

November Parent Newsletter



Friday 3rd November 2023

Eventful start to the school year!

Our new reception intake has made a positive start to their compulsory schooling following the phased induction.

We would like to thank the parents that supported their autumn walk which the children really enjoyed and helped to enrich their curriculum and learning experiences.

Over the coming year we hope to share more photographs of the children's learning experiences.



This months message from our Harrow Schools Counselling partnership – Therapeutic Lead Christine.

Reconnecting time

Children naturally look to their parents for nurturing and guidance, especially in the current climate we find ourselves in. It is a stressful and anxious time for most people and sometimes we forget to reconnect with our children, asking how they feel or just opening conversation about their day, allowing time to reconnect with each other. Maybe we have forgotten how we feel ourselves, have you had 5 minutes to check in with your feelings today? Take a few breaths, pause, and ask yourself how you are doing today.



How can parents help? Try to spend half an hour of **Special Time** one to one every day (or as often as you can). This seems so simple that most parents under-estimate the impact. Take it in turns to talk and to listen, maybe engage in an activity that is fun! It does not always have to be just talking, reconnecting is about finding ways to enjoy the time together, it might bring a smile to your face, embrace the fun.

Sometimes we could all do with someone to talk to. If you would like to meet Christine to have a confidential and non-judgemental chat about you, your child, or any other worries, she is available on Wednesday at 9 -10 a.m. **You can call/text Christine on 07799-030410 or email her at christine@schools counsellingpartnership.co.uk**

Zero Tolerance to Abusive Behaviour – We are a Rights Respecting School !

We have a zero tolerance approach to rude and threatening behaviour from parents towards each other or our staff. Where such behaviour is reported to the school leadership, we will look to meet with the parents and make it clear that this is unacceptable. Such action will not be tolerated, we have the powers to ban parent/carers from the school site, furthermore we will not hesitate to report their threatening behaviour to the police.

Unfortunately, it has been disappointing to hear that some parents have been taking it upon themselves to reprimand children in the playground at the start and end of the day – if there are any issues between children on the school site they should be reported to the class teacher or leadership team to deal with thus avoiding animosity between parents.

Please remember that more can be resolved without aggression and by discussion in a reasoned manner we are here to help and support!

We pride ourselves on being a rights respecting school and therefore, expect all our school community – staff, pupils and parents to adhere to our expectations.

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. In line with safeguarding we will not release your child into the care of a minor (anyone under the age of 18 years), so please do not send older high school siblings to collect your child from school.

If you arrange for another adult to collect your child from school – phone ahead and inform the school or inform the class teacher at drop off in the morning, ensure that you provide them with their details (name, gender and relationship to your 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.

Nourish new menu from the 30th October 2023.

Please check the school website for the new menu from the 30th October we have liaised with our caterers and taken on board the feedback and the recipe suggestions sent in by parents when working the Nourish to design this biannual menu. We asked them to highlight those food items suitable for our Vegetarian pupils and also those who require a special Jain diet. They have done that so please check it and talk to your child about what the food choice is for them each day.

OCT 23 TO MAR 24

Some of our schools may use pre-washed potatoes or vegetables on occasions. These may contain additives and coloring. Please discuss with your manager.

Recycling school uniforms.

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. We will keep the container for old uniforms in the playground permanently so please keep decluttering and dropping items into the box as and when you can.

Strong reminder about the expectations of school attendance.

We would like to remind you that from September 2023 the government have placed a higher expectation on pupil's attendance and school monitoring to ensure regular school attendance in line with Keeping Children Safe in Education.

All pupils are expected to attend school regularly and on time. The school takes a hard line on any absences in line with the Local Authority AIM policy. Since the school term commenced we have already held numerous meetings with parents about school attendance and lateness and liaised with the Court attendance officers, referring families to the Pre-court panels who discuss cases and consider legal action which could result in custodial sentences for parent/carers!

5 non-consecutive unauthorised absences during a term can result in an educational penalty notice (EPN). Where an absence is not authorised due to non-attendance 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 21 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.

Persistent absenteeism is deemed; any pupil whose attendance falls below 10%. Where concerns about a child's attendance starts to fall below the expected national and school threshold of 95% the school will write to parents to keep them updated and provide an opportunity to work to improve the attendance, request support by booking an appointment to discuss the reason for the absences, share evidence to validate the rates of absence.

Our first action will be to try and offer support but if there is no improvement we will be required to refer the case to the LA and potentially issue fines and notices to the courts under the remit of safeguarding.

Dates for your diary.

What is coming up?

This term we aim to host some meetings, workshops and seminar lessons for parents of pupils across the school.

Date	Year group	Activity	Time	Arrangements	Venue
Wednesday 3 rd November	Nursery	Learning through play		A Morning and afternoon session for each class.	In the Nursery
Week beginning 6 th November	Reception	Parent meetings	3.45 – 5.15 p.m.	Reception parents meetings – parents to sign up for a time slot over the week 6 th – 9 th November	Child's Classroom
Monday 6 th November	Flamingo Class	Literacy parent workshop with a focus upon	9 a.m.	Details to be confirmed in the invitation letter.	School hall

		Reading.			
Monday 6 th November	Lemur Class	Story telling seminar	2.40 p.m.	Lemur class parents only	School hall.
Tuesday 7 th November	Chameleon Class	Story telling seminar	2.40 p.m.	Chameleon class parents only	School hall.
Tuesday 7 th November	Years 1 & 2	Author in school	3.30 p.m.	Author book signing and purchase of book at the end of the school day	TBC
Thursday 9 th November	Penguin Class	Literacy parent workshop with a focus upon Reading.	9 a.m.	Details to be confirmed in the invitation letter.	School hall
Thursday 9 th November	Jaguar Class	Story telling seminar	2.50 p.m.	Chameleon class parents only	School hall.
Friday 10 th November	Peacock Class	Literacy parent workshop with a focus upon Reading.	9 a.m.	Details to be confirmed in the invitation letter.	School hall
Monday 13 th November	All year groups	Odd Sock Day in aid of the Anti- Bullying Alliance – children donate a minimum of £1.		Anti – bullying week Details to follow.	
Tuesday 14 th November	Year 1 & 2	Literacy parent meeting led by the School Reading lead focused on Phonics – Little Wandle.	9 a.m.	Details to be confirmed in the invitation letter.	School hall.
Wednesday 15 th November	Nursery-Caterpillar Class	Parent workshop with a focus on Personal, emotional and Social skills (PSE)		Details to be confirmed in the invitation letter.	Nursery
Wednesday 15 th November	Nursery-Butterfly Class	Parent workshop with a focus on Personal, emotional and Social skills (PSE)		Details to be confirmed in the invitation letter.	Nursery
Monday 20 th November	Flamingo Class	Reception parents Maths workshop – focused on number	9 a.m.	Details to be confirmed in the invitation letter.	School hall.
Thursday 23 rd November	Penguin Class	Reception parents Maths	9 a.m.	Details to be confirmed in the invitation letter.	School hall.

		workshop – focused on number			
Friday 24 th November	Peacock Class	Reception parents Maths workshop – focused on number	9 a.m.	Details to be confirmed in the invitation letter.	School hall.
Tuesday 28 th November	Year 2	African Drumming Parent Concert for parents	TBC	Class teacher invite via class dojo nearer the time.	In the school hall.
Tuesday 4 th November	All Reception	ICT workshop		Virtual meeting	
Wednesday 6 th December	Nursery – Caterpillar Class	Focus on Fine motor skills development	TBC	Details to be confirmed in the invitation letter.	Nursery
Thursday 7 th December	Nursery – Butterfly Class	Focus on Fine motor skills development	TBC	Details to be confirmed in the invitation letter.	Nursery
Friday 8 th December	Year 1	Church visit as part of their Statutory RE curriculum	p.m.		
Monday 11 th December	All Year groups	Christmas production performances for parents with young children in buggies.	a.m. p.m.	Details to be confirmed in the invitation letter.	School Hall.
Tuesday 12 th December	All Year groups	Christmas production performances for ADULTS ONLY NO CHILDREN	a.m. p.m.	Details to be confirmed in the invitation letter.	School Hall.
Tuesday 19 th December	Year 1 & 2	Children attending Christmas Pantomime at Harrow Arts Centre	p.m.	Weduc payment and booking information to follow.	Harrow Art Centre

November is Cut Your Carbon month!

Eco-Schools is challenging all young people in England to take action on their carbon footprint. Completing these 9 simple actions with families and friends will raise awareness, change behaviours, and Cut Your Carbon - a greenhouse gas responsible for driving climate change.



So grab a magnet, stick this sheet on your fridge, and get going... the time to act is now!

1. **Make at least one journey more sustainable.** Transport is responsible for around 20% of global CO₂ emissions. So how about turning a car-ride to school into a bus-ride to school? Or perhaps a bus to the shops could become a bike to the shops?
2. **Go meat-free for a day.** Farmed animals are responsible for around 14% of the world's greenhouse gas emissions, so choose a day to go meat-free and discover how delicious cutting carbon can be. As an extra challenge, try going entirely plant-based for the day (meaning no dairy or eggs either) or attempt a meat-free day each week during November.
3. **Have a no food-waste weekend.** Prepare only what is needed, eat everything edible on your plate, and ensure any leftovers are saved for another time or used to create a new meal. Growing, processing, and transporting food releases greenhouse gases into the atmosphere, and even more gases are released if this food is binned and sent to landfill.
4. **Turn down the heating by 1° for a week** Heating is the biggest source of CO₂ emissions in many homes. Dropping your heating 1° below your usual temperature for a week can reduce your carbon footprint and save your family money. You could even go further and commit to 18° for a week, as recommended by the World Health Organization.
5. **Design a flight free holiday.** Flying is bad for our planet, so for this challenge, we're asking you to appreciate exciting destinations closer to home – sit with your family and decide on a future trip you'd like to take that doesn't involve flying. This might be to visit Stonehenge in Wiltshire, try surfing in Cornwall, or go hiking in the Lake District.
6. **Say 'no' to a new item.** Write a list of every non-essential item you bought, or that was bought for you, last month and categorise each - e.g., clothing, toys, cosmetics. Choose a category and commit to not purchasing any items in this category for a month, because every item you buy has a carbon footprint.
7. **Donate something you no longer need.** Manufacturing new items releases carbon into the atmosphere. For example, producing a book releases about 1kg CO₂, a t-shirt 7kg, and an iPhone, a whopping 60kg! Passing on things you no longer need is a great way to prevent emissions, so, swap a book with a friend, donate clothing that doesn't fit to charity, or pass on an unused device to a relative.
8. **Substitute 4 baths for 4 showers and limit them to 4 minutes.** Swapping a bath for a 4-minute shower can use up to 44 litres less water, saving the energy required to clean, transport, and heat this water. We recommend using a 4-minute song as a timer that you can sing-along to!
9. **Share carbon-cutting advice with someone.** To conquer climate change, we all need to work together, so share three pieces of carbon-cutting advice with people you know. You might remind a brother or sister not to waste food, challenge a grandparent to time their shower or share a plant-based recipe on social media. Don't forget to add #CutYourCarbon to your posts.

Parent Governor Vacancy

Dear Parents and Carers,

Kenmore Park Infant and Nursery school has one vacancy on its governing body. We are looking to appoint one new parent Governor to join our Governing Body. The individual needs to have an interest in representing the parents' 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 uploaded on the governor hub 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 the end of the month ensuring you have details of nominees completed. Where there is more than one application we will hold a ballot.

All nominations should be sent in to the school office by **9.00 a.m. Friday 17th November 2023**.

Autumn Term 2023

Last day of term

Thursday 21 December (finish at 2.00 p.m.
Reception pupils and 2.15 p.m. Year 1 & 2)

Please note there is no afternoon Nursery class on Thursday 21 December 2023.

Spring Term 2024

First day of school

Monday 8 January

INSET DAY (Children not in school)

Friday 19 January

Half term

Monday 12 February– Friday 16 February

Back to school

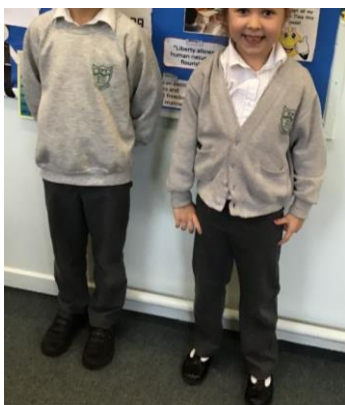
Monday 19 February

INSET DAY (Children not in school)

Friday 23 February

A REMINDER THAT - COMPULSORY SCHOOL UNIFORM & PE UNIFORM CONVENES FROM SEPTEMBER!

Please be reminded that the school takes a hard line regarding compliance with the school uniform. It is parents' responsibility to ensure that their child is wearing the school uniform as stipulated in the school prospectus and website. 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 uniform can also be worn for



PE lessons, in line with their class timetables, on days other than Wednesday. All Uniform orders can be made via the Weduc App at the school shop.

It has been noted since the start of the school term that a number of children are not wearing the appropriate clothing and black shoes. Please respect the school's policy and practice by ensuring your child comes to school in the correct uniform. We thank you in advance for your support and compliance.

Girls may wear Black or Grey Trousers too.
White socks or grey tights
Boys' black or grey socks.

Summer dress from April – July only



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.lqfl.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

School Travel

Kenmore Park Infant and Nursery has been awarded the Early Years Healthy School Gold Award and has also been accredited as a Gold Award School for its work on its School Travel Plans. This means that the school's work in this area has been recognised for how passionate we are about actions which support and contribute to the health and well-being of our pupils and school community including parents/carers.

We feel very strongly about how children travel to school and encourage all pupils to walk or scoot 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!

We have 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 the rest of the route to school.

As an incentive for children who walk we promote Walk on Wednesdays – 'WOW'. Children who walk to school every Wednesday of each month and we reward the class with the most children walking on a Wednesday at the end of the month. We look forward to your support with this initiative.



IMPORTANT SCHOOL ADMISSIONS INFORMATION

CHILDREN WHO ARE DUE TO START IN PRIMARY SCHOOL IN SEPTEMBER 2024

PRIMARY SCHOOL CHILDREN BORN BETWEEN 1 SEPTEMBER 2019 AND 31 AUGUST 2020	SECONDARY SCHOOL CHILDREN BORN BETWEEN 1 SEPTEMBER 2012 AND 31 AUGUST 2013
<p>You need to apply for a reception place. Please apply:</p> <p>❖ Online at www.eadmissions.org.uk</p> <p>CLOSING DATE FOR APPLICATIONS IS 15 JANUARY 2024</p>	<p>You need to apply to transfer to secondary school. Please apply:</p> <p>❖ Online at www.eadmissions.org.uk</p> <p>CLOSING DATE FOR APPLICATIONS IS 31 OCTOBER 2023</p> <p>We strongly recommend that you submit your secondary application by Friday 20 October 2023, as this is the Friday before the half term holiday.</p>
<p>APPLYING ONLINE. IS EASY AND YOU GET AN INSTANT ACKNOWLEDGEMENT THAT YOUR APPLICATION HAS BEEN RECEIVED. YOU WILL ALSO RECEIVE AN EMAIL WITH THE OUTCOME OF YOUR APPLICATION ON OFFER DAY.</p> <p>For details go to www.harrow.gov.uk/schooladmissions</p> <p>For help and advice on how to complete your application please email schooladmissions@harrow.gov.uk</p>	

JOB VACANCIES

As and when cleaner: 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 website (complete the non-teaching application) or school office and request a paper version of the application form.

