The King's Church of England Primary School

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12<sup>th</sup> January 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you and your families had a lovely Christmas and New Year and were able to find some time to rest and relax. The children have returned this week with enthusiasm and energy and have settled back very quickly in to school routines. I have been incredibly impressed with the children's attitudes and behaviours this week when coming in to the Hall for Collective Worship. They have come in to the Hall in silence and respectfully and it has been a pleasure to see how mature they all have been.

# School Life

Well done to the Year 6 children who have been taking part in their Bikeability cycling safety course this week on the local roads. Despite the cold weather they have listened really well to their instructors and have shown great maturity whilst cycling on the roads. We have more Year 6 children doing their Bikeability course next week, so I'm sure they will be just as sensible and mature as this week's group.

Good luck to the Boys' and Girls' Football Teams who are playing Kew Riverside on Tuesday and to the Tag Rugby Team who are playing Darrell on Wednesday.

# Parent Questionnaire

Thank you to the parents who completed our Parent Questionnaire last term. We will be sharing our feedback with you next week so please look out for this email. Well done to Oak Class who had the highest number of responses from parents across the school and will have a mufti day next Friday as promised.

## Uniform Policy for September 2024 and The Shoe Station

We wanted to give you some advanced notice that as of September 2024 and the start of the new school year, we will be asking both girls and boys to wear black shoes as part of their school uniform. Trainers will not be part of the School Uniform Policy other than to be worn for PE lessons. We will share more details with you later in the term about this.

We have noticed that some children are coming in to school wearing boot-style footwear. This is not part of the school uniform policy so please ensure your child has the correct footwear, as detailed in the policy:

• Black/red shoes/ or plain, non-marking, non-flashing trainers (black or navy) (no open-toe/slip-on shoes or boots)

The Shoe Station, who stock our school uniform, have asked us to remind you that they have some lovely King's School-branded waterproof coats in stock, across all sizes. They have had some good feedback from our parents who have bought one for their child, so if you are considering getting a coat in this cold weather, please consider getting one from The Shoe Station. In addition to the coats, The Shoe Station are now stocking small adult-sized sweatshirts and polo shirts.

## Governor Fund Appeal

On behalf of the Governors, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the parents who have either set up a regular standing order or made a one-off donation to the Governor Fund Appeal. Your kindness and generosity is very much appreciated. The Governors will be in a position to share more information with you about the Appeal later this term. If you haven't made a donation yet, or set up a standing order, and you are in a position to do so, please be aware that Barclay's Bank have managed to change the name of the account to "**The Kings Church of England Primary School**". Please note that there is no apostrophe in "The Kings". The sort code and bank account details remain the same:

Sort code: 20-72-33

Account number: 00748749

## School Inspections

I wanted to make you aware that between now and the end of the school year it is very likely that we will be visited by both Ofsted and have a separate inspection on behalf of the Church of England, called a Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS).

Many of you will recall that Ofsted inspected the school last February (2023) and made a commitment to return within 12-18 months to check on the school's progress from the feedback they gave. You'll be pleased to know that the school has been working really hard to act upon the feedback from last year and lots of progress has been made.

SIAMS last visited in September 2016. Ordinarily they would re-visit every five years or so, but due to the pandemic, their normal of cycle of inspections has been delayed which is why it is now out of sync. Again, the school and Governors have worked hard to make sure that they are addressing the criteria that are part of the inspection framework.

We will keep you updated as and when we have any further information to share with you.

#### Thank you and Gratitude

Again, on behalf of all the staff, thank you very much for all the lovely cards and messages that were received at the end of last term along with the thoughtful and generous gifts.

With the cold weather set to continue, keep warm and have restful weekend.

Mr Corke

## Year 5 Junior Travel Ambassadors

Congratulations to Marian, Julia, Luca and Evie R who have been appointed as our Junior Travel Ambassadors. They will be working alongside our Eco Monitors and with Mrs Bushell and Mrs Jones to embed our School Travelplan. Over the next two terms they will be leading assemblies, running competitions and looking at ways to encourage us all to travel more sustainably. We will be updating you on their progress in future newsletters.

## Fabric Request for our Prayer Tables

As we continue to enrich the spiritual environment within our school, we are reaching out to our wonderful community for support. Currently, our prayer tables lack the vibrant colours associated with the liturgical calendar. In an effort to enhance these sacred spaces, we are seeking donations of green, dark purple, and white cloth, each measuring at least 1 metre in length. We wanted to approach our parent community first. If you have any spare green, dark purple, or white cloth at home, or if you know of any companies that might be willing to contribute to our cause, we would be immensely grateful for your support. If you can contribute please contact Miss Ratcliffe via our <u>info@kings.richmond.sch.uk</u> email as she will be arranging this for all of the classes. Thank you for all your support.



#### **Attendance**

Here are this week's class attendance ratings - Well Done Oak Class!

Attendance Ratings	w/e 12 <sup>th</sup> January
Holly	96.14%
Willow	96.78%
Cherry	95.06%
Fir	96.45%
Maple	94.08%
Oak	97.59%
ЗЈВ	97.42%
3NB	94.94%
4ER	95.69%
4AC	93.81%
5SC	96.73%
5AM	95.52%
6GD	95.39%
6MS	94.11%

## **Reminders**

# Looking Ahead

Year 6 Bikeability	Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> – Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> January
Boys and girls football v Kew Riverside	Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup> January
Tag rugby v Darrel and Marshgate	Wednesday 17 <sup>th</sup> January
Non-uniform day Oak class only (winners of survey)	Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> January
Young Voices Year 5 and 6	Monday 29 <sup>th</sup> January until 10:30pm
Year 2 visit Florence Nightingale Museum	Tuesday 30 <sup>th</sup> January
	Wednesday 31 <sup>st</sup> January

For further dates please see the school website:

https://www.kings.richmond.sch.uk/calendar/?calid=3,1,2&pid=94&viewid=2

## Lunchtime Supervisor Vacancy

We have a vacancy for a lunchtime supervisor to help manage the lunch hall on Mondays and Fridays. This is a paid role, working for an hour per day, ensuring that lunchtimes run smoothly and happily. If you are interested, or know anyone who might be, please contact the office or email <u>iobs@kings.richmond.sch.uk</u> We will follow our normal Safer Recruitment procedures for this vacancy, including a full career history, two references, and Enhanced DBS check.

## Helping Children with Screentime & Online Media.

Please find attached a flyer from the Mental Health Support Team in Richmond with details on their upcoming parent webinars and sign up links on *Helping Children with Screentime & Online Media*.

#### Extension of Universal Free School Meals for KS2

We are happy to confirm that the Mayor is extending the funding for Universal Free School Meals for another academic year. Please find attached the letter from the Mayor which provides more information about the extension.

Date: 9 January 2024

Dear Parent/Carer,

As the new term begins, I wanted to share some fantastic news about my Universal Free School Meals programme – it's extending until the middle of 2025!

As the Mayor of London, I'm so proud we've funded more than 17 million free school meals for around 287,000 primary school children in London since September.

However, I know times are still tough for many Londoners and I am committed to doing all that I can to support families through these difficult times.

I am now extending funding for Universal Free School Meals for another academic school year between September 2024 and July 2025. This means that primary school aged children who attend a state funded school in London will continue to receive a healthy, nutritious meal so that no child goes hungry in the classroom, and all pupils can better concentrate on their studies.

I am also increasing the amount of money boroughs and schools receive to £3 per meal. The grant that I provide is now 18.5% higher than the offer from national Government for Universal Infant Free School Meals.

This extension will provide a safety net for families and could save parents and carers up to £1,000 per child across the two years.

Eating a nutritious meal everyday is hugely beneficial to children and families both in the short and long term. As someone who received free school meals myself growing up, I know they can be a lifeline, helping children to reach their full potential.



City Hall, Kamal Chunchie Way, London E16 1ZE mayor@london.gov.uk + london.gov.uk + 020 7983 4000 As Mayor of London, I also fundamentally believe that feeding our children shouldn't be an optional luxury but should rank as one of our society's top priorities. Making sure our children are properly fed and healthy is vital to building a better London for everyone – a city that is fairer, safer, more inclusive and more prosperous for all. This is why I will continue to call on the Government to step forward and provide the funding needed to make our Universal Free School Meal programme permanent.

Even though your child is receiving their free school meals automatically, it is still vitally important – if you have not done so already – to complete your school or borough's short registration form in case your child is eligible for extra funding for their school from the Government, worth over £1,300 per year. That's more money for extracurricular activities, teacher development and support for children who need it most. This will ensure you'll also receive any other benefits you may be entitled to, like food vouchers during the holidays. Ask your school for more info or visit your borough website.

For more information about this and anything else about the scheme please visit our online hub: <u>https://www.london.gov.uk/free-school-meals</u>

Families who are having difficulties with their financial situation can also access advice and support by visiting my cost-of-living hub here: <u>https://www.london.gov.uk/programmes-strategies/communities-and-social-</u> justice/help-cost-living

I wish you and your family a happy and healthy 2024. I will continue to do everything I can to support families across London.

Warmest wishes,

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Sadiq Khan Mayor of London