

Dear parents and carers,

We continue to embed our new behaviour system, "The Empowerment Approach". You can read more about this in the termly newsletter from Mr Morris attached. We appreciate the parent / carer support we have had with this, especially those who have joined before or after school coaching conversations with your child. We knew this would not be a "quick fix" but we are pleased with the progress we are making. Our focus this term is ensuring children's learning behaviours are the best they can be and having high expectations about children working quietly, for a sustained period in their lessons, so that everyone's learning and concentration are maximised.

We have had two fantastic history days in school recently; today was Year Three's Ancient Egyptian day and last Friday was Year Five's Ancient Greece day. The children looked fantastic in their costumes and learnt lots to launch their new history topics in a fun, hands-on and memorable way. Thank you to Miss Bartholomew, our history lead, for organising the days and to the parent helpers who supported. Doing it this way saves over £500 per day rather than having an external company come in and we feel the quality is as good, if not better!

Cold weather / clothing:

It has certainly been a cold week with temperatures set to be even lower next week. Please ensure your children are dressed appropriately for the cold weather and wear layers under their smart school uniform / PE kit. Children are expected to be on the playground, even in cold weather. We cannot possibly accommodate all children staying inside during break and lunchtimes so please ensure your child is prepared for this; fresh air does us all good!

School lunches:

Next Thursday, 18th January, Kingswood caterers are running a special competition and anyone who pre-orders their lunch on that day could win a trip to their kitchen for a Valentine's cookie-making event. See attached poster.

It is important that parents / carers order a lunch their child will eat OR provide a packed lunch from home. We are seeing a lot of food waste due to children not liking what has been selected or parents ordering a Kingswood lunch and sending in a packed lunch. This is wasting school resources as even the free lunches for Infant children still cost the school money every day. Please be mindful and support us to reduce wastage; both food and monetary!

Staff car park:

A reminder that the car park is for staff cars only at all times. Parents / carers should not use the car park when dropping off / collecting from morning clubs (choir, dodgeball, etc.) or from after school clubs (Hotshots, football, etc.). The car park is also not for parents dropping off / collecting from Happy Hols at any time. The only exception is those with a blue badge may use the car park outside of school hours (not 8:30am – 4:00pm).

I have noticed several cars driving into or out of the staff car park, at speed, when staff or children are leaving. This is unsafe.

Dogs on-site:

A reminder that not dogs should be brought onto the school site at any time. Dogs should be tied up to the main vehicle gates as needed to drop-off and collect your children. This includes all dogs, even those being carried. Thank you for your co-operation.

Reception place deadline 15th January:

For children who will turn 4 by 31st August 2024, the deadline is approaching to apply for a Reception place. The quickest and easiest way to apply is online via the North Northamptonshire Council website. The deadline is midnight on 15th January 2024 for Reception places starting in September 2024. We have been told we are highly likely to be over-subscribed this year so please ensure you apply on-time, even if your child has a sibling already in school.

British Royal Legion Poppy Appeal:

Thanks to your generous donations the school raised £316.01 for the Poppy Appeal in November. Thank you to the efficient Year six pupils who sold the poppies and collected the donations.

Families' magazine:

Please find the latest edition of Families magazine, with articles, offers and ideas for activities, [here](#).

Wishing you a lovely weekend,

Miss Lally

Up-coming events:

Friday 19th January 2.30pm - Inclusion Tea and Talk

Friday 2nd February 6.00-7.30pm - Popcorn and PJ night – YR & KS1

Friday 9th February 6.00-7.30pm - Popcorn and PJ night – KS2

Tuesday 13th February 4.00-7.00pm - Parents evening – face-to-face appointments

Friday 16th February – End of term 3

Monday 26th February – Start of term 4

W/B 26th February – Y5 Bikeability

Details of school events can be found on the [school diary](#) on the website. Posters and flyers from providers external to the school can be found on the [community page](#).

Letters home this week:

Everyone reading in class

Book request – Y2 only

School nurse questionnaire – YR only

Cross country – Selected pupils only

Attachments:

Behaviour bulletin

Kingswood valentine poster

Online safety – free speech vs hate speech