

December Parent Newsletter



Monday 2nd December 2024

Christmas is coming!!!! The run up to Christmas
















This half term will continue to be busy with the run up to Christmas. Staff are now rehearsing and preparing the children for the annual whole school Christmas production which we know parents/carers look forward to and love attending. Tickets will go on sale via Weduc from Monday 2nd December so please purchase your tickets to avoid disappointment. Please note each parent is entitled to book 2 tickets for either 2 seats or a buggy space and one seat, be aware if you book a buggy space you will be charged and will only be entitled to one other seat (your two tickets). Under health and safety, we are only permitted to accommodate 100 seats/spaces in the hall.

Make sure that you note the **dates of the performances** and book for the correct performance. Tuesday is an adult only performance so no children. Buggies or babies will not be permitted to attend. The performance will last about 90 minutes (finish around 11 a.m. or 3 p.m.) so make sure you do not book appointments or have to leave early as once the doors are closed you will not be permitted to leave until the end of the performance.

Date	Time	Audience
Monday 9 th December	a.m. & p.m. (times to be confirmed closer to the date)	Adults with children (Please note there will be a charge for a buggy space which counts as one of your two ticket entitlement)
Tuesday 10 th December	a.m. ONLY	ADULT ONLY PERFORMANCE – NO CHILDREN or buggies!!!

Promoting a love of reading at KPINS

Our drive to promote a love of reading continues this year and I am really proud to announce that the names of the children who have received books last month:

			
Emmanuel & Aarvee from Year 1	Dhwiti, Kevin and Tilak from Year 1	Salome from Year 1	Krisha and Emanuel from Year 1
			
Delia, Iulian and Anisa from Year 1	Harshiv, Eliza and David from Year 1	Viaan, Avni and Levi from Year 1	
			
Alexandru, Antonio & Tanaya from Year 2	Kunj, Matthew and Emanuela from Year 2	Aya, Damaris and Elizabeth from Yr 2	Gabriel, Divit and Albert from Year 2
			
Elias and Areena from Year 2	Yusef, Sara and Aahana from Year 2	Lalah from Year 2	Kriyaan and David C from Year 2

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



We have a zero tolerance approach to rude and threatening behaviour from parent/carers 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.

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.

Governors approved a code of conduct for parents which is attached for your information at the end of this newsletter.

Our Harrow Schools Counselling partnership – Therapeutic Lead Christine.

We will resume sharing with you our weekly newsletter from our Therapeutic Lead with useful topics which I know a number of you found useful last year.

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

Recycling school uniforms.

Please continue to support us by recycling good condition school uniforms as your child grows out of them or if you are leaving us. 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.

Celebrating school attendance in November

During the month of **November**, 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
04 - 08 November	Jaguar	100%
11 – 15 November	Caterpillar class	100%
18 – 22 November	Flamingo class	99.2%
25 – 29 November	Lemur	98.6%
November	Jaguar	97.7%

Attendance reminder as the school holiday season is upon us.

The school term ends on Friday 20th December at 2 p.m. for reception pupils and 2.15 p.m. for KS1 and not sooner. Please ensure that you do not make any plans to travel prior to the end of the term as you could be issued with an Educational Penalty Notice. Please note that unauthorised absences over the term can be collated to make up the 5 days they do not have to be consecutive.

The school reopens on Monday 6th January 2025 and we expect all pupils to be back to resume the curriculum and their learning.

Why Attendance Matters?



Did you know?

The law in this country states that:

Parents have a legal duty to secure an education for their child of compulsory school age whether at school or otherwise (section 7 of The Education Act 1996)

If a child of compulsory school age who is a registered pupil at a school, fails to attend regularly at the school, a parent is guilty of an offence (section 444 of the Education Act 1996).

TERM TIME LEAVE not permitted! A reminder with the run up to Christmas and also expectations that children return to school ready for the start of the Spring term on Monday 6th January 2025!!!

Parental Prosecution

Education Act 1996

- Section 444 (*non attendance*) Parents are liable for prosecution for "failing to secure the regular attendance at school of a registered pupil"
- Under the *absolute offence* (level 3) the parent can be found guilty even if they state that they are unaware the child is not attending
- Under the *aggravated offence* (level 4) the prosecution needs to show that the parent was aware of the poor attendance and did nothing about it. This offence carries the possibility of a custodial sentence.
- Section 443 SAO (*failure to comply with a School Attendance Order stating where they should enrol their child at school*)

Fixed Penalty Notices

The Anti-Social Behaviour Act 2003+ The Education Act 1996

Local Authorities have the power to issue penalty notices in cases where parents or carers are considered capable of but unwilling to ensure their child's attendance at school.



Penalty notices – New National Threshold

The new National Framework for Penalty Notices, the following changes will come into force for Penalty Notice Fines issued after 19th August 2024.

Per Parent, Per Child

Penalty Notice Fines will now be issued to each parent, for each child that was absent.

For example: 2 siblings with unauthorised absence during term time may result in each parent being issued with one penalty notice per child.

10 sessions of unauthorised absence in a 10-week period

Penalty Notice Fines will be considered when there has been 10 sessions (5 days) of unauthorised absence in a 10 week period.

First Offence

The first time a Penalty Notice is issued for Term Time Leave or Irregular Attendance, the amount will be:

£160 per parent, per child, paid within 28 days.

Reduced to £80 per parent, per child, if paid within 21 days.

Second Offence

(within 3 years from the date of
issue of first penalty notice)

The second time a Penalty Notice is issued for Term Time Leave or Irregular Attendance, the amount will be:

£160 per parent, per child paid within 28 days.

Third Offence

(within 3 years from the date of
issue of first penalty notice)

The third time an offence is committed for Term Time Leave or Irregular Attendance, a Penalty Notice will not be issued, and the case will be presented straight to the Magistrates' Court. Magistrates' fines can be up to £2500 per parent, per child.

This is a criminal offence and a parent may end up with a criminal record.

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. Monday 16th December 2024.**

Please note below the school term dates and holidays.

These are shared in the monthly newsletter and can be found on the school website. Therefore, there is no excuse for any parent to claim they are not aware when making requests for leave which needs to be avoided during term time.

School Term dates 2024-2025

Autumn Term 2024

Last day of term

Friday 20 December (finish at 2 p.m. Reception & 2.15 p.m. KS 1)

Spring Term 2025

First day of school

Monday 6 January

INSET DAY (Children not in school)

Friday 17 January

Half term

Monday 17 February– Friday 21 February

Back to school

Monday 24 February

INSET DAY (Children not in school)

Friday 28 February

Last day of term

Friday 4 April (finish at 2 p.m. Reception & 2.15 p.m. KS 1)

Summer Term 2025

First day of school

Tuesday 22 April

INSET DAY (Children not in school)

Friday 2nd May

Half term

Monday 26 May – Friday 30 May

Back to school

Monday 2 June

INSET DAY (Children not in school)

Friday 20 June **(Infant School ONLY)**

Last day of term

Tuesday 22 July (finish at 2 p.m. Reception & 2.15 p.m. KS 1)



A REMINDER OF OUR COMPULSARY SCHOOL UNIFORM & PE UNIFORM

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.

During the summer term pupils permitted to wear the following:

Girls may wear Black or Grey Trousers too.

White socks or grey tights

Boys' black or grey socks.

Summer dress from April – July only



The following information will help you plan for forthcoming events and plan your diaries. (please note there may be times when dates have to be changed due to unforeseen circumstances)

LAST Parental Engagement Session for the Autumn term 2024.

Our parental engagement sessions will resume again in the New Year so look out for the January newsletter for details.

Date	Year group	Activity	Time	Arrangements	Venue
Monday 2 nd December	Reception	Parents workshop focused on ICT		On line link will be sent to parents via Class Dojo.	Virtual
Wednesday 4 th December	Nursery	Parents workshop focused on – fine motor skills.	9 a.m. 1 p.m.	Morning Nursery Afternoon Nursery	Nursery

FREE SCHOOL MEAL ELIGIBILITY CHECK worth checking as the government continue to give food vouchers during the holidays!

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

School Travel

At Kenmore Park Infant and Nursery as a Gold Award Healthy School, we feel very strongly about how children travel to school and encourage all pupils to walk or scoot to school rather than travelling by 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. For the most WOW in the month of November the award goes to **Chameleon class**.



JOB VACANCIES

We are still in need of As and when staff for the following posts:



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.



As and When SEN Teaching Assistants required from September 2024:

Hours are based on the needs of the child.

Please visit the school website (complete the non-teaching application) or school office and request a paper version of the application form. Clearly indicate the post you are applying for and demonstrate in your supporting statement how you are able to meet the person specification.

Parking

Complaints from local residents continue - Residents report they **have not given permission** to any parents to park in front of their drive ways. A number of the residents have shared they have life threatening medical conditions which require them to have immediate, emergency access to their drive ways – so please respect their wishes and if no spaces near the school are available – park and walk, the exercise is good for everyone.



Dog Fouling in our area.

Last year our School Council members wrote to the Local MP and portfolio holder for safer and clean streets and have also been proactive in displaying posters around the school to ask residents to respect their right to a safe and clean route to school. We would urge parents to report dog fouling to the council as well and hopefully shouting together will lead to more action being taken.

<https://www.gov.uk/report-dog-fouling>



IMPORTANT SCHOOL ADMISSIONS INFORMATION

CHILDREN WHO ARE DUE TO START IN PRIMARY SCHOOL IN SEPTEMBER 2025

CHILDREN BORN BETWEEN 1 SEPTEMBER 2020 AND 31 AUGUST 2021

You need to apply for a reception place. Please apply online at www.eadmissions.org.uk

**CLOSING DATE FOR APPLICATIONS IS
FRIDAY 11 JANUARY 2025**

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.

For details go to www.harrow.gov.uk/schooladmissions

For help and advice on how to complete your application please email schooladmissions@harrow.gov.uk

Are you putting your children's life at risk and also breaking the law?

In the last month we the Police have identified a number of parents driving without ensuring their child/ren are securely seated in a car seat with a seat belt on. This is an offense and you could be fined?

You can be fined £500 if a child under 14 years old isn't in the correct car seat, or, if over 135cm tall, wearing a seat belt whilst you are driving.

We have also been informed of parent/carers leaving children sitting in a vehicle with the engine running while they popped onto the school grounds to collect children from their classes. Please be mindful of the consequences of such actions!

The law states: There is no specific fine for leaving a child unattended in a car in the UK, but the person responsible could be charged with neglect or endangerment if the child is put at risk. The maximum penalty for neglect is 14 years in jail if death occurs.

Please put your child/ren's well-being first and take the extra bit of time to ensure that you are not leaving children unsupervised by an adult in any vehicle and that children are securely fastened into a car seat before your manoeuvre.