



KESTON PRIMARY SCHOOL

Part of PACE Academy Trust

Keston Avenue, Old Coulsdon, Surrey, CR5 1HP

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Newsletter 4 – 17th November 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

We have had a busy few weeks at Keston, with lots to celebrate. Year 6 visited the Globe Theatre on Monday and took part in a drama workshop about Macbeth. We have taken part in 'Celebrating Difference' week, starting the week with a special assembly and by wearing odd socks. Nursery went on their bus trip to Poppy Park, as part of their 'Let's Move' topic, to name just a few. We know we will have just as busy a time in the lead up to Christmas.

Attendance

The Department for Education tracks attendance carefully and our aim is to have an attendance figure in excess of the national average of 96%. Our target for attendance this year is 96.5% Our attendance figure for the year to date is 95.8% - so we still have some work to do.

Obviously, attendance levels, especially at this time of year, can be affected by illness, particularly tummy bugs. We would therefore encourage all parents to send their children into school wherever possible. However, if they have been ill with sickness and/or diarrhoea, please keep them off school until they have been symptom free for a minimum of 48 hours to prevent the bug spreading throughout the school community as this has a significant, adverse effect on attendance levels of both children and staff.



When is it not ok for your child to stay away from school:

- Holidays - only in very exceptional circumstances will term time holidays be authorised by the school.
- Birthdays - your child should still attend, even if it is their birthday.
- Shopping/Family Days Out - or any other activity for which there is no serious reason for your child to stay away from school.

If you need to request absence from learning, please complete a request form available from the school office, or the school website and return it to school.



Remembrance Service

On Sunday, Josh represented Keston by taking part in the local Remembrance Parade. He laid a wreath on behalf of the Keston community to remember all those that have lost their lives in honour of our country. Josh did a wonderful job and made us all very proud.



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Netball



Our Netball teams continue to go from strength to strength. The following are match reports from the A and B Teams:

'On Wednesday afternoon, the netball team went to Kenley to play a match. The first half was amazing, there was outstanding linking play between Rose and Selena, who supported the shooters. We also had a strong defence from Rocheyna and Oliho, who only let Kenley score 1 goal, whilst we scored 7. In the second half we doubled our score, making 14 goals leaving Kenley, still left with 1.'

'On Wednesday, we had a netball match against Kenley Primary School. Me and the Year 5 children that were in B Team were very intimidated but we got over it and as a team we did our part, which lead us to be winning 2-0 at half time. In our second half we scored another goal making it 3-0. Sadly, we couldn't get another goal but we tried our best and really got into it, finding better spaces on the court. As captain I believe that everyone tried their best in the cold climate.'

Class emails

Class emails are for communication between the class teacher and parents or carers only. Please can we ask that class email addresses are not passed on to any outside agencies or medical professionals. The class email addresses should *not* be used to report absence or for *urgent* information for class teachers as these are not monitored throughout the day. All absences should be reported to the office, on the dedicated telephone extension or through the office email address. Any emails about changes to pick up arrangements, should also be reported through the office.

Important Message

We would like to make all parents aware that we have pupils within our school that are immune suppressed and are vulnerable to infection. This makes them extremely susceptible to illness within a very short space of time. As a school, we take this matter very seriously and are in regular contact with the parents concerned, updating them of any illnesses across the school.



Chicken Pox, Shingles, Measles, and other types of viral infections can have a huge impact on pupils who are immune suppressed. If anyone has a child with any of the above infections, please can we ask that you contact the school immediately and we can then liaise with the parents concerned.

School Council

The School Council have been very busy since September. They have organised two fundraising events with the money being raised going towards developing the playground quiet area. Their recent cake sale raised £188 and the selling of Halloween slap bands before half term raised £241. We look forward to seeing how they use the money to develop the playground.



Please see the attached date list.

Kind regards,

Keston Leadership team



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