

April Parent Newsletter



Monday 17th April 2023

Welcome back

We hope you had a good Easter break and a Happy Easter to all our families celebrating this religious event. Later this half term our Muslim families will be celebrating Eid as the period of Ramadan comes to an end.

What does the summer term have in stall!

This term is a really crucial one as we really start to see children mature and focus on learning. Staff conducted assessments at the end of the spring term and will be using them from the start of the summer term to address any misconceptions and try to work with your children so that they are prepared for the next stage of their learning.

Year 2 pupils will be assessed formally as the statutory assessments are scheduled throughout the month of May and then into early June to give the pupils the best opportunity to demonstrate their true potential. Therefore, it is important that pupils attend school regularly and on time.

We do not tell you or the children when the assessments are taking place as we do not want your or your children to be unnecessarily anxious.

Year 1 staff will be working hard to support the children with their reading and phonics as children in Year 1 will be screened on their phonics knowledge and ability to decode real and psydo words (non-real words).

The reception team will also be assessing the children against the early learning goals.

After half term final judgements will be made and used to write the end of year reports and inform parents/carers on how their child has progressed over the year in line with age related expectation.

URGENT: Polio and MMR Vaccinations for Children Aged 1 to 11 in London

Following detections of polio virus in sewage samples in London in 2022, children aged 1-9 in London were offered an additional booster (or catch-up if not up to date) of the polio vaccine to ensure they were fully protected. Although phase 1 of this campaign enabled



a large volume of vaccinations to be delivered, data from the programme highlights continuing inequities in uptake.

The NHS will be contacting the parents of children who are not fully vaccinated to sign a consent form for school-based vaccinations or book an appointment at their GP practice. However, the situation in London is serious with many children under-vaccinated and unprotected. We are asking for school support in facilitating a school-centric vaccination programme for these children.

We are also keen in helping to raise awareness of the importance of routine childhood vaccinations amongst our school community.

Why not visit nhs.uk/polio for more information about the polio vaccination. Check your child's health record (red book) to see if they are up to date on all their routine immunisations. You can also contact your GP if you have any concerns or questions. If you prefer you can request a catch up vaccination at your GP practice for your child/ren

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 Tuesday 8th May 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!

At the end of every half term we remind 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.

We would 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

Which year group has the best attendance and least number of persistent absentism???

Session Attendance Summary (01 Sep 2022 - 31 Mar 2023)

	Year R2	Year R	Year 1	Year 2	All Years
Attendance	92.11%	92.94%	94.14%	95.56%	94.12%
Authorised	5.40%	6.05%	4.77%	3.78%	4.85%
Unauthorised	2.47%	1.00%	1.09%	0.66%	1.02%
Persistent Absence >=10%	10	24	18	6	58
AEA	0.68%	0.71%	0.24%	0.24%	0.40%
Present	91.43%	92.23%	93.90%	95.33%	93.72%
Lates	0.42%	0.36%	1.09%	0.71%	0.71%

Attendance highlights from the month of March

During the month of March, the following classes have received certificates for the best class attendance each week and then for the overall month: **Chameleon Class (Yr 2).**

Week beginning	Class	% attendance
01 - 03 March	Starfish	100%

06 - 10 March	Chameleon	98.7%
13 -17	Chameleon	97.9%
20 - 24 March	Lemur	98.6%
27 - 31 March	Dolphin	97.3%
March	Chameleon Class	97.4%

Safeguarding and school attendance.

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.

Attendance also falls under the category of safeguarding, so if there are concerns about your child's persistent attendance we are duty bound to make a referral to children services as this is potentially a safeguarding concern. Historical evidence and serious case review have highlighted how children have been abused and kept absent from school allowing time for them to recover from any visible signs of abuse.

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.

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 summer term 2023.

During the first two terms of the school year we have hosted some 33 seminar lessons. Parent workshops, stay and play sessions. Thank you to all the parents that have attended and provided positive feedback. This is a unique quality at KPINS that other school do not offer their parents.

This term our focus turns toward preparing you and your child for the next phase of their learning. This term, opportunities will be provided for parents to attend seminar lesson in the year group their child will be transitioning into from September 2023. Our intention is to provide you with a taster or what is to come for your child and the increased demands and curriculum expectations. We will also be sharing with you how you can help to support your child in preparation for the next stage of their learning journey.

Date	Year group	Activity	Time	Arrangements	Venue
Thursday 18 th May	All year groups	Parents Coffee morning	9 a.m.	Educational Mental Health lead session.	Infant Classroom
Week beginning 19 th June	Reception & Year 1	Maths transition seminar lesson	9 a.m.	Details to follow.	The school hall.
Week beginning 26 th June	Reception & Year 1	English transition seminar lesson	9 a.m.	Details to follow.	The school hall.

Summer Term 2023

First day of school

Half term

Back to school

INSET DAY (Children not in school)

Last day of term

Monday 17 April

Monday 29 May – Friday 2 June

Monday 5 June

Friday 23 June (Infant School ONLY)

Friday 21 July (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.