

March Parent Newsletter



Wednesday 1st March 2023

An eventful first half term for our ECO warriors!

Thank you for supporting our ECO warrior's initiative to recycle unwanted clothes, and bric a brac. The children were very proud of the success of their first real project this school year.

Please continue to support their work over the coming months.

Another successful parents meeting day

Thank you to all the parents who made the time to meet with their child's class teacher on Friday 24th February. Of the 303 pupils across the school, 80% of the parent/carers took the opportunity to speak to their child's teacher on this day.

It is a great opportunity to find out how your child is progressing in school and also how you can work with the teaching staff to support your child to reach their full potential. We are always aspirational for your pupils and want to ensure that by the time they leave the infant school they working in line with and if not exceeding age related expectations. Therefore, it is important that you take the opportunities provided to attend the various seminar lessons we host in school, which is a unique feature we offer that a lot of schools do not. It is also important that you read with and listen to your child read every day to develop their fluency and comprehension skills.

As a school we have a strong focus on developing children's speaking and listening skills, so at home encourage your child to speak in sentences whether in English or in your home language. Do not accept single word responses! Model language to your children as we do in school, as they will pick good and bad habits from the exposure they receive.

The run up to Easter!

We are now well and truly past the half way point of the academic year. This half term all the classes will be hosting a maths seminar lesson so please check the dates for your child's class. Year 1 seminars are being hosted this week.



National Book day will also be coming up when the children will be asked to dress up as book characters.

Parent Governor Vacancy

Dear Parents and Carers,

Kenmore Park Infant and Nursery school has only one parent governor vacancy remaining on its governing body. It is a great opportunity to get involved in your child's school at a strategic level. We are looking to appoint parent Governors to join our Governing Body who have an interest in education and give of their time to the school. The individual also needs to have an interest in representing the parent community and acting as a voice of the school and parents. Our parent governors are very valuable members of the governing body. We rely on them to help us to keep in touch with what parents are thinking and to help us to decide what is best for all our pupils. They also keep parents informed about the strategic work of the school leadership.

What are you required to do?

- Attend Full Governing Body meetings which are scheduled at 7 p.m. on Wednesday evenings and there is one meeting every half term (max 6 per year). All paperwork is sent out a week in advance of the meeting.
- Join at least one of the subcommittees who meet once each term as a minimum at 7 p.m. on a Wednesday evening at the school.
- You must have skills and areas of expertise and knowledge to support with the strategic planning and vision for the school
- The term of office is 4 years

If you are interested in becoming a parent governor, please collect an application form from the school office. **Complete and return by Monday 13th March 2023** ensuring you have details of nominees completed. Where there is more than one parent interested we will hold a ballot.

Recycling school uniforms continues!

Please continue to support us by recycling good condition school uniforms as your child grows out of them. Remember it can help another family who may be finding it hard to purchase uniform items at full price. Please hand your bag of unwanted school uniform and good condition school shoes to a member of the school staff. Every little helps!

School Attendance Reminder!

Information has been sent out to parents outlining the situation regarding any request for leave during term time Re: **The 200th year festival/ anniversary celebration for Shree Nara Narayan Dev 18th-26th April 2023**. The letter outlines the guidance the school has received from SACRE which is adopted by school to verify any requests for leave during term time, who work in consultation with religious leaders and the local authority. I would like to remind you that leave will not be authorised and will result in Education Penalty Notices being issued and also disruption to your child's learning!

At the end of every half term/term we reminded parents of when the school holidays commence and when the school term resumes. The law clearly states that if you choose to educate your child in a British school you are required to comply with the school term time dates and holidays. We will not authorise any pupil absence without evidence. Parents need to be mindful that penalty notices will be issued for absence not substantiated in the correct way. Holiday leave will not be approved in line with the DfE guidance.

I will also remind you that any unauthorised absences over the school year when accumulated can lead to penalty notices too. Some of you may be under the impression that if less than 5 consecutive days leave is taken a penalty notice will not be issued. I would like to correct you on that point as if your child has any other unauthorised absence during the school year these will be added together.

The school takes a hard line on any absences in line with the Local Authority AIM policy. Where absence is not authorised due to absence without supporting evidence, leave during term time that does not meet the exceptional leave criteria could lead to the school issuing educational penalty notices of £60 per child, per parent to be paid within 14 days and if not the amount doubles.

Where a child is absent for medical reasons evidence in the form of letters, appointment details, medication and prescriptions must be provided. We are unable to accept appointment cards.

Please remember that all pupils are expected to attend school regularly and on time. The Moorhouse Road school **gate opens at 8.20 a.m.** and the **entrance locks at 8.50 a.m.** this is because all children are expected to be in class by then for registration at 8.50 a.m. Lessons commence straight away. The **exit gate locks between 8.55- 9 a.m.** to ensure the safety of the children as they start their day.

Getting Your Child to School Really Matters

Did You Know... ?

In a School Year, If Your Child is Late Every Day By...	Your Child Would Have Lost Approximately...	or They Would Have Missed Approximately...
5 Minutes	3.5 Days from School	20 Lessons
10 Minutes	7 Days from School	41 Lessons
15 Minutes	10 Days from School	55 Lessons
20 Minutes	14.5 Days from School	82 Lessons
30 Minutes	22 Days from School	123 Lessons

Please Encourage Punctuality to Maintain Attendance

Attendance highlights from the month of January

During the month of December, the following classes have received certificates for the best class attendance each week and then for the overall month: **Jaguar Class.**

Week beginning	Class	% attendance
01 - 03 February	Jaguar	97.7%
06 - 10 February	Starfish Class	99.69%
20 - 24 February	Caterpillar Class	100%
27 - 28 February	Butterfly Class Pixie Class Jaguar Class	100%
February	Jaguar Class	98.15%

Talking to the teachers.

Please respect the fact that teachers need to be with their classes at the start of the day and should not be distracted by parents. If you have a question or wish to speak to a teacher at length, then please message them via class dojo and arrange to speak to them at the end of the school day once all other children have been dismissed. We appreciate your support.

Safeguarding

Please ensure that you phone and inform the school office staff if you have made an alternative arrangement for someone to collect your child from the school. You must provide their details (name, gender and relationship to you or the child) and also ensure that they know the password. **We will not release your child to anyone who does not know the password.**

Also, if you have changed your mobile number or emergency contact details please make sure they are updated as soon as possible.

Celebrating your child's birthday.

We appreciate that parents will want to acknowledge their child's birthday. **Please be reminded NO SWEETS or CONFECTIONARY!** This is something we have seen a number of parents doing and is in opposition to our aspiration to educate your children to make healthy choices and have good oral hygiene!

We would ask that if you wish to distribute a party pack they contain non-edible items and you hand them yourself to the children as they leave. We have a number of children with life threatening allergies and we wish to avoid compromising their safety. Furthermore, in line with our drive to improve the oral hygiene of the children sweets and confectionary is discouraged.

Alternatively, you could donate a story book to the class with an inscription commemorating your child's special day.

Seminar lessons and parent workshops/meeting spring term 2023.

Thank you for all the parents who have attended and provided really useful feedback which helps to inform our planning of future sessions. Parents from every class have taken the opportunity to attend **EXCEPT – SEA TURTLE CLASS!** It would be good to see representation from parents of pupils of this class at future sessions to be held in the summer term.

Date	Year group	Activity	Time	Arrangements	Venue
Friday 3 rd March	Yr 1	Maths seminar lesson – focused on White Rose teaching of number and calculations.	9 a.m.	Starfish Class	The school hall.
Monday 6 th March	Yr 2	Maths seminar lesson – focused on White Rose teaching of number and calculations.	9 a.m.	Lemur Class	The school hall.
Tuesday 7 th March	Yr 2	Maths seminar lesson – focused on White Rose teaching of number and calculations.	9 a.m.	Chameleon Class	The school hall.
Wednesday 8 th March	Morning Nursery	Maths workshop	9 a.m.- 9.45 a.m.	Caterpillar class	Nursery setting.
Thursday 9 th March	Afternoon Nursery	Maths workshop	1.00-1.45 p.m.	Butterfly class	Nursery setting.
Friday 10 th March	Yr 2	Maths seminar lesson – focused on White Rose teaching of number and	9.10 a.m.	Jaguar Class	The school hall.

		calculations.			
Friday 17 th March	Reception	Mothers' Day Assembly	2.30 p.m.	Fairy/Pixie and Unicorn classes	The school hall.
Monday 20 th March	Yr 1	Meeting to explain the Year 1 phonics screening	9 a.m.	All Year 1 Classes	The school hall.
Tuesday 21 st March	All Year groups	Meeting for all parents on ORACY	9 a.m.	All Year 1 Classes	The school hall.

Spring Term 2023

Last day of term

Friday 31 March (finish at 2 p.m. Reception & 2.15 p.m. KS 1)

A REMINDER THAT WE HAVE A COMPULSARY SCHOOL UNIFORM & PE UNIFORM

It has been noticed that children seem to be coming into school in trainers and other non-black footwear. Please be reminded that there is an expectation that children wear black shoes.

It is parents' responsibility to ensure that their child is wearing the appropriate footwear and school uniform as stipulated in the school prospectus and website.



Also on Wednesday's we require all children in Year 1 and 2 to wear the schools PE uniform which comprises of **Grey joggers (Option of black shorts in the summer) a grey top and black trainers/plimsolls** and **not** their own sportswear. This should not be seen as the school uniform on other days please!



Uniform on Wednesday's only for Years 1 and 2 pupils.

Please remember to make sure and regularly check that your child's name is on all their items including, hats, scarves and gloves.

FREE SCHOOL MEAL ELIGIBILITY CHECK

It is important that parents check their eligibility criteria as a number of parents found themselves to be eligible during lockdown. They were then issued with free school meal vouchers which they could use to purchase food at a supermarket of their choice. It is important that you check as it may be helpful in the event of a second spike!

Parents can check to see if they meet the eligibility criteria by following the instructions below:

Step 1: Login to the following website: <https://pps.lgfl.org.uk> (Free School Meal Eligibility Checker)

Step 2: Click – **Check eligibility**

Step 3: Click – **create an account** (Unless you already have an account in which case you go to return to your account and enter your password)

Step 4: **Create an account**

Step 5: On the drop down menu:

Local authority – select - **Harrow**

School – select – **Kenmore Park Infant & Nursery School HA3 9JA.**

Step 6: Read and accept the privacy notice **by ticking the box at the bottom of the page.**

Step 7: **Enter your details:**

First name

Last name
Your date of birth
Your National Insurance number
Email address
Mobile number
Postcode
Get address: click on your address; house number etc
SUBMIT

Once you have submitted the form you will receive a response in a couple of days confirming your status. If you are eligible, please forward the email to the school on the following email address:
office@kpins.harrow.sch.uk

Job Vacancies

We are looking for casual as and when cleaners: working hours 3.30 – 6 p.m. week days only (**no qualifications** required but experience of cleaning employment desirable).



As and When Lunch time leaders (1 hour 10 minutes per day) – are you able to work flexibly between the hours of 11.30 – 1 p.m. Please visit the school office and request an application form.



As and when SEN support teaching assistants for children that require one to one support from an adult. Some of these children may have complex needs. Hours are flexible and based on the individual child's needs.

School Travel and Parking!

Kenmore Park Infant and Nursery has been awarded the Gold Travel Plan Award for our initiatives and drive to ensure safe and healthy travel to school.

The Awards are an indication of the school's work in this area which has been in recognition of the passion and action taken to support and contribute to the health (both oral and physical) and well-being of our pupils and school community including parents/carers.

Therefore, it is important that parents set a good example and support the school and their children.

We have received numerous complaints from local residents about parents parking in and across their private drive ways. This has resulted in more regular traffic enforcement camera vehicles patrolling the school. A number of you have subsequently received parking fines which could easily be avoided if you simply parked a little away from the school and then walked up Moorhouse or Warneford Road.

We feel very strongly about how children travel to school and encourage all pupils to walk or scooter to school rather than using the car. This is good for their health and also for the environment – helping to reduce carbon dioxide and pollutions which contributes to the increase in the number of pupils suffering from Asthma! A brisk walk or exercise before work is also a good way to get the brain working too!

We have installed designated pods for parking bikes & scooters in different areas of the school for the convenience of parents. We realise that some children live some distance away from the

school and may need to come by car however, we would ask that parents park a little distance away from school and walk/scooter the rest of the route to school.

Help with food

If you are struggling to manage bills and prioritise them over food, then please email the school office and we help by adding you to our weekly food parcel collection list. We will aim to support you sensitively and confidentially. Email the school office – subject ‘ Help with food’ office@kpins.harrow.sch.uk.