

# Kinsale Infant School

## September 2022 Newsletter



*Developing a love of learning for all. Always ready to learn.*

Welcome to the first newsletter of this new school year!

I hope you all enjoyed the sunny summer break and are refreshed and ready for a new school year. I extend my thanks to all parents and carers for supporting your child to return in such a positive, happy way. We express a warm welcome to our new Reception children and also several new children joining us in Year 1 & 2.

This is my 13<sup>th</sup> year as Head teacher at Kinsale, and I am still amazed at the positive way our children return to learning in school.

As you know Mrs Hazard (our Deputy Head) left us in July to begin her first Headship. She is enjoying her new role so far; and embracing the challenges!

As a result, we do not have a current Deputy Head, so Governors have established a different leadership structure for the Autumn term. This structure will change in January 2023.

I have agreed to work full time for this term (until Christmas), and we have 4 Senior Leadership Team (SLT) members supporting me:

Mrs Bethan Clennell – existing SLT member (in charge of Early Years)

Mrs Laura Wallace – existing SLT member (in charge of Special Needs)

Mrs Emma Godwin – new SLT member

Mrs Christina Sidy – new SLT member (just returning from her maternity leave)

I know our SLT team is very much looking forward to working with all children and parents; and they are passionate about the work they do at KIS. Should you need to talk to our SLT we can be contacted through the school office.

One member of SLT will be outside each morning from 8.35am. We hope this will enable any questions to be answered should they arise.

*Monday – Mrs Mainwaring*

*Tuesday – Mrs Clennell*

*Wednesday – Mrs Godwin*

*Thursday – Mrs Wallace*

*Friday – Mrs Sidy*

### **Welcome!**

Mrs Charlotte Belson has joined our staff team this term. Mrs Belson is an experienced teacher who has relocated to Norfolk. She has been employed to teach across the school in different classes, in order to release the SLT members to work on leadership projects. Beetles and Grasshopper classes will get to know her very well as she teaches in these classes each week.

We hope Mrs Belson settles into Kinsale well.

(Mrs Coughlan will also teach in Grasshoppers to allow SLT to be released.)

## Classes

Our class structure this year is as follows:

Year Group	Class Name	Class Teacher/s	Teaching Assistants
Reception & Year 1	Grasshoppers	Mrs Clennell	Mrs Leeper Mrs Secker
	Butterflies	Mrs Godwin (Mondays, Tuesday ams and Wednesdays)  Mrs Coughlan (Tuesday pms, Thursdays and Fridays)	
Year 1	Ladybirds	Mrs Kelly	Mrs Plunkett Mrs Humphrey
Year 2	Dragonflies	Miss Galley	Mrs Miller
	Beetles	Mrs Siddy (Mondays, Tuesdays, and Fridays)  Mrs Wallace (Wednesdays and Thursdays)  (Mrs Belson will be teaching to release SLT on Thurs & Fri am)	Vacancy <i>(This is being covered temporarily until we appoint)</i> Mrs Horner Miss Howell

Mrs Cletheroe will be our Nurture / Pastoral support in school – we hope to arrange parent / carer drop-in sessions with her, so that we can support you.

## Diary Dates

<b>September 2022</b>		
Mon 12 <sup>th</sup> Sept	PM	Rock Steady starts in school
Mon 12 <sup>th</sup> Sept		After School clubs begin
Tues 13 <sup>th</sup> Sept		Reception AM and lunch
Tues 13 <sup>th</sup> Sept	PM	Forest School begins for Dragonflies
Tues 13 <sup>th</sup> Sept	2pm	Music & Mess play session starts – <i>see details below</i>
Weds 14 <sup>th</sup> Sept		Reception start school full time
Thur 15 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Lunchtime	Top Table starts – <i>see info below</i>
Mon 19 <sup>th</sup> Sept	2.30pm	Year 1 meet the teacher- <i>information below</i>
Weds 21 <sup>st</sup> Sept	2.30pm	Year 2 meet the teacher – <i>information below</i>
Thurs 29 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Am	Individual and sibling photographs in school
Fri 30 <sup>th</sup> Sept	AM	Friends sponsored bubble run – <i>info to follow from Friends</i>
<b>October 2022</b>		
Tues 18 <sup>th</sup> Oct	PM	Last Forest school for Dragonflies
Thurs 20 <sup>th</sup> Oct		First class photo in Norwich Evening News
24 <sup>th</sup> -28 <sup>th</sup> Oct		Half term
Mon 31 <sup>st</sup> October		Children back to school
Mon 31 <sup>st</sup> Oct	AM	Flu Immunisation for all year groups – consent details to follow (These immunisations are <u>optional</u> for Rec, Y1 and Y2)
<b>November 2022</b>		
Tues 1 <sup>st</sup> Nov	Pm	Forest school begins for Beetles

Weds 2 <sup>nd</sup> Nov	Am	Open morning for new reception families
Mon 7 <sup>th</sup> Nov	3.30-7pm	Parents Evenings day 1 – <i>further details will be sent out for booking</i>
Thurs 17 <sup>th</sup> Nov	3.30-7pm	Parents Evenings day 2 – <i>further details will be sent out for booking</i>

## Reminders...

School Uniform [www.myclothing.com](http://www.myclothing.com) or via the school website

<b>Boys</b>	<b>Girls</b>	<b>PE</b> <i>(In named draw string bag to be kept on peg in class)</i>
Grey trousers / shorts White polo shirt Navy sweatshirt Grey / black socks Black school shoes ( <b>not trainers please</b> )	Grey skirt / dress / trousers Navy & white checked summer dress / skirt White polo shirt Navy sweatshirt or cardigan Grey tights / white or grey socks Black school shoes ( <b>not trainers please</b> ) <b>Navy hair accessories</b>	Navy shorts White t shirt Plimsolls or trainers <b>Tracksuit trousers</b> <b>Tracksuit top</b>

**All children** need tracksuit top, trousers and trainers or plimsolls in their PE kit **all year**, as outdoor PE happens all year round. PE kits must be kept at school and will be returned at the next holiday for washing. Children should not wear trainers as part of their everyday school uniform please. Black school shoes are required.

Earrings must be stud earrings and will need to be removed or taped for all PE sessions. Other jewellery (except watches) or nail varnish is not to be worn for school. Long hair should be tied back for school EVERY DAY.

**Please save the school holiday time if you wish to have artistic lines and patterns shaved into children's hair.**

Thank you.

## Rucksacks

It is incredibly helpful for children to bring a rucksack to school each day. This means all their belongings are kept together. If you have already provided your child with a rucksack – thank you. If you are able to; that would be most helpful.

A reminder that they only require the following items in their bag please: named water bottle, lunchbox, coat if needed, PE bag (at start of a new half term) and reading book to be changed.

Please try to ensure the bag is an appropriate size for all their belongings. Many thanks.

## Bikes and Scooters

Children are welcome to bring their bike or scooter to school and leave it securely locked in the racks outside the Breakfast Club room (for bikes) and Beetles class (for scooters).

Bikes and scooters are left at your own risk and **MUST** be locked securely each day.

Helmets must be worn if riding a bike or scooter to school, and please take the helmets home each morning.

Please remind children to walk with their bike / scooter when they enter the Kinsale site at the large gates.

*(The racks are only to be used by children who attend Kinsale Infant School please)*

## Reading and Home Learning

All children (Year 1 & 2) will now have a new reading book and reading record book. Please ensure that the reading record book is signed every time your child reads. Every class has a book changing box for your child to put their book in order for it to be changed. This will happen on a Monday, Wednesday and Friday each week.

Please talk to your child's class teacher if you have any concerns regarding reading or would like further support.

Children in Year 1 and 2 will have termly Home Learning activities to complete please.

These are really important as they support the learning which takes place in school.

The activities will continue to be added to Tapestry (as they were last year) so please look out for these on Friday 16<sup>th</sup> September, and talk to your class teacher if you are unsure.

### **Texting Service**

In order to ease communication in school we use a texting service, which will allow us to text important information to parents. We don't send numerous texts, but will inform you of crucial events such as; club cancellation, parents evening reminders, school closure due to bad weather and other important information. If you don't receive text messages from us – please come and tell us so we can find out why!

**Please ensure we always have your current mobile number on our system. (Update forms available from the school office – please ring or email Mrs Clarke)**

### **Healthy Schools Award**

We are a Healthy School, and we aim to ensure this philosophy is evident throughout school and promoted with the children. The children are all encouraged to enjoy the daily fruit or vegetable snack, and water is available all day.

In order to reinforce our status as a healthy school, we do not allow sweets, chocolates or cakes to be given out in class for birthdays. Please support us by encouraging your child to eat healthy options in their packed lunch box and water in their bottles in the classroom. (*There is a useful guide to healthy packed lunches on our website*)

### **School lunches**

We are delighted to continue having our meals provided by Edwards and Blake; cooked at Sprowston High School.

Children may order a hot meal each morning (meat option, vegetarian option, jacket potato or pasta). They are also able to bring a packed lunch from home if you prefer.

We would appreciate you supporting your child to use a knife and fork, and to help them practice cutting up their own food if they have a hot lunch here.

If your child has a food allergy, you must complete a food allergy form and provide medical evidence to be returned to Edwards and Blake. They will then prepare a separate suitable menu.

### **NUT FREE SCHOOL**

As we have children in school who have severe allergies to nuts, we are a nut free school.

Please ensure your child's lunchbox does not contain any food containing nuts.

### **Top Table and Hot Chocolate Monday!**



We follow a positive behaviour policy in school. All children have a named peg which is on **green** at the start of every day. They must behave well in order for it to stay on green. If they choose not to make good behaviour choices, their peg will move to **orange**. They can also be moved to **red** for severe behaviour challenges (this is VERY rare in our school!)

**If their behaviour is OUTSTANDING, they will move to GOLD!**

In our Monday celebration assembly, all children who have been on 'gold' from the previous week, will have their names read out so we can congratulate them with the whole school. One child from each year group will then be randomly chosen as winners. These children come and eat their lunch at the Top Table on a Thursday with me or SLT. They bring a friend with them, and the Top Table is a special table with decorations, special chairs and place mats etc!



Children who have kept all our learning dispositions in school will be chosen by the staff to have hot chocolate with Mrs Mainwaring on a Monday at the end of the month.

This is a relaxed and very enjoyable time!

**Our dispositions are:**

Collaborative (like a bumble bee)

Resilient (like a penguin)

Resourceful (like a squirrel)

Curious (like a cat)

Reflective (like an owl)

Creative (like a bird)

Talk to your child about these – they will know these words and what they mean!

**Breakfast Club** (From 8am everyday)

This is a very popular facility, but we do have a couple of spaces available on a couple of days. If you require a place, please contact the school office.

All fees for the club **MUST** be paid in advance of the session, and any children who do not attend sessions that have been booked, will be charged.

**Music & Mess**



**Forest Schools**

Mrs Secker is our qualified Forest School lead, and she will work with every child in school throughout the year. Year 2 will start the sessions this term, Year 1 in spring term and Reception in summer term. You will receive a letter when your child is due to start their sessions.

The sessions are very popular with the children; and support their self-esteem, wellbeing and mental health.

**Meet the Teacher!**

We are delighted to invite you into school to meet the teachers and Teaching Assistant team.

**Monday 19th September**

**2.30pm**

**YEAR 1**

**Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> September**

**2.30pm**

**YEAR 2**

**You will find out lots of information about the year group and the learning opportunities this year. You will meet the teachers and also see your child's classroom.**

Please come into school via the main office.

The meetings will be held in the hall.

The meetings will finish at 3pm, and then you will be able to walk through the classroom to see the learning environment.

If you are unable to attend, we will email you the information notes after the meeting.

**The Year 1 and 2 teams look forward to seeing you!**

### **Attendance**

Good school attendance and punctuality is crucial and impacts hugely on learning and progress.

Unauthorised absence from school may result in a penalty fine being issued.

Please ensure children are at school promptly. **THEY MUST BE IN BY 9AM.**

Medical and dental appointments **MUST** be made out of school hours or in the holidays please.

Our school bell rings promptly at 9am as the doors are locked, so please enter via the office if you are late.

Please ensure you inform us if your child is unwell. The office opens at 8.15am each morning.

***School drop off is: Between 8.50 and 9am***

***School collection is: Between 3pm and 3.10pm***

***Please wait near your child's class door, but don't queue, as this is causing a problem for parents walking round to the back of school. Thank you.***

### **Communication**

In addition to our texting service every class has a whiteboard near their classroom door. Staff will ensure important information is recorded on here, so please ensure you read it daily.

School newsletters are distributed at the beginning of every month, and in addition every year group produces Curriculum Information.

**Reception** – Newsletter emailed home every Friday

**Year One & Two** – Curriculum Information emailed home at the beginning of each half term

Other letters are emailed out to you, unless a reply slip needs to be returned, and these will be sent in paper format.

Should your child have a parent not living at home who would like to receive important information and school reports, please provide Mrs Clarke (Office Manager) with an email address.

All newsletters are available on our school website.

**Please may I politely remind parents that Kinsale Infant School has an open-door policy. Staff are only too happy to answer questions from parents – teachers have more time after school to talk at length, so please keep morning messages brief please.**

**If you have a question or concern, we encourage you to contact school to ask us, rather than using social media to air concerns – we want to work with you for the benefit of your child!**

Parking on school site – Polite reminder.....

With limited spaces for staff, even our visitors struggle to find space to park. The car parks and in particular the access road up to the schools and between the Junior and Infant / Pre-School is particularly hazardous, so it is essential that we keep this access as free as possible since some of the road is shared between pedestrians and vehicles. Immediately upon entering the site there are clear yellow lines showing where the pedestrians should

walk to avoid any accidents between cars and pedestrians.

The only exception is for Blue Badge holders and those collecting unwell children during the school day. Please let us know if you are a Blue Badge holder so that we can amend our records accordingly and provide you with a school parking permit.

We hope you will respect these restrictions and understand that they are in place simply for the safety of the community.

**On behalf of the staff and governors, we look forward to working with you all this academic year. Should you wish to discuss anything please do not hesitate to talk to your child's class teacher or make an appointment to speak to me.**

Mrs Louise Mainwaring  
Head Teacher