



Headteacher's Newsletter

October 2023

Welcome back!

I do hope you have had a lovely break and that the children have settled back into their routines. As you will be aware, a school never sleeps and much has happened to prepare for the children's arrival back in school today.

Term 2 is always such an exciting time, especially as we look forward to the fantastic events, starting with Fireworks this weekend and finishing with Christmas activities just before we break for the holidays.

School staff have been in school working hard, planning, preparing classrooms and undergoing training to continue to ensure high quality learning for all children.

I'd like to thank all of my team for their hard work during the holiday, improving our school and preparing the learning for this term and organising their classrooms.

Welcome to the Kingsnorth Family

A warm welcome, to the many children who have chosen to join us from other schools this term. Both you and your families are very welcome and we hope you will be very happy here. If there is anything you are unsure of, please ask your teacher or the office.

Safeguarding

In order to better support our children and staff in managing visitors, we have reverted to a system we used before Covid-19 and lockdowns.

Any person arriving at school will be greeted and welcomed via the hatch in the 'foyer between the 2 front doors of the school.

If you have a booked appointment you will be asked to sign in on the screen and invited into school to wait. If you don't have a meeting arranged, you will be asked to wait in the foyer.

We appreciate that this is a change and may take some time to get used to, but it is purely to ensure the strongest safeguarding of our children.

School Buildings and Premises

A huge thank you goes to Mr Rolfe for all of his hard work over the break. The whole school and grounds are looking very smart and tidy as we start to prepare for the winter and colder weather.

We have moved some internal offices around during the break. If you come to school to visit Mrs Rich or Miss Moore, you may be taken to a different room. This has been to improve the provision in school, ensuring staff are best placed for this.

Over the summer we had a complete overhaul of our heating system, with the removal of our aging gas boilers and installing a new air source heat pump. As with most things new, there have been some teething problems and we have been working hard over the break and this week to rectify them. It may mean that the classrooms are colder than we would hope, but we have taken interim measures to manage this and consulted externally.

We would advise that children are wrapped up warm as the weather turns colder this week.

School Uniform



Kingsnorth Church of England Primary School

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Headteacher: Mr Iain Witts

I feel very proud and honoured to be the Headteacher of Kingsnorth Primary School as I watched our children arrive at school looking smart in their uniform and sitting so beautifully in assembly. It would be fantastic if we can keep this up!

Please make yourself familiar with the school uniform policy. I am sure the office team will help if you need more information. It is available on the school website – www.kingsnorth.kent.sch.uk

A polite request to **name/label ALL** of your child's belongings (preferably full name). I notice that we already have quite a pile of 'leftovers' from last term.

Parking

This is an area we continue to keep a close eye on. I have noticed that it can be quite precarious manoeuvring through the car park before and after school and we have to be aware of pedestrians.

ALL drivers need to be mindful and look out for each other and respect the 'Drop Off Zone'. **DO NOT** park on the yellow diagonal lines on the school layby during morning drop off, or at any time on the Zig-Zags on Church Hill.

Please help us set the example to our children of how we are a family, we help each other and are considerate of our neighbours.

OPaL

We have been so pleased with the children's reaction to the OPaL playtimes on Fridays. As this term progresses we hope to extend this and provide even more opportunities for the children to play and engage with each other. Children need to develop their play literacy and improve self-regulation through their own action. When they do this, they become more competent and independent learners.

Nurture UK

We have created a dedicated space for our Nurture support in school. Here dedicated staff will work with some children through developing effective support for their wellbeing, managing anxiety, and supporting positive engagement with school and their learning.

Nurture is a tried and tested way of relating to children that helps them develop vital social skills, confidence and self-esteem, and become ready to learn. The concept of nurture highlights the importance of social environments – who you are with and not who you are born to – and its significant influence on social and emotional skills, wellbeing and behaviour.

If you have any questions around this please speak to Miss Moore (SENCo), who will be delighted to tell you more.

Mr I Witts
Executive
Headteacher