

Magical Moments

Enrichment Days

The children had such a fantastic time at both key stages' enrichment days, I think these have to be all our Magical Moments this week! It was so great to see the excitement and joy on their faces and to see them enjoying some of the extra things they have missed out on over the past year.



New Teacher

As you will know, Miss Faulkner has an exciting new post working at a special school so will be leaving at the end of this school year. I am delighted to share that we appointed a new teacher this week called Miss Bloomfield who will take her place. Miss Bloomfield really impressed us at interview. When I was observing Miss Bloomfield doing her interview lesson, one child in the class asked me why I was making notes and when I explained that I was seeing if she would be a good enough teacher to work here he said, "She's definitely a really good teacher!" so even the children agree! We are still finalising arrangements for next year and I will let you know about these as soon as I can.



Climbing Equipment

You may have noticed that the climbing equipment at the bottom of the playground has been fenced off for several weeks now. I know the children are really missing playing on it! Unfortunately, we had to fence it off as we were concerned that the protective surface was not safe enough anymore. I heard the good news last week that Unity Schools Partnership are going to fund a new, proper rubber surface. Not only will this be safe, but it will look good and will mean that we should be able to use it for more of the year. The equipment is also going to be painted so the whole area should look as good as new once the work has been completed over the summer holidays.

iPad Project

I mentioned in a previous newsletter that there were plans for children in Year 3 and Year 4 to each have an iPad for use in school each day and at home too from September 2021. This was a Trust-wide project.

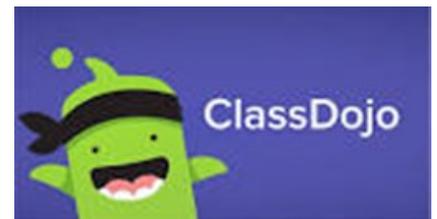
Across the Trust, there have been many enthusiastic to take this forward but schools have also heard from parents who are yet to be convinced about the financial outlay. As we begin to emerge from the pandemic, some families are in less strong financial positions than was the case before.

It has therefore been decided to delay the extension of work in schools with iPads to all Year 3 and Year 4 children for a year.

Communication with Staff

Just a reminder that there is no expectation that staff will look at messages or respond to them out of the hours of 8.15am to 4.45pm or at weekends or school holidays.

We value our close links with parents and strong communication, but please be aware that staff receive a high number of messages which can add to their stress and workload so please be mindful of this when you message them.



Benefice Newsletter Cover Competition

Well done to Amy Barnes in Year 4 who won the recent cover design competition. I can't wait to see it in print!

The judges were very impressed with all the entries, so well done to everyone who entered.

Summer Soirée

Instead of a Summer Fayre this year, the PTFA are organising a Summer Soirée between 5.30pm and 8.30pm on Friday 9th July 2021.

This will be an event for the whole family held on the school field with a disco and various other things. Families will be able to bring their own food and drink and just have fun and celebrate the end of a very unique and challenging school year (we break up the Friday after).

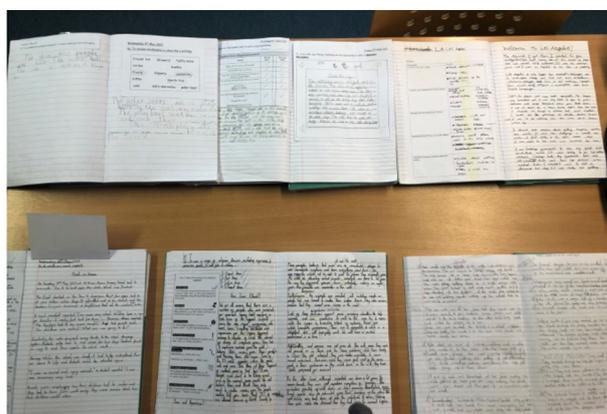


Fantastic writing at Kedington!

This week we were visited by our Trust's English adviser and we were thrilled with the feedback we received regarding our improvements in writing. Staff have been working extremely hard to implement our new English provision and the outcomes in writing have been incredible across all year groups. She spent time in school observing teachers and diving into pupils' books, as well as talking to staff and children about their writing and reading journey. She was 'blown away' by the quality of writing she saw and even tweeted about the outcomes!



Below is an example of our school's journey in writing starting from Year 1 (top left) to year 6 (bottom right)



Parents' Evening

Thank you to everyone who attended Parents' Evening this week. Once again we had a great turnout. I would be very interested to hear your views on holding these online. I know some schools are considering keeping parents' evenings online once all restrictions have ended and would be keen to know how parents feel. Please catch me at the gate or drop me a message on Dojo with your thoughts.

Annual Reports to Parents

Teachers are already busy writing reports. These will go out to parents on Friday 9th July 2021.

Governor Vacancy

Please see the attached flyer about a vacancy for a community governor on the Kedington local governing board. Ideally we are looking for someone in the local community who does not have children at the school. Please have a think about whether there is someone you know in the local community who may be interested and pass on the details. Thank you.



YOUR SCHOOL NEEDS YOU!



WE ARE LOOKING TO RECRUIT A COMMUNITY GOVERNOR AT KEDINGTON PRIMARY ACADEMY. THIS IS AN OPPORTUNITY TO HELP SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL SCHOOL TO PROVIDE THE VERY BEST EDUCATION POSSIBLE.

WHAT DOES THE ROLE ENTAIL?

Meetings are usually held half-termly (once every 6 weeks) and there are also opportunities to visit the schools to assist with monitoring different aspects of school life.

WHAT SKILLS ARE NEEDED?

You do not have to have a background in education to be an effective governor. We are looking for commitment, a willingness to work as part of a team, the ability to ask questions and help develop the strategic overview required of a local governing body. You will be particularly welcome if you have experience in the following areas: health or social care; banking or finance; the arts; personnel; health and safety or business. Experience of sitting on a management board or committee may be helpful but training will be offered.

WHAT SKILLS WILL BE LEARNED/GAINED?

Governance is a really extraordinary and important role to the overall success of a school and its pupils. You will become part of the school community getting to know the staff, pupils, their families and how the school operates. You will get a unique understanding of the local educational environment, its challenges and its successes. The strategic insight can provide a better understanding of the ever-changing national educational picture. Working as part of a team with corporate responsibilities should give you a better understanding of collaborative working, problem solving, financial management and strategic thinking.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Unity Schools Partnership is a family of secondary, primary and special schools located mainly in Suffolk, and also on the Essex and Cambridgeshire borders as well as Romford in East London.

We share the same values and face similar issues, while providing a close network of support and challenge.

Becky Poynter – Senior Governance Advisor

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