

NEWSLETTER 3 4th October 2021

A Fresh Start

Autumn Term is always a time of Transition; bidding farewell to the end of summer and embracing the change in seasons, as our children settle into new routines, and become more familiar with Kingswood. It is an ideal time to embrace change and start afresh! I am delighted to welcome Serena and Sinead who join our Pre-school team, and Charlie in Nursery. I have every confidence they will quickly fit into the team and support us to achieve our vision. We will also say goodbye to Vanessa at the end of October, as she leaves us to take up a new role; she has been a committed member of the team and I know she will be missed by the entire Kingswood community.



We are very fortunate to be welcoming visitors back to school, including those who represent Herts for Learning; our school improvement organisation. Last week's visit noted the good relationships between adults and children, and how the children were settled and engaged in their learning. Shortly we will be participating in an in-depth evaluation of our provision, which will support our school development plans. We may be approaching you to request you speak to one of our visitors!

Mrs Macdonald

Labelling Clothing

Please remember to label all items of your child's clothing. This ensures that your child goes home with their items that they arrived at school in. Your child's name is one of the first words they will learn to recognise and read. Knowing which coat, or shoes belong to them, and using the label to check this, will support them to be independent.

Please be Prompt!

This is a reminder that children need to be collected promptly from school at 11:30, 12:30 or 3:30. Your child can become upset if they are waiting for you to arrive, and staff are unable to carry on with their many tasks outside of the school day if having to be responsible for children beyond these times. It also becomes a safeguarding concern if children are regularly collected late. I have a duty to take care of both children, and staff, in school, and would appreciate your support with this.

Let's Read!



One of the best ways to develop young readers is to develop a love of reading. At Kingswood we want all of our children to gain immense pleasure from hearing, reading, and telling stories. Your child can choose a book from school to take home each day, to share with you at home before returning it. Please look out for the books in your child's book bag. We'd love to hear your family favourites via Tapestry!

No such things as bad weather, only inappropriate clothing

This is a well know Early Years mantra! We believe in children learning outdoors, in all weathers, all year. Children cannot catch colds from being outside and are far less likely to spread germs whilst outside in the fresh air. We have a stock of wellie boots at school, so children's feet remain dry whilst outside. As the weather cools please send you child to school in a warm winter coat. If your child is not well enough to play outside, they are not well enough to be at school



5 Ways to Wow!

Last week I shared with you the overarching themes of our new curriculum. Please find below some more details about how we intend for your child to leave Kingswood with 5 Ways to Wow! I am keen to explain these in greater depth, and how you can support this learning at home, at an information session after half term.

To converse



We intend for your child to leave being able to:

- Communicate with passion about their interests, whether that is Dinosaurs, Paw Patrol, Lego Building or creepy crawlies!
- Use a wide vocabulary when talking about their interests, and what they notice in the world around them, such as dalmatian, turret, metre, predict, stethoscope

To care

We intend for your child to leave being able to:

- Use good manners in their daily routine, such as saying Thank you, Good Morning, and offering help to others.
Take care of plants and animals, including feeding and handling animals, and growing plants over time.
- Take care of their own simple health needs by going to the toilet and getting dressed independently.
- Understand and follow simple rules, and show respect to all individuals.



To be curious



We intend for your child to leave being able to:

- Take delight in participating in new experiences such as meeting an animal, an exciting science experiment, or building a den for the first time with a friend.
- Explain and investigate their own fascinations, using information books, and visits within the community, and within the wider world.

To be creative

We intend for your child to leave being able to:

- Solve problems in different ways such as finding a successful way to put on a coat, move water to the sand pit or clamber around our wild wood.
- Enjoy hearing stories being read to them, hearing music, singing songs and saying rhymes so that they have a love for reading and the skills to become successful readers and writers.
- Use simple tools such as scissors, and media such as paint, to create pictures and models, on a small or large scale.



To be confident



We intend for your child to leave being able to:

- Move around our outdoor environment and equipment, balancing, climbing and jumping independently.
- Write their name, with a capital letter and lower case letters.
- Recognise, count and combine groups of up to 5 objects.
- Make mistakes, without becoming upset, and learn from these.