



KESTON PRIMARY SCHOOL

Part of PACE Academy Trust

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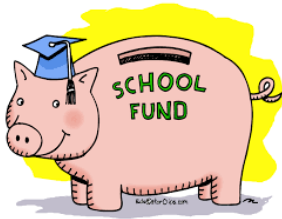
Website: kestonprimary.org.uk

Newsletter 1 – 15th September 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back to the start of a new school year. As we enter this new academic year and reflect on our previous one, we are all looking forward to a return to a familiar routine and a focus on learning. The staff and governors were busy on the inset days discussing our new school vision. Please look out for further information about this and the chance to give your views.

Our children, as always, have amazed and delighted us on their return, with their positive attitudes, their resilience and their ability to adapt to new routines. I would also like to say how smart they have all looked coming into school in their new uniforms.



School Fund

I am sorry to start the school year with a plea for funds, however, as you know funding is always an issue in schools. Therefore, we would request donations to the Keston School Fund of £10 for the first child and £5 for siblings to enable us to purchase extra resources for the children. This payment can be made on ParentPay from Thursday 14th September. Thank you in advance.

Welcome

Last week we welcomed our new Nursery and Reception Children, when they joined us for meet the teacher 'Stay and Plays'. They are all in full time from today. We also welcomed new children to other year groups across the school. A warm welcome to families new to our school.



Improvements

We have been busy over the summer with work taking place both in school and on the new school gates.

As part of a rolling redecoration plan, Shakespeare and Gavin classes have undergone a redecoration and refurbishment. They look amazing, and the children in those classes have enjoyed working in their new surroundings.



Our fabulous PTA supported us by raising the money to purchase reading sheds for the playgrounds. The children will soon be able to spend playtimes and lunchtimes, reading books from the sheds. The PTA have also paid for several new interactive whiteboards in classrooms across the school, including a fixed board in the music room for Mrs Burcombe and a portable one to be used in the Nursery. This year we would like to create a sensory room and improve the Quad Area.



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Macmillan Coffee Morning

We will be holding our annual Macmillan coffee morning on Friday 29th September. There will be coffee and cakes in the infant hall, if you want to come for a chat, or you will be able to bring your travel cup and grab a coffee on the go from the Junior playground.

Over the last few years, Keston have raised nearly £6000 pounds for this fantastic cause. Please continue to support them by joining us on the 29th September.



Phonics Workshop

There will be a phonics workshop at **9.15 am on Thursday 28th September for our new Reception and Nursery parents.** This will be a great opportunity to come and find out how we teach phonics at Keston and how you can support your child at home. The workshop will be held in the

infant hall and you are able to just turn up on the day. There will be tea and coffee available. We look forward to seeing you there.

Reading Record and Planners

All children from year 1 to year 6 have been issued with a new Keston Reading Record and Planner book. These books have been designed to be not only a reading record but also a place to record homework given and a facility for parents and teachers to communicate.

The planners contain pages of useful information for both parents and children – please take the time to look through the book with your child when they bring it home. As with the previous reading record books the expectation is that these books will come into school every day.

The book is designed to last the full academic year and due to the cost of them we have very few spare copies. Should your child lose the book payment will be requested for a replacement.

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.

Swimming Reminder

To ensure the pool is financially viable we let the pool to outside swimming clubs and we also ask for parental contributions. Therefore, we are asking for a voluntary contribution of £18 for the term from parents/carers. This can be paid via ParentPay.



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Packed Lunches

Please can we remind you that Keston is a healthy school. We have attached a copy of the packed lunch policy for your information.

Playground

Children should not be on the climbing frame or trim trail before or after school. Please also remember that the children should walk their bicycles and scooters across the playground.

School Council

The children have been busy electing their new school councillors. Watch out for more information about the school council. Mrs Tribe and Mr Newman will be leading them this year.



Social Media

You are able to keep up with all things Keston on X (formerly Twitter) at @kestonprimary. We are now also on Instagram. You can follow us by searching kestonprimary.



Video

Please have a look at our new video on the website to celebrate our fantastic school. It can be found under the 'Our School' tab/Admissions.

Dates

Please see the attached date list for the Autumn Term.

We are looking forward to an exciting year.

Kind regards,

Keston Headship Team



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