or the school office and we will hand it over. Pauline's last day on the school crossing is Wednesday 20th October 2021. Parents are planning to get together to say their goodbyes and present her with the gifts at the end of the school day that day. All are welcome to join to thank her for all she has done over the years.

Mrs Jordan

We are incredibly sad to share that Mrs Jordan will be leaving the school at the end of this term. She has made the very difficult decision to step out of teaching and spend more time with her family while her children are young. She will be a great loss to the school and we will miss her enormously. We are beginning the recruitment process and are now advertising for a full time teaching post in Reception to start in January.

Kittens' Phonics Information Session

Thank you to all the parents who attended this information session this week. It was great to welcome parents into school again (socially distanced, well-ventilated and with face coverings!) and we were delighted that so many of you were able to come. We hope you found it helpful. I have heard very positive feedback about the session!

Naming Belongings

Each day at the end of lunchtime, we have a pile of jumpers, coats and water bottles that children have left outside. We are encouraging them to take more responsibility for their belongings so they don't get left outside, but it would also be incredibly helpful if you could please make sure all belongings are clearly marked with your child's name.



Kedington
Primary
Academy



**OCTOBER
HALF TERM
'21**



Location - Kedington Primary Academy

Dates - Tuesday 26th October

Time - 8.30am - 5:30pm

Ages - Reception - Year 6

Bring - Packed lunch, water, appropriate clothing & footwear

Cost - Full Day - £18.00 per child

Full day sibling discount - £15 per sibling

Half day - £9.00

(AM session 8:30am - 1:00pm)

(PM session 1:00pm - 5:30pm)

Half day sibling discount - £7.50 per sibling

EACH DAY INCLUDES... A RANGE OF SPORTS, INFLATABLE FUN, DANCE & GYMNASTICS, ACTIVITY DEN, AND MUCH MORE!



To book please contact Mr Kettle via

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Email: dsc.kettle@gmail.com



LIMITED SPACES AVAILABLE SO PLEASE BOOK ASAP TO SECURE YOUR CHILD'S SPACE