Kenmore Park Infant & Nursery School

Friday 23rd October 2026

Parent Newsletter



A word from the Head Teacher:

Dear Parents,

This is the last newsletter of the first half term and how that time has just flown by. I cannot believe we are in late October and the children and teachers are all looking forward to a well-earned rest having worked really hard this half term.

Our nursery and Reception children have settled in really well and it seems like they have been here for longer than just 7 and a half weeks. The Reception children have all been completing their baseline assessment tasks with their teachers and have done really well.

Next half term we are running a lot of events for parents so please check out the dates and times for these below as there are many assemblies, workshop seminars in both Maths and Literacy (which are not to be missed) and coffee mornings to make a note of.

It is also the run up to Christmas and please do not miss the Christmas performances that we are putting on towards the end of the term this year as they will be spectacular.

Unfortunately, due to safeguarding concerns we have made the decision as a school to no longer produce any pictures of our children on our website. This is because of fears around the use of AI and the danger that this poses to us as a school in terms of what we can produce on our website. I am glad to say that I will still be producing pictures of those children whose parents have given permission, in the newsletter that is sent to you via weduc. So our readers and writers of the week in each year group will still be celebrated as they should be, for their amazing efforts in school.

Huge thank you to all the parents who attended the Year 2 assembly on Monday and I am sure those of you who did attend thought it was amazing, as did I. The children sang

beautifully and read their lines superbly well as we all learned about Harvest Festival around the world.

Thank you to all those parents who completed the Google form concerning the proposed amalgamation of the Junior and Infant schools. The overwhelming view is that we should amalgamate and so the LA are now taking this to the wider community to gauge the views of local people and other schools. Once this wider consultation has been completed the governors will write to inform you of the next steps in this process.

I hope you have all got lots of lovely plans for spending time with your children during the upcoming half term and I wish you all a very happy week's break. I look forward to working with you and your children again on our return to school On Monday 2nd November.

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 3rd September
Half term-	**Monday 26th to Friday 30th October**
Back to school	Monday 2nd November
Last day of term	**Friday 18th December (finish at 2 p.m. Reception & 2.15 p.m. KS 1)***
Back to school	Monday 4th 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 in the second half of the autumn term:

Date:	Event	Times:
Monday 2nd November	Literacy workshop for parents in ROBIN class	9am
Monday 2nd November	Reception target setting evenings for parents all week PLEASE MAKE AN APPT)	3.45-5.15pm
Tuesday 3rd November	Literacy workshop for parents in KINGFISHER CLASS	9am
Thursday 5th November	Literacy workshop for parents in OWL class	9am
Thursday 5th November	Learning through Play in Nursery	Am/pm in the nursery
Monday 9th November	Story telling workshop for parents in LEMUR Class	2.40pm
Tuesday 10th November	Story Telling workshop for parents in CHAMELEON Class	2.40pm
Wednesday 11th November	Nursery parents workshop PHSE	Am and Pm in the nursery
Thursday 12th November	Story telling workshop for parents in JAGUAR class	2.40pm
Monday 16th November	Maths workshop for parents in ROBIN class	9am
Monday 16th November	Flu vaccinations	12-3pm.
Tuesday 17th November	Maths workshop for parents in KINGFISHER class	9am
Thursday 19th November	Maths workshop for parents in OWL class	9am
Friday 20th November	SEND coffee morning	9am
Monday 23rd November	KS 1 achievement assembly for invited parents	1.05pm
Friday 27th November	Nursery achievement assembly AM class	11.15am in nursery
Friday 27th November	Nursery achievement assembly PM class	3.30pm in the nursery
Friday 27th November	Reception classes Achievement assembly	2.15pm
Wednesday 2nd December	workshop on Fine motor skills for parents in Nursery classes.	Am and pm in the nursery
Tuesday 8th December	Christmas concert performance	9am and 1.05pm
Thursday 10th December	Christmas dinners for the children	Lunchtime
Thursday 10th December	Christmas panto at Harrow Arts Centre	12.30 leave school
Monday 14th December	Christmas theme week dress up or Christmas jumpers	
Thursday 17th December	Christmas parties	In classes
Friday 18th December	Last day of term-Non uniform day.	£1.00 donation.

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 aboard 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 Nubour 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









Pictures above taken at our fabulous autumn coffee morning earlier in the term:

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.



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.

School Governors:

Congratulations to Cesar Santiago on becoming our new federated school parent governor. Welcome aboard.

Other governors elected were Zulfiquar Hassan and Swinberne Fernades and we are glad to welcome all of them to the Full governing body.

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

