



Kenmore Park Infant & Nursery School



Friday 25th September 2026

Parent Newsletter



A word from the Head Teacher:

Dear Parents and Carers,

Wow, it feels like we have been back at school for longer than just three weeks as we plough on with the amazing things we do here.

Reception and Nursery children have been getting used to being in school and they are doing really well especially the Reception children at lunchtimes who have taken to this brilliantly and with the minimum of fuss. I have been spending time in the lunch hall every day to ensure they are settling in well and they seem so independent already so well done to the children and the amazing staff team who are all giving up parts of their lunchtime to help with this.

Year 1 have settled in really well with their new teachers all full of praise for how well they are behaving and coping with the increased demands of the Year 1 curriculum. Phonics programmes are already in full swing and we are expecting them to do really well by the end of the year when we conduct the National phonics screening.

We are also expecting a lot of the Year 2 children as they are now the top of the school and we fully expect them to set an example for all the younger children to follow especially when walking around school and when they are in assembly. I am glad to say that mostly they are beginning to step up to this expectation.

African drumming starts for the Year 2 children this week and I am really looking forward to seeing them engage in this activity.

Thank you to all those parents who turned up for the Year 1 and Year 2 welcome parents afternoons last week. It was great to see so many of you there to support the teachers and

your children and to get to know what we will expecting of and offering the children this year in Key Stage 1.

Next week the parent seminar example lessons will start and I urge you to come along to these (SEE DATES BELOW) as these are always hugely popular because it gives parents the opportunity to see what and how we teach children in key areas such as maths, phonics, reading and writing. Please do not miss this opportunity.

I hope whatever you are doing this weekend you enjoy spending time with your children and please stay safe and well and I look forward to seeing you all again next week.

My very best wishes,

Steve Davies (Head Teacher)

Dates for your diary for the rest of this year:

This term is a long one and as ever, there is so much to do. I have listed some of the key dates below so that you can be fully prepared for what is coming up:

Please note below the school term dates and holidays.

These are shared in the BI-weekly 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.

The 2026/2027 term dates can be found on the school website. So make sure you check them out before making any travel arrangements.

Autumn Term 2026

First day of school	Thursday 3 rd September
Half term-	Monday 26th to Friday 30th October
Back to school	Monday 2 nd November
Last day of term	Friday 18th December (finish at 2 p.m. Reception & 2.15 p.m. KS 1)*
Back to school	Monday 4 th January 2027

***NB: Reception finish at 2 p.m. and years 1 & 2 (KS 1) will finish at 2.15 p.m. on the last day of each term. This does not apply to half term holidays.**

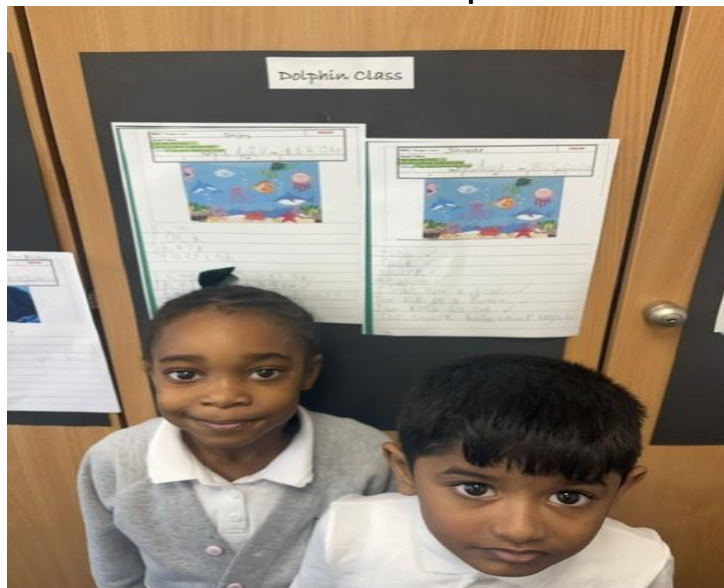
There is no afternoon nursery session on the last day of each term due to the early finish time. Please note there is NO school on Bank Holiday.

Key School Events for parents-not to be missed:

Date:	Event	Times:
Tuesday 15 th September	Year 1 parents welcome meeting	3.45-4.30pm in school hall
Wednesday 16 th September	Year 2 parents welcome meeting	3.45-4.30pm in school hall
Monday 5 th October	Story telling seminar for Dolphin Class parents	2.30pm in school hall
Tuesday 6 th October	Story telling seminar for Sea Turtle Class parents	2.30pm in school hall
Thursday 8 th October	Story telling seminar for Octopus Class parents	2.30pm in school hall
Monday 12 th October	English workshop on phonics Robin Class parents.	9am in school hall
Monday 12 th October	Year 1 assembly to parents	1.05pm in school hall
Tuesday 13 th October	English workshop on phonics Robin Class parents.	9am in school hall
Tuesday 13 th October	KS 1 parents meet the teacher for target setting	3.45-5.30pm
Thursday 15 th October	English workshop on phonics Robin Class parents.	9am in school hall
Thursday 15 th October	KS 1 parents meet the teacher for target setting	4pm-7pm
Monday 19 th October	Year 2 assembly for parents	1.05pm in school hall
Tuesday 20 th October	Math's works shop for KS 1 parents	9am in school hall
Thursday 22 nd October	English workshop for KS 1 parents	9am in

		school hall
Friday 23 rd October	KS 1 achievement assembly to invited parents	1.05pm
LAST day of half term		

Here are the writers of the week for the Year 1 classes who are quite rightly, very proud of their writing which is being displayed in my office for the whole of next week. I am so proud of them all:



Sea Turtle Class



Octopus Class.

Attendance reminder

This half term the school LA Attendance Liaison Officer will be visiting the school to review attendance data and scrutinising the attendance of those children whose attendance has:

- a) Not improved since notice given earlier in the year based on the autumn term review.
- b) Fallen or continues to be below 90% as these children will be deemed persistent absentees and track to see if this is a historical pattern.

Letters will be sent out to parents expecting improvements to be made and attendance contracts drawn up in some cases.

Where improvements are not made – referrals may be made to the pre-court panel particularly if attendance issues are historical.

We would like to ensure that none of our parents are required to attend court or threatened with prosecution due to issues relating to their child's attendance so please work with us to ensure good attendance and learning outcomes which are closely related!

We appreciate that we have recently experienced an outbreak of Chicken Pox across the school. However, like any other absence it is important to provide medical evidence and bring your child to the school office prior to their return to check that their spots have dried up, they are no longer contagious and fit to return to school.

We are also mindful that there is another outbreak of Measles hitting London boroughs and impacting schools. This is a preventable virus if children are vaccinated against it. We encourage parent/carers to take measure to ensure that their children are protected from unnecessarily ailments which have a negative impact on health, attendance and learning.

I would like to remind parents of the exceptional leave criteria. Exceptional leave is absence that is necessary in an emergency and usually immediately on the day or as close to the day the leave request is made. All evidence provided must substantiate the request. Exceptional leave does not include time off to attending family and friend events abroad (which is a choice) or medical treatments that could be accessed here in the UK. Where parents have made decisions to travel and take their child out of school we ask parents to make an appointment to discuss their plans prior to making any bookings so that parents are made aware of the implications of their decisions.

Where leave is taken during the term time it is unlikely to be approved and could result in an educational penalty notice – FINE of a minimum of £80 per child per parent.

We have noticed patterns of attendance falling particularly prior to or immediately after a school holiday – please ensure that you make arrangements to travel during school holiday time and not during term time. Outward bound and inward bound bookings should demonstrate intention to travel and return before the school resumes after travel during a school holiday.

Due to the increase in the number of parents travelling during the school holidays and then claiming their child/ren or they then become too sick to travel back in time for the start of the school, the school will not be approving this leave (it will be recorded as unauthorised). Overseas medical evidence will not be accepted. We are not obliged to accept medical evidence from abroad. Unfortunately, it has come to light that too many parents are using this as an excuse to extend their time abroad and a consistent approach will be applied.

The law has changed; you **do not** need to have 5 consecutive days of absence to qualify for a penalty notice an aggregate of any unauthorised absence during a set period provided they total 5 or more days can result in fines.

Also please note any absences during the last week prior to a school holiday will need to be evidenced in line with the LA absence procedures. You will be required to have your child's sickness checked by the school welfare, so the child will need to be brought into school and the welfare Miss Nubuor will check to see if the child is fit to be in school or not. Alternatively, medical evidence will need to be requested from a GP in the form of a print out of the in person consultation (not over the phone) and proof of any medication prescribed. We have also been informed by the Court Attendance Officer to also check the child's passport on their return

to school as evidence that they have not travelled and used sickness absence as an excuse.

Please be reminded that a fine to parents must be considered if a child misses 5 days of school for unauthorised absence. The cost for the **fine is £80** (per parent) **if paid within 21 days** and **£160 if paid in 28 days**. If a second fine is issued within a 36-month period, it will start at £160 per parent.

Note that every time your child is absent from school they are missing an average of 5 lessons per day. Over a school week that amounts to over 25 lessons missed

TERM TIME LEAVE not permitted! Exceptional circumstances mean exceptional!

Religious leave in line with the Harrow SACRE Calendar only.

Honesty is the best policy!

Please note the guidance on sickness absence that can be authorised below with evidence to support it.

Should I Keep My Child off School?



A REMINDER OF OUR COMPULSORY 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



Useful website:

Please find below link to the Bell Foundation website which provides translated guidance for parents on the education system in the UK and the expectations.

<https://www.bell-foundation.org.uk/resources/guidance/parental-involvement/guidance-for-parents-english-education-system/>

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

IMPORTANT REMINDER:

If you do not wish for your child's photograph to be shared in the monthly newsletter please send an email to the school office: office@kpins.harrow.sch.uk subject: reading vending machine pictures, Stating: I wish for my child to opt out of having their image shared in the monthly newsletter if they receive a free reading book from the reading vending machine.

If we do not hear from you, we will assume you are happy to allow your child's picture to be shared and uploaded onto the school website too as part of the monthly newsletter!

Reminder about Parking

We continue to receive complaints from local residents - Residents report parents persistently blocking their drive ways and confirm that at no time have they **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.



A Parent Governor vacancy open.

The governing bodies of the two schools are looking to recruit a Parent Governor from either school to join the newly formed federated Governing Body from September. Therefore, if you are interested in becoming a parent governor **please visit the school office for a nomination form** or email office@kpins.harrow.sch.uk with subject – Parent Governor nomination form and we will email you one out to you.

Please enjoy a safe and restful weekend with your children and I look forward to seeing you and them, next week for another action packed, fun-filled week at KPINS.

Very best wishes,

MR S Davies



