



Kelford School
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Friday 23 September 2023

Dear Families,

I hope you are all well and you have had a lovely week. This week we have welcomed Jacky Tattershall (Nexus School Improvement Lead) and Joanne Cliff (Executive Assurance Partner) to school. Both Jacky and Joanne will be working with school leaders on our School Improvement Plan over the course of this year.

CLASS DOJO

WOW – we have had massive sign-ups of families since my newsletter last week. As I said, I am keeping a watchful eye to see which class will be the first to get 100%! This week Kimberworth Little Explorers and Rainbows are at 88% of families connected, with Orange on 84% and Sunbeams on 72%! If you need the log-in form re-sending home or if you are having difficulties logging in please let us know, we are more than happy to help!



We will continue to send home a newsletter until Friday 29th September. After this date, families will be able to access our weekly newsletter on the school website and on Class Dojo.

SEASONAL ILLNESSES

As we head into the winter months it is to be expected that our pupils and staff will contract seasonal illnesses – colds / flu / covid. If children have mild symptoms of runny noses, sore throat or mild cough, and they feel well enough, they can attend school.



In terms of Covid, there is no statutory school guidance - the NHS advice is for children up to the age of 18, if you have a high temperature try and stay at home and avoid contact with other people for 3 days. For adults (18 and above) the advice is try and stay at home and avoid contact with people for 5 days. If you are concerned about your child, please see request an urgent GP appointment or get help from NHS 111.

As you will all know seasonal illnesses can strike at any point. Should school experience high levels of staff absence due to illness during the winter months, then we will have to consider short-term closures of classes in order to ensure safety of both pupils and staff. Our preference is always to inform you of decisions in a timely manner, although it is possible that decisions may have to be made on the day.

SAFEGUARDING

This week we have been supporting children and young people with knowing how to get help if they have any worries or problems. Class teams have been going through the safeguarding poster (that was sent home as part of last week's newsletter) and the members of the Safeguarding Team. Catherine and Carl have also visited Beech and Willow Class to answer questions and talk about their roles in school.

Dates for your diary Autumn 1:

| <i>Name of Event</i> | <i>Date & time</i> |
|--|---|
| <i>School Opened</i> | <i>Tuesday 4th September</i> |
| <i>House Team Launch</i> | <i>Friday 8th September</i> |
| <i>Hook into Learning Day</i> | <i>Friday 8th September</i> |
| <i>House Captain Voting</i> | <i>Friday 15th September</i> |
| <i>Cross Country</i> | <i>Friday 22nd September</i> |
| <i>TA Appreciation Day</i> | <i>Friday 29th September</i> |
| <i>Kelford Mental Health Awareness Day</i> | <i>Friday 13th October</i> |
| <i>School Closes</i> | <i>Friday 20th October</i> |

Check out these dates!!!



We will be visiting more classes over the next few weeks. If you can also have these conversations at home this would really help, including talking about worries and who they can talk to at home. If you want to discuss anything about school safeguarding or would like any help please do get in touch with Catherine or any member of the team.

PRIMARY

In Primary, we have continued to find out more about traditional tales. Many classes have now created some excellent displays of the Three Little Pigs. They have made their own pigs, sequenced the story and some pupils have made their own versions of the story, writing their own thoughts and ideas with help from the adults in class.

Our Read Write Inc programme is well underway and the pupils are working hard to recognise and use their knowledge of letter sounds to read new words. We have definitely seen progress in this area. Pupils enjoy our 'Drop Everything and Read' sessions at the end of each day. Primary pupils have continued to find out more about their bodies in Science, using a skeleton for reference. Some classes built their own skeletons using a template and talked about what their bones are for. Again, we have displayed work in classes and will continue to use them for reference as we continue on our learning journey.

SECONDARY

It's been another busy and productive week! Pupils in key stage 3 continue to work on their new topic "who we are and where we belong" learning all about their bodies, they have loved exploring our model skeleton who Jack has decided to call "Pen the skeleton". Willow class have also been working together putting together a dramatization of an alternative traditional tale called "the true story of the 3 little pigs" and it has been great to see how hard they have been working. Another highlight has been how well pupils are engaging in their rebound therapy, with Murtaza in particular showing us how much he loves engaging in these sessions. In Key stage 4, some pupils have been out in the community as part of their leisure learning as they continue to develop confidence and independence, and our Kelford 6th formers have been busy as ever including some fantastic independence and fitness sessions this week!

FOREST VIEW

Fantastic week! Students took part in stock taking, pricing and producing displays for our new Enterprise shop. It opens next week so please pop along and grab yourself a bargain, there's some fantastic items for sale! Forest School sessions have started with students working on a plan to create an area for a pond and outdoor seating. It's wonderful to see our young people have such an input into their new surroundings. All this and plans for a big Halloween party underway so watch this space.

HOUSE TEAMS

House Cross-Country Friday 29th September. There will be a timetable issued to classes so they know when it is their time to participate. The course is 2 laps around the school building. For every participant involved, their House will receive a House point!



REMINDER

Trainers for Friday's cross-country next week!



Have a lovely weekend!

Yours sincerely,

S. Mulhall

Sarah Mulhall – Executive Headteacher (Kelford & Pennine View)