



KESTON PRIMARY SCHOOL

Head of School: Mrs. H. Green, B.Ed. (Hons)
Executive Head: Mrs. C. Murphy, BA, PGCE, NPQH
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Newsletter 1 - September 2019

Welcome back to all of the children and their families at the start of this new school year. I hope you all had a lovely summer break. I would like to extend a special welcome to our new families, both those who are entering the Early Years and those who have joined further up the school. We hope your children will be happy and successful at Keston.

I am very proud to be the new Head of School at Keston and I am really looking forward to working with you all in my new role.

As always, we have had a busy summer with projects going on to improve the school for the children. These have included:

- Refurbishment of both Nursery classes
 - New flooring around the swimming pool
 - A new path leading to the After School Club
 - Some re-decoration to enhance how we display the children's work and also improved IT provision.
- Thank you so much to the PTA for their contributions to these projects.

Julie Maudsley Award

Each year a special award is given in the name of Mrs Maudsley, a much valued and sorely missed member of staff. This award carries no prize value but is a recognition of a child or 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 2018 – 2019 award was given to: Sara Ballabani for 'her positive attitude and her willingness to persevere with her learning.' Her name will be entered onto the shield which is kept in the school trophy cabinet in the office entrance.

School Fund

I am sorry to start the school year with a plea for funds but, as we cope with rising costs and funding cuts, we continue to strive to ensure that neither of these issues has an impact on the range of activities or facilities which we are able to offer the children. We are fortunate that we have a strong PTA and many parents who are willing to contribute to their efforts and therefore funds are available for projects such as the purchase of IT equipment. However, on top of projects like this we continue to provide additional music provision (year 2 recorders and year 4 ukuleles) and a range of additional resources for the classrooms. Therefore, we would request donations to school fund of £10 for the first child and £5 for any additional children to enable additional provision. This payment can also now be found on Parent Pay.

Autumn Term Swimming

The swimming lesson contribution for the autumn term for years 1 to 6 is £18.00; this payment goes towards the upkeep of the pool which is monitored on a weekly basis by a pool management company. Without a good level of parent contributions, we will not be able to maintain this very valuable resource. Payments should be made via Parent Pay.



MacMillan Coffee Morning

This event will take place on Friday 27th September at 9am in the infant hall. Although this is run by year 6 children all parents are encouraged to attend. Not only is this an important charity to raise funds for, but it is also an opportunity for parents (particularly those new to the school) to get to know each other.

Curriculum Information Sessions

After the success of the curriculum information workshops last year, we have decided to continue with these at the start of the school day.

They are as follows:

- The first session on **Friday 20th September at 9.15** is for parents of children in **Nursery and Reception** and will give you information about the teaching of maths and how to support your child at home.
- The second session will be for parents of **KS1** children (years 1 and 2) on **Friday 4th October at 9.15** and will focus on supporting your child with maths.
- The third session will be for parents of **KS2** children (years 3 -6) on **Friday 11th October at 9.15** and will also focus on supporting your child with maths at home.

Refreshments will also be served.

School Dates

I have sent out with this newsletter a list of school dates for the year. This list includes the dates of Christmas events, class assemblies, parents' evenings and sports day to mention a few. Please make a note of these. I am aware that parents often book time off work in advance to attend these events so we will always do our best not to amend the dates unless absolutely necessary.

Parents Evening

Please note that Parents' Evening dates for this term are Tuesday 29th October from 4 pm to 7 pm and Thursday 31st October from 5 pm to 8 pm.

Miss East will be in touch with parents from Bumblebee's Class to arrange times to meet with you during the week beginning Monday 7th October.

Secondary School Transfer

Year 6 parents should note that all applications for secondary school places must be in by 31st October 2019 at the latest. The online application system is now active. Further details about applications and open days can be found on Croydon Council's website: <https://www.croydon.gov.uk/education/schools-new/school-admissions/starting-secondary-school>.

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 Mrs Stevens.

Reception 2020 Admissions

Online applications for primary school places is now open, details about the process can be found at: <https://www.croydon.gov.uk/education/schools-new/school-admissions/starting-primary-school>

Applications must be in before midday on 15th January 2020.



Nursery 2020 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 31st January 2020 applications made after this date will be placed on the waiting list.

Open Mornings for 2020 admissions to Reception and Nursery

These will take place on the dates listed below:

Reception Open Morning	Tuesday 8 th October	9.30 to 11.30
Reception Open Morning	Thursday 7 th November	9.30 to 11.30
Reception Open Morning	Tuesday 26 th November	9.30 to 11.30
Reception Open Morning	Thursday 9 th January	9.30 to 11.30
Nursery Open Morning	Thursday 31 st October	9.30 to 11.30
Nursery Open Morning	Tuesday 19 th November	9.30 to 11.30
Nursery Open Morning	Wednesday 15 th January	9.30 to 11.30

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

Kind regards,



Helen Green
Head of School

