



Dear Parents and Carers,

Last week's visit to Norfolk was a superb trip, with pupils taking part in climbing, abseiling, go-carting, leap of faith and problem solving activities. They showed a great deal of team spirit by encouraging each other and working together to challenge themselves. Mrs Hendry and Mrs Smith were impressed by the children's thinking skills and the way in which they collaborated with each other when finding solutions. Throughout the week, their behaviour was exemplary and we received many positive comments about the attitude, conduct and thinking skills. Comments came from staff working at Kingswood and teachers from other schools. We held dormitory inspections and we were astounded with the cleanliness of rooms: they were absolutely spotless, with duvets being smoothed, shoes lined up and teddy bears presented in an orderly fashion! It was an excellent week and I would like to thank Mrs Hendry and Mrs Smith for helping organise the trip and I would like to thank our pupils for making it such a brilliant and fun-packed week. We will arrange an assembly for parents to attend so that they can see photos of our visit.

I have been to a couple of the Class 1 'Stay and Learn' sessions and we have been very impressed with the support shown by families who have joined in with their child's/grandchild's learning.

Harvest

For Harvest, we shall be supporting the Braintree area Foodbank. We shall be collecting cereal bars, fruit juice, rice, sponge puddings, tinned tomatoes, soup, coffee, sugar, long life milk, cold meat, tinned rice, tea bags and pasta sauces. If you would like to contribute any of these items, we would be delighted to accept your donations for this very worthy cause.

Christmas Cards

Christmas card designs that each child has produced will be sent home with a sticker containing a unique order code. If you would like to purchase your child's card, please visit www.apfsorders.co.uk and enter your child's surname and code (on the sticker attached to your child's picture) and return the picture to school by 10th October. These will then be collected and sent to the manufacturer for production.

PFA Annual General Meeting

On Thursday 10th October, the Parent and Friends Association will be holding their annual general meeting at the school at 7pm. If you are interested, please come along and find out what the PFA is all about.

School Gates

With Class 6 now in operation, the school gates are now being closed at 8.50 and opened at 3.00. Any arrivals in the morning after 8.50 will need to be through the school office.

Cressing App

If you have not already downloaded the Cressing App, please do take a minute to download it (just search for Cressing Primary in the app store). Messages are sent out via the app, so please subscribe to the appropriate channels for your child's class by going to settings, channels and selecting the appropriate classes you wish to receive messages for. This does not automatically roll forward so you will need to update your classes if you used the app last year. On the information section there is a link to 'Using the app' which will give you more detailed instructions.

Cancer Research – Stand up to Cancer

On the 13th of October, we will be having a non-uniform day to raise funds for Cancer Research UK. One of our grandparents, Mrs Cox, works at the Cancer Research Shop in Bank Street and they are raising funds for the stand Up to Cancer campaign, something that we would like to support.

Best Class Attendance

This week, Class 6 has been awarded the best attendance with 100%! They will have an extra 5 minutes playtime to celebrate. Well done to Class 6 class!

Stars of the Week

Class R – Tommy N. for fantastic concentration in all of his learning

Class 1 – Darcy for really great maths and understanding shape

Class 2 – Leo for making thoughtful predictions in Science

Class 3 – Peter for showing good problem solving skills in Maths

Class 4 – Grace for moving on in her learning

Class 5 – Isabelle for showing a great understanding of mental calculations strategies for addition and subtraction

Class 6 – Daniel for making a conscious effort to up his game in all aspects of his learning

Well done to all of these children for impressing their teachers this week!

House Points

Congratulations this week to Romans who were the winners with 208 house points.

Diary Dates - Term Dates

Autumn term - Monday 4th September – Wednesday 20th December

Harvest Assemblies – Key Stage 1 - Wednesday 4th October at 9.15am; Key stage 2 - Thursday 5th October at 9.15

Parent Consultation Evenings – 17th October, 3.30pm-5.30pm; 19th October, 5pm-7.30pm

Friday 20th October – Non pupil day

Half term Monday 23rd Oct 2017 – Friday 27th October 2017

Non-pupils days for 2017-2018:

Friday 20th October (2017), Tuesday 2nd January (2018), Friday 15th June (2018) and Monday 9th July (2018).

School Dinners

Next week, we will be on **Week 1** of the menu.

School dinners cost £2.30 per day (KS2).

All meals must be paid for in advance please.



Mr Stewart Caplen