

**NEWSLETTER 4 - 30<sup>th</sup> October 2017**

**Admissions into Kingswood Nursery class – September 2018**

Admission into a Nursery class will no longer be co-ordinated by Herts County Council. Each parent/carer will need to apply directly to the setting of their choice. Kingswood Pre-School parent/carers have been sent a pack with full details.

**We would urge you to complete these quickly as we give priority to those currently in our Pre-School and in order that the applications are received.**

<http://kingswood.herts.sch.uk/publication/view/kingswood-nursery-application-for-nursery-admissions-september-2018-intake>

The following dates are available for parents/carers to visit the Nursery class:

- Monday 6th November 10am
- Thursday 16th November 2pm
- Friday 1st December 10am
- Monday 29th January 10am
- Tuesday 6th February 2pm
- Wednesday 21st February 10am

Please phone the office if you would like to reserve a place.

01923 672531

***Shoe box appeal for Kiziba refugee camp, Rwanda.***

Sincere thanks to everyone who filled a shoebox and supported with the walk to Stanborough on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> October.

It will be lovely to think that 55 children will benefit from the generosity of children and parents of Kingswood and that they will receive a present this Christmas.



This is a very generous number of boxes sent this year! Thank you.

Thank you for buying raffle tickets for the 'Beza Mother and Child Project' who run a pre-school in Ethiopia. We managed to raise £80!

Congratulations to Brendan, Frankie and Ishak who won the prizes.



If you would like to hear more about the Pre-School, Peter Wiles, (from the 'ROPE' charity, Amersham), is coming in to talk to the children on **Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> November at 11am and 12.30pm**. This will take place in the Nursery classroom – enter under the canopy. Parents and carers are very welcome to join us!

## Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> October 'Reading Workshops – ways to develop a love of reading with your child'

Workshops for parents – 10.30, 12.30, 6pm



The aim is that you will go away from the session feeling very proud of all that you do already, but also with lots of simple ideas to try at home to ensure that your child gets off to a flying start with their reading! **Please refer to the separate letter with full details. Limited to 10 parents per session.**

**Please don't forget to send us in your family 'Half Term Learning Challenge' with the theme of 'My First Time'.**

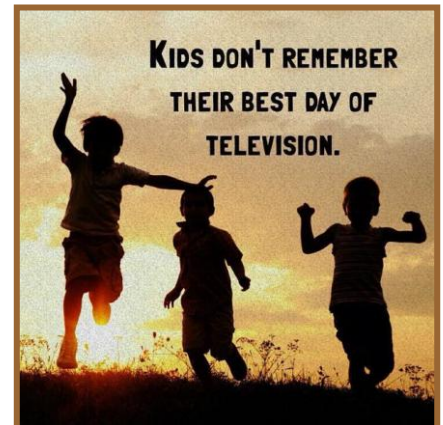
**Tell us about any activity your child or family has done for the first time!**



An article from **Action for Children** is inviting parents to take part in its 'National Children's Hour' campaign, which encourages families to 'unplug and play'. The campaign was launched in 2014 to coincide with the start of daylight saving time every year.

Findings from the Action for Children survey of parents revealed that, on average, UK families spend less than an hour (52 minutes) of 'quality, focused' time together each day because of parents' long working hours and challenging shift patterns, and children being distracted by digital technology.

**'Unplug and Play' sounds like a good motto for families to have!**



**From Monday 6th November:** children in nursery need to apply for a reception place.

Applications open from this day if your child was born between 1 September 2013 and 31 August 2014. You will receive an application pack from Herts County Council with details.

**We would strongly recommend that you look on primary school's websites to find out when they are holding open days for you to have a look around. Do not miss this important opportunity.**

**Kingsway Infant School are holding their 'Open Day' on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> November 2017 @ 9.30am, 10.30am or 1.30pm.**

### Voluntary contributions

We ask every free funded parent to support us with a donation of £12 each half term to pay for the fruit and snacks the children have each day, cooking ingredients, gardening projects, additional resources we purchase for open sessions etc. This money is less than £2 a week but makes a vast difference to our budget and enables us to buy many extras for the children.

The voluntary contributions are £12 every half term (or £72 for the year) and can be paid through **'Wise Pay' (via the website) look in the 'Shop Module'.**

### **Wildwood developments!**

Over half term our 'Wildwood' has begun in the garden area!

Wildwood Dens provide an opportunity for children to explore in a natural play area that doesn't direct them to play in any preconceived way.

**The Wildwood will open in the next couple of weeks!**



**AUTUMN TERM 2017 Forthcoming events for parents and families:**

Date	Time	Event	Place
Wednesday 1st November	11am and 12.30pm	Come in and hear a talk about the Pre-School we sponsor in Ethiopia	Nursery classroom
Wednesday 1 <sup>st</sup> November	All Day	PEEKABOO PHOTOGRAPHERS PRE-SCHOOL	Staffroom
Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> November	All Day	PEEKABOO PHOTOGRAPHERS NURSERY	Staffroom
Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> November	10am	Nursery showaround for prospective parents	Meet at front door
Wednesday 8th November	10.30 – 11.30am 12.30 – 1.30pm 6 – 7pm	'Reading Workshops – ways to develop a love of reading with your child' Workshops for parents	Staffroom
Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> November	2pm	Nursery showaround for prospective parents	Meet at front door
Tuesday 28th November	10.30 and 12.30	'Road Safety workshops for parents and children' (Nursery children only)	Nursery classroom
Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> December	10am	Nursery showaround for prospective parents	Meet at front door
Friday 8th December	11am and 12.30pm	Singing and Story sessions with your child. Come along and hear story time and join in with some singing!	Nursery and Pre-School classrooms
Wednesday 13th December	10.30am and 2pm	Christmas performances to parents Blue, Green and Purple groups	Nursery classroom
Thursday 14th December	10.30am and 2pm	Christmas performances to parents Red and Yellow groups	Nursery classroom
Tuesday 19th December	Last day of term. Open 10 -12 noon. All welcome.		
20th December – Tuesday 2nd January	Holiday Family Learning challenge – 'Giving'. Tell us about an activity your child/family has done linked to the theme of giving! <i>Maybe a gift, your time, help you have given .....</i>		

**SPRING TERM 2018**

<b>January 2018</b>	
Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> January	TERM STARTS – children in school
<b>February 2018</b>	
Monday 12th February - Friday 16th February	HALF TERM
<b>March 2018</b>	
Thursday 29 <sup>th</sup> March	END OF TERM open 10-12pm
<b>April 2018</b>	
<b>EASTER BREAK FRIDAY 30<sup>th</sup> MARCH – FRIDAY 13<sup>th</sup> APRIL</b>	

**SUMMER TERM 2018**

<b>April 2018</b>	
Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> April	STAFF TRAINING DAY - closed
Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup> April	TERM STARTS – children in school