

NEWSLETTER 4: 19<sup>th</sup> October 2021

A successful Half Term!

The first half of Autumn Term has flown by; the children have settled into school life, and are building relationships with their peers. I am very proud of our Kingswood team, following our Early Years audit last week. The trusting relationships we nurture between staff and parents, and adults and children in school, was recognised. I was delighted that high levels of engagement in learning was also observed, as your child learns best when they are deeply involved in their experiences.



**School is closed next week for half term. I wish you all a safe and happy week and look forward to welcoming the children back on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> November.**

Mrs Macdonald

Staff Changes

The world of Education reflects the wider world, and is ever changing, which means that occasionally staff decide that they no longer wish to work within school. You may well have read the headlines about educators leaving the profession. It is disappointing when well-regarded members of staff make the choice to move on, but we have to remain stoic and it is always exciting to welcome new members to our team, bringing enthusiasm and fresh ideas.

I want to make you aware of some impending changes as we say goodbye to Vanessa in Pre-School on Friday. Gosia, who has provided Wraparound in Nursery, is leaving in November to pursue a role outside of education. Michelle, in Pre-school, will also be taking some leave during November.

I place great value on integrity when we recruit, to ensure the very best people are employed to be responsible for the care and learning of your children. I want you to be clear that whilst I am seeking to expand the team, your children's welfare and wellbeing remains a priority. Lisa Archer, our Nursery Teacher and SENCO, will be overseeing Pre-School during the mornings, and Julie McLennan will do this during the afternoons, for the next three weeks after half term. I will be based in Nursery, taking responsibility for Purple Group, during this time.

I do hope you understand this delicate situation, but can reassure you that your child's learning journey should not be impeded by these factors.



## Be Curious!

One of our outcomes within our 5 Ways to Wow! Curriculum is for children to be curious and take delight in experiencing new phenomena. Autumn provides an ideal opportunity to do this; discovering a conker nestling in its case, dropping a sycamore key from a height and watching it spin, or listening as you scrunch through the leaves.

There are more ideas of local and free activities to do on the **50 things to do before you're five** app. It's free to download and has a Hertfordshire specific section.



I wonder how many new experiences you can share with your child over half term?

## Help your Child to Read Reading Workshop

Learning to read is a journey; one of the most valuable things you can do as a parent is read to your child regularly. By nurturing a love of reading from an early age, your child is far more likely to become a successful reader. I would like to invite Nursery Parents to an **Early Reading Workshop** on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> November, from 5:30-6:30pm OR 7-8pm.



Please call the office on 01923 672531 to book a space.

## Peekaboo Photo's (Christmas Shoot)

Debbie and Lucie from Peekaboo Photography will be attending school on **Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> November** to take photos of your child, photo orders can then be completed and returned to school before we break up for Christmas.

This will be Nursery Children and Pre-School children being taken on the same day. If your Pre-School child is not normally in on a Wednesday but you would like their photos taken please give the office a ring and we will let you know a suitable time to attend. We are sorry but we will be unable to accept siblings due to the large of number of children being photographed in one day.

## Invoice Reminders

As many new families have joined us from the start of the Autumn term, we are sending you a polite reminder regarding payment of school fees. The September invoice included a request for a month in advance which I'm pleased to say every family has now settled. The double payment made will then be used to pay for your child's final month's care before they either leave us or their free funding starts.

This information is contained in the terms and conditions which every parent has signed at the time of joining Kingswood. Invoices must be settled within the first week of each month. Invoices are sent out approx 2 days before the first day of each month

(November invoices will be issued on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> Nov, the first day back after half term). If payment is not made by the 12<sup>th</sup> of that month, the school will call to confirm that care will be suspended until payment is made.

This is part of our fees policy which has been adopted by our Governing Body. Please remember, that attending preschool or requesting additional sessions over your funding entitlement is a parental choice and the costs involved are given to you at the time of signing the paperwork. If you do fall into any financial difficulties please do call and speak to Sam or Tina to discuss your circumstances where we will be happy to try and assist. Thank you for your understanding.

### Voluntary Contribution/Snack Payments - Free Funded Children ONLY

Thank you to those parents who have contributed the first half term of voluntary contribution (£12), especially those parents who have paid for the whole year, it is very much appreciated. The next half term payment of £12 is due after half term and this will cover November to Christmas.

You can pay £12 per half term, £24 for the whole term (Sept-Christmas) or £72 for the whole year, this covers all 3 terms at Kingswood.

The voluntary contribution goes towards the cost of our weekly shopping for fruit and snack, cooking ingredients and special treats for the children. Please note that this contribution is only requested from Free Funded children (snack payment is covered for Fee paying children in Pre-school within their fees).

## Term Dates 2021-2022

### AUTUMN TERM 2021

#### September 2021

Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> September

STAFF TRAINING DAY - closed

Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> September

TERM STARTS

#### October 2021

Monday 25<sup>th</sup> October – Friday 29<sup>th</sup> October

HALF TERM – School closed

#### December 2021

Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> December

END OF TERM Christmas Party  
open 10-12pm

**CHRISTMAS BREAK - Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> DECEMBER – Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> JANUARY**

### SPRING TERM 2022

#### January 2022

Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> January

STAFF TRAINING DAY - closed

Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> January

TERM STARTS

#### February 2022

Monday 14<sup>th</sup> - Friday 18<sup>th</sup> February

HALF TERM

#### April 2022

Friday 1<sup>st</sup> April

END OF TERM open 10-12pm

**EASTER BREAK - MONDAY 4<sup>th</sup> April– Monday 18<sup>th</sup> APRIL**

### SUMMER TERM 2022

#### April 2022

Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> April

STAFF TRAINING DAY - closed

Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> April

TERM STARTS

#### May 2022

Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> May

School closed – May Day

Friday 27<sup>th</sup> May – Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> June

HALF TERM

#### July 2022

Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> July

END OF TERM  
open 10-12pm