



Kinsale Infant School

September 2023 Newsletter



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

Diary Dates

September 2022		
Mon 11th Sept	PM	Rock Steady starts- see link if you would like to sign up https://www.rocksteadymusicschool.com/
Mon 11th Sept		After School clubs begin (Year 1 and 2 only)
Mon 11 th Sept		Reception part time arrangements
Tues 12 th Sept		Reception part time arrangements
Weds 13th Sept		Reception AM including lunch- <i>more info to follow</i>
Thurs 14 th Sept		Reception start full time
Thur 14th Sept	Lunch	Top Table starts – <i>see info below</i>
Thurs 28 th Sept	Am	Individual and sibling photographs in school
October 2022		
23rd-27th Oct		Half term
Mon 30th Oct		Children back to school
November 2022		
Weds 22 nd Nov	AM	Flu Immunisation for all year groups – consent details to follow (These immunisations are <u>optional</u> for Rec, Y1 and Y2)
Thurs 23 rd Nov	AM	Reception Theatre visit- <i>more info to follow</i>



Welcome back to the new school year 2023/2024

We are so excited to see all the children and hear all about their summer holiday adventures! I hope you all enjoyed a wonderful summer break and are refreshed and ready for a new school year.

We extend our thanks to all parents and carers for supporting your child to return in such a positive, happy way and express a warm welcome to all our new Reception children along with several new children joining us in Year 1 & 2.

As you will be aware, Mrs Mainwaring left at the end of last school year, to begin her new Headship following 14 years here at KIS. I am reliably informed that she is enjoying her new role and of course wishes everybody well for the start of the new school year.

It has been a delight to join the team here at KIS and I look forward to being part of the strong team already in place. As you will be aware our leadership team includes the following members of staff who have taken on additional working hours and areas of school leadership to ensure the continued smooth running of our school

- Mrs Bethan Clennell –Deputy Head Teacher (in charge of Early Years)
- Mrs Laura Wallace – existing Senior Leadership Team member (in charge of Special Needs)
- Mrs Emma Godwin – existing Senior Leadership Team member
- Mrs Christina Sidy – existing Senior Leadership Team member

I know the 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 – Ms Coleman

Tuesday – Mrs Godwin

Wednesday – Mrs Clennell

Thursday – Mrs Wallace

Friday – Mrs Sidy

Classes

Our class structure this year is as follows:

Year Group	Class Name	Class Teacher/s	Teaching Assistants
Reception	Grasshoppers	Mrs Clennell (Monday, Thursday and Friday) Mrs Coughlan (Tuesday and Wednesday)	Mrs Leeper Mrs Secker
	Butterflies	Mrs Godwin (Mondays, Tuesday and Wednesdays) Mrs Coughlan (Thursdays and Fridays)	
Year 1 / 2	Ladybirds	Mrs Kelly	Mrs Miller Mrs Edmonston (am)
Year 2	Dragonflies	Miss Galley	Mrs Cletheroe Mrs Edmonston (pm) Mrs Keeble
	Beetles	Mrs Sidy (Mondays, Tuesdays, and Fridays) Mrs Wallace (Wednesdays and Thursdays)	Mrs Plunkett Mrs Humphrey

Reminders...

School Uniform www.myclothing.com or via the school website

Boys	Girls	PE <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 (not trainers please)	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 (not trainers please) Navy hair accessories	Navy shorts White t shirt Plimsolls or trainers Tracksuit trousers Tracksuit top

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.

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.

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)*



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!

During 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 Ms Coleman 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 7.45am everyday)



This is a very popular facility. 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.

We are very pleased to be able to offer ad hoc places

Forest Schools

Mrs Secker is our qualified Forest School lead, and she will work with every child in school throughout the year. Each class will have Forest School sessions throughout the year. 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.



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

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.

Ms Stacey Coleman
Head Teacher

