



# KESTON PRIMARY SCHOOL

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## Newsletter No 1 – September 2014

We welcome back all our families and extend a special welcome to those new to the school.

There has been a substantial amount of work completed within the school over the summer break; the junior corridors have been repainted and the Reception toilets completely refurbished. In addition to this the local authority have organised roofing work to the buildings; the infant section was completed over the summer break but we are expecting the scaffolding for the junior building work to remain until half term.

### Macmillan Coffee Morning

Year 6 will be running a coffee morning on **Friday 26<sup>th</sup> September** in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support. The coffee morning will be held in the infant hall from 9.00 to 10.15. All are welcome and we hope that as many of you as possible will come and join them to raise money for this worthwhile cause.

### New Primary Curriculum

Over the past year we have been planning for the introduction of the new primary curriculum which is a requirement from this September. Following many planning sessions and discussions with the children we will be adopting a theme based curriculum which will incorporate science, history, geography, art, design technology and music. The curriculum overview will be available this week on the school website under the Parent Information section, additional information for each year group will also be available under Classroom Information in the next couple of weeks. Although there will be some cross over into English and mathematics these subjects, along with computing will be taught separately, information about the mathematics curriculum can also be found on the website. We will continue to follow the current school PE curriculum and the Croydon RE syllabus.

Details of our Special Educational Needs (SEN) offer and a link to the Local Authority information will also be available on the website.

### Free School Meals – Pupil Premium

As you will be aware from the national press all children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 are now entitled to free school dinners. You do not need to register for this either with the school or on Parent Pay; the children should just indicate during registration whether they require a dinner or have brought packed lunch.

Children of parents and carers who receive the following:

- Income support
- Income based jobs seeker's allowance
- Income related employment and support allowance
- Guaranteed state pension credit
- Child tax credit
- Financial support by National Asylum Support Service

also attract Pupil Premium funding which is given to the school to enhance the learning for these children. If you fall into any of these categories please speak to the school office and fill in a 'Free School Meals Application' form **even if your child is in the infants**. All children who are named on the school pupil premium list will be entitled to one free school uniform every year (sweatshirt, T Shirt, PE Kit) and on entry to the school a book bag, PE bag, water bottle and school baseball hat; these items will be funded through pupil premium payments. Should your child be in receipt of Pupil Premium (i.e. have been on the free school meals list in the past six years) and you wish to take up the offer of a set of uniform please speak to the school office.

School dinner charges remain in place for the junior children and all Parent Pay dinner accounts must remain in credit.

### **Julie Maudsley Award**

It is now a year since the sudden death of Mrs Maudsley, a much valued and sorely missed member of the staff at Keston for many years. We have taken the decision to make a special award in her name for up to two children each year. These awards carry no prize value but are a recognition of children who have gone beyond what is expected of them in many areas of school life; children who Mrs Maudsley would have been proud to work with and whose success she would have been happy to celebrate.

The awards for the academic year 2013 – 2014 were awarded to:

**Lilee Ross** for her positive attitude to all aspects of school life. Always upholding the school motto 'Respect, Believe, Achieve'.

**Joshua Seale** for his hard work and positive attitude to learning.

### **Attendance**

The following pupils are to be congratulated for achieving 100% attendance in 2013 – 2014:

Hannah Addy,	Matthew Franks,	Harry Liu,	Tymen te Poele,
Gabriella Bailey,	Louis Gates,	Mitchell Lock,	Eshar Thethi,
Zac Banister,	Hollie Gaywood,	Samuel Major,	Preet Thethi,
Emilie Bartzak,	Alyssa Huggett,	Oliver Martin,	Sophie Thompson,
Lily Beagley,	Kate Jennings,	Daniel McFall,	Rebecca Timmins,
Drew Bennett,	Elsie Johnson,	Emily Moore,	Robert Timmins,
Francesca Bonwick,	Stanley Johnson,	Jack Nelson,	Abbie Turner,
Ben Chapman,	Rebecca Kendall,	Marley O'Gara,	Harvey Turner,
Lily Croft,	Thomas Laing,	Sienna Patel,	Ellie Woods,
Christopher	Nico Lane,	Joseph Price,	Charlotte Young,
Docwra,	James Lawless,	Isabella Salter,	

### **Instrument Tuition**

Children in year 5 and 6 are able to continue or commence learning a wind musical instrument through Croydon Music and Arts who offer group and paired lessons based in the school; these lessons must be booked and paid for directly with the music service through their website;

[www.croydonmusicandarts.co.uk](http://www.croydonmusicandarts.co.uk).

In addition we have been able to organise tuition for guitar, ukulele, keyboard, flute and voice through Carol Whinnom who, prior to last year, taught guitar groups and ukulele to our year 4s very successfully; she will also be undertaking the whole class ukulele tuition for a year 4 class from next term. We have keyboards in school and a few ukuleles which will be available on loan, however children will require their own guitars or flutes and ideally access to keyboards at home for practise. If your child is just beginning to learn the flute Mrs Whinnom would suggest learning initially on a fife which can be purchased at a cost of about £10.

These lessons, which will take place during school time, are available to all junior children at the rates listed below:

**Fees** (for a 10 lesson term)

#### **Group Tuition**

- £63.00 - full fee
- £25.20 - for children on Free School Meals
- Free for Looked After Children

#### **Paired Tuition**

- £100.00 - full fee
- £40.00 - for children on Free School Meals
- Free for Looked After Children

#### **Individual 20 Minute Tuition**

- £126.00
- Help with fees is available once pupils progress to Merit Award tuition

These rates are good value for money – about half what it would cost to access music lessons out of school.

If you wish your child to receive music tuition from Mrs Whinnom please complete the form below and return it to the school office as soon as possible. We are happy to receive emailed copies of the form; please type Music Tuition in the subject line.

### **Secondary School Transfer**

Year 6 parents should note that all applications for secondary school places must be in by Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> October at the latest. The online application system is now active. Further details about applications can be found on Croydon Council's website: <http://www.croydon.gov.uk/education/schools-new/school-admissions/how-to-apply/SA-step11/SA-key-dates-sec>. A link to open days for Croydon and Sutton schools is available on the website. For schools in other boroughs please look at the relevant Local Authority website.

If you require any support with obtaining this information or completing the application form please speak to the school office, myself or Mr Hodgson.

### **Reception 2015 Admissions**

Online applications for primary school places is now open and can be found at: <http://www.croydon.gov.uk/education/schools-new/school-admissions/how-to-apply/SA-step11/SA-key-dates1>. Applications must be in before midday on Tuesday 15 January 2015.

### **Nursery 2015 Admissions**

Applications for admission to Keston Nursery should be made directly to the school; forms and details of admission criteria are available from the school office or on the school website. The closing date for nursery applications is 31<sup>st</sup> January 2015; applications made after this date will be placed on the waiting list.

### **Open Morning/Afternoons for 2015 admissions to Reception and Nursery**

These will take place on the dates listed below:

Reception Open Morning	Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup> October	9.30 to 11.30
Reception Open Afternoon	Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup> October	1.30 to 2.30
Reception Open Morning	Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> October	9.30 to 11.30
Nursery Open Morning	Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup> November	9.30 to 11.30
Nursery Open Morning	Tuesday 25 <sup>th</sup> November	9.30 to 11.30

If you intend to visit the school on one of these dates it would be helpful if you let the school office know.

### **Class Assemblies**

All classes will be again holding an assembly during this academic year to which parents/carers of the children in the class are invited. This will be an opportunity for the children to share with you topics which they have been studying. These assemblies will all be held on Thursdays at 9.15, in either the infant or junior hall, and will last no longer than 15 minutes. The dates for the assemblies are listed below. Parents are welcome to stay for refreshments after the assemblies.

Red	Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> May 2015	Dahl	Thursday 30 <sup>th</sup> April 2015
Blue	Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup> June 2015	Rosen	Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> June 2015
Yellow	Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> July 2015	Rowling	Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup> April 2015
Purple	Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup> November 2014	Pullman	Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup> February 2015
Burgundy	Thursday 29 <sup>th</sup> January 2015	Tolkien	Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup> November 2014
Orange	Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup> March 2015	Horowitz	Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup> September 2014
		Dickens	Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> February 2015
		Shakespeare	Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup> October 2014

### **School Gardening**

We would be grateful for the help of any adults who would be willing to spend some time in the Junior Quad (garden). It has become very overgrown over the summer break; whilst the children will work on their class beds the area around them needs some attention. If you are able to help please give your contact details to the school office.

### **Dates for your Diary**

Autumn term parents' evenings will take place on Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> October and Thursday 23<sup>th</sup> October.

The full year date list will be sent out as soon as it is finalised.

### Autumn Term Swimming

Lessons with our new swimming teacher Miss Ransom will commence on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> September for children in years 1 to 6.

Dahl	Tuesday 9.15	Dickens	Tuesday 1.15	Purple	Thursday 9.15
Rosen	Tuesday 10.45	Shakespeare	Tuesday 2.15	Yellow	Thursday 10.45
Pullman	Wednesday 9.15	Horowitz	Wednesday 1.15	Burgundy	Friday 9.15
Rowling	Wednesday 10.45	Tolkien	Wednesday 2.15	Orange	Friday 10.45

The cost for the autumn term is £18.00, this payment goes towards the upkeep of the pool which is monitored on a weekly basis by a pool management company; we have also just paid out £3,500 for repairs to the pool and the replacement of the cover. Without parent support we will not be able to maintain this very valuable resource. Payments should be made via Parent Pay.

Please ensure that your child has their swimming kit on the relevant day every week. Swimming hats must be worn; school hats are available from Miss Ransom at the start of the swimming session at the cost of £1.50.



Mrs Claire Murphy  
Headteacher

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### Music Tuition

I wish my child to receive music tuition from Mrs Whinnom commencing October 2014.

I understand that all tuition fees must be paid in advance and my child will not take part in the lessons if fees are outstanding.

I wish my child to receive the following tuition (please delete as appropriate):

<b>Ukulele</b>	in a group (£63 per term)	a pair (£100 per term)	individually (£126 per term)
<b>Guitar</b>	in a group (£63 per term)	a pair (£100 per term)	individually (£126 per term)
<b>Keyboard</b>	in a group (£63 per term)	a pair (£100 per term)	individually (£126 per term)
<b>Flute</b>	in a group (£63 per term)	a pair (£100 per term)	individually (£126 per term)
<b>Voice</b>	in a group (£63 per term)	a pair (£100 per term)	individually (£126 per term)

**Child's name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Class:** \_\_\_\_\_

Please do not enclose any money with this form – you will be contacted when we have organised the groups and payment will be made via parent pay.

