

NEWSLETTER 2 – Tuesday 9th May 2017

Moving on to Reception September 2017

'Getting Ready for Primary School' meetings held last week received very positive feedback - we hope those of you who attended found these useful.

If you were unable to attend then we would recommend:

- That you talk about going to your 'new' or 'next' school (not 'BIG' school)
- That you start to allow your child to be as independent as possible. There should be no need for parents to go up to the coat area with children - they manage this all day without you!
- That you settle them VERY quickly at 'Busy Fingers'.
- You always arrive at school on time. No one likes being late!
- That you make sure you attend the New Parents meetings - even if you have an older child at the school, things change.
- That you attend the visit sessions they offer.
- That you look on their website and find out when their Summer Fair is so you can pop along.
- That you allow your child to practice putting on and taking off their new uniform when you have purchased this.
- That you buy shoes, coats they can manage themselves.

A summary document of our meeting can be found on our website. If you would like a paper copy then please ask and we will get one to you.

<http://kingswood.herts.sch.uk/publication/view/top-tips-to-prepare-your-child-for-starting-school/>

Nursery admissions for 2017 – 2018

1. We have now sent out the initial forms and are waiting for all of these to be returned - last day for returning is Weds 10th May. We are in the process of allocating morning and afternoon places and sorting out those who are entitled to 30 hours. *We will get back to you as soon as possible with confirmation and further information.*
2. A reminder that we cannot reserve a 30 hour place unless we have the 11 digit reference number.
3. This reference number only lasts for three months and will have to be checked again after 8th August. You will need to present this to us again in September and then every term after that.
4. The New Parents meetings are on the following dates and times:
 - Wednesday 17th May at 2-3pm **or**
 - Wednesday 17th May 5-6pm **or**
 - Tuesday 23rd May at 6-7pm. **Please make every effort to attend one of these.**
5. My apologies - the Open Sessions for you to attend with your child are on:
 - Monday 12th June - 9.30am-10.30am
 - Monday 12th June – 1.30pm-2.30pm
 - **Tuesday 20th June – 9.30am-10.30am** (not Wednesday as the original letter said)
 - **Tuesday 20th June – 1.30pm-2.30pm** (not Wednesday as the original letter said)
 - Wednesday 5th July 9.30-10.30am
 - Wednesday 5th July 1.30-2.30pm **Please attend two open sessions with your child.**

Sponsored event – Wednesday 7th June 2017

We hope you have all received your sponsor form and will ask family and friends to sponsor your child. We haven't had a sponsored event at Kingswood since 2012, but we really need to raise some money to replace the outdoor equipment in the garden area.

Please try and help us reach our target of £10,000!

Chloe in Pre-School has already been promised £120!



Please have a good look at home, in the car, in your purse, in your pocket for those Sainsbury's vouchers and send them into school as soon as possible.



Many thanks to Carole, one of our governors who has been taking them all home to count!



Outdoor Classroom Day – Thursday 18th May 2017

Outdoor Classroom Day is a day to celebrate and inspire outdoor learning and play.

On Thursday 18 May 2017, thousands of schools around the world will take learning outside and prioritise playtime. Kingswood Nursery class are taking part! The nursery staff have asked every child in nursery to wear VERY OLD clothes that day and to send in a spare set of clothes. Your child is likely to get wet and muddy!

Voluntary Contribution – Half Termly payments

We ask every free funded child to contribute £2 a week, (or £12 for the first half of the Summer Term or £24 for the whole summer term) to our voluntary contribution fund. *This donation pays for the fruit and snack the children have each day, cooking ingredients, playdough ingredients and many other treats for the children.* Please put your donation in a **named and sealed envelope** in the post box outside the school office or outside Pre-School or make your payment via Wisepay under the “school shop” module. **Thank you.**



‘Walk or Roll to School Wednesdays’ have been going well. Thank you to those who have ditched the car a few streets away and enjoyed a short walk with their parents. The children (and some grown-ups!) have appreciated the stamp of recognition at the gate!

Go on - you know it is good for you!

Peekaboo photos

Debbie and Lucie are booked to come into school on **Tuesday 23rd For Pre-School Children and Wednesday 24th May for Nursery Children** to take photographs of the children in very natural poses.

They are really talented photographers and always take delightful photos of the children!

The photos should then be with you shortly afterwards. Peekaboo also do private sessions for children of all ages, or for those special family shots. If you would like to contact them email:

info@peekaboonurseryphotography.co.uk

Tax free childcare launch and 30 hours free childcare

The Department for Education (DfE) has announced the launch date for the new tax free childcare scheme.

From the 28 April, parents with the youngest children will be able to apply for tax free childcare. Parents can also pre-register for email alerts, letting them know when they will be able to apply, on the government's new website [Childcare Choices](#).

More information on the tax free childcare launch can be [found here](#).

Childcare Choices

30 hours free childcare eligibility checker

Eligibility for the 30 hours free childcare entitlement will be determined by the HMRC eligibility checker. The checker will be rolled out in phases and parents can sign up to receive an email notification when it is available to them, this is available on the childcare choices website www.childcarechoices.gov.uk.



The eligibility checker will be available to parents within the summer term and will be found on our parent's webpage when it is available www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/parents.

HM Government

Childcare Choices

CAN I GET HELP WITH MY CHILDCARE COSTS

The government is introducing new ways to help parents with childcare costs. Whether you have toddlers or teens, you could get support.

Play a quick video

Share this page

Childcare providers
What you need to know

Help paying for childcare

Look through all the help on offer.

NURSERY PARENTS - DATE FOR YOUR DIARY:



Are you wondering what this photo of a kitchen cupboard has to do with maths for your child?

We'll come along to a 'Making Maths Real' workshop for parents on Friday 19th May at 10.30 and 12.30 and find out.

Please look out for the separate letter being sent out this week.

DATE FOR YOUR DIARY:

'Father's Day' celebrations - Nursery and Pre-School

Friday 16th June will be 'F.U.D.G.E' open sessions (Fathers, Uncles, Dads, Grandads and every male carer). 8.30-10am and 12.30-2pm.

We hope that many of you will be able to join us for lots of fun inside and outside!



DATE FOR YOUR DIARY:

Grandparents 'Tea Party'.

Grandparents are very welcome to join the children on Wednesday 28th June at 9.30-11am or 12.30-2pm.

We will be serving tea and cakes!



DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

We will be holding our annual 'Family Picnic' on Tuesday 18th July 11.15-12.45.

We look forward to seeing you then!

Everyone is welcome! Bring your own picnic and blanket to sit on and join us in the garden.



SUMMER TERM 2017

Monday 1 st May	School closed – May Day
Monday 29 th May – Friday 2 nd June	HALF TERM
Friday 30 th June	School closed Staff Training DAY
Thursday 20 th July	END OF TERM open 10-12 noon

SUMMER TERM 2017 Forthcoming events for parents and families:

Date	Time	Event	Place
Friday 19 th May	10.30am and 12.30pm	'Making Maths Real' workshops for parents - Letter to follow	Staffroom
Tuesday 23 rd May and Wednesday 24 th May	All day	'Peekaboo' photographs of children Pre-School Children TUESDAY Nursery Children WEDNESDAY	Outdoor photos
Friday 16 th June	8.30-10am 12.30-2pm	'FUDGE' open sessions (Fathers, Uncles, Dads, Grandads and Every male carer)	Inside and outside classrooms
Wednesday 28 th June	9.30-11am 12.30-2pm	Grandparents 'Tea and Cake' open sessions	Inside and outside classrooms
Tuesday 18 th July	11.15-12.45	Family Picnic	Outside – garden area
Wednesday 19 th July	All day	Bouncy castle fun for the children	Outside – garden area
Thursday 20 th July	Last day of term. Open 10 -12 noon. All Children welcome		

AUTUMN TERM 2017

September 2017

Wednesday 30 th August	Occasional Day – School closed
Thursday 31 st August	Occasional Day – School closed
Friday 1 st September	Occasional Day – School closed
Monday 4 th September	STAFF TRAINING DAY - closed
Tuesday 5 th September	STAFF TRAINING DAY - closed
Wednesday 6 th September	TERM STARTS
October 2017	
Monday 23 rd October – 27 th October	HALF TERM – School closed
December 2017	
Tuesday 19 th December	END OF TERM open 10-12pm
CHRISTMAS BREAK WEDNESDAY 20th DECEMBER TUESDAY 2nd JANUARY	

Kingswood will be celebrating their 75th Birthday on Saturday 23rd September 2017 12-3pm!
Please put the date in your diaries!

