



GREAT KINGSHILL

Church of England Combined School



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Newsletter 9th June 2023

Highlights & News

Dear Parents,

It has been wonderful to see the children enjoying the sunshine this week and they have loved being back on the field at play times.

On Tuesday, we met our new Reception parents. It was great to see so many new and existing families and we look forward to welcoming the children in September.

Year 5 gave us a real treat with their assembly yesterday. It was fabulous to hear all about their topics and we all loved hearing 'Living On A Prayer' at the end.

We hope the children enjoy the PTA Discos this evening and that you all have a fantastic weekend!

Best wishes,

Suzanne Best & the GKCS Team

Classes for September 2023

We just wanted to make parents aware that we will be mixing all classes again at the end of this academic year. We have made the decision to mix the children again as we believe there are huge benefits for the children to start the year in a fresh class group. It helps to build their resilience and self-confidence. It also allows us to respond to changes in class demographics in terms of needs, social relationships and behaviour.

The staff team and I have a wealth of information to use when we are making these decisions. We are aware of friendship groups and how pupils work together. We recognise for lots of children being with their "best friend" may seem like the most important thing in the world. However, we believe it is helpful to make the distinction between the classroom environment which is the learning environment and the playground which is the social environment. Therefore it may not always be appropriate to keep children together.

We will not be asking the children who they would like to be with as we believe this can cause more problems than it solves. It can create an impression to the children that they can choose who they are going to be with - when this is not the case. We ask for your support with our decisions. If your child has specific SEND needs Mrs Farmbrough or the class teacher may be in contact with you.

Suzanne Best

Headteacher

Sports Day Information

This year we shall be holding our Sports Day on **Tuesday 27th June;**

KS2 will commence at 9:30am and KS1 at 1.30pm.

Parents are very welcome to come and watch but must leave the school for lunch time.

Children should come to school dressed in their PE kits and please ensure that they have a water bottle.

If the weather is hot, please provide your child with a sun hat and apply sun screen. In the event of inclement weather, Thursday 29th June is the reserve day. Timings will be the same. Lunch will be at the usual times for each year group.

Parents are welcome to take KS1 children home in the afternoon when sports day is finished. Please also note that this is a normal school day and KS2 children are not permitted to leave early.

Preschool Sports day is on Wednesday 28th June from 9.15am to 10.15am. Mrs Bailey has sent a Class Dojo message to parents today.

Many thanks.

Forest School News

This Week in Forest School

What a start to the final half term! The sun has been shining its brilliance on the field and forest area causing many smiles and loads of fun. We are still quite shaded up there, and it is a little bit chillier there, especially in the mornings so it is still a good idea to ensure that long sleeves are in the bag.

The week started with 6L's final session. We asked them what they would like to do, and they said, quite unanimously, "Fire". We still had a stock of Marshmallows and Popcorn, so we set to it. They had a lovely time cooking, eating, playing, exploring and building an assault course which was quite the challenge! We are so proud of how they have embraced our sessions, seeing the curious and creative side that is so far removed from the pressures of tests and exams. Well done Year 6.



As for the rest of the year groups, we started our Forest Master Challenges. As with last half term, we wanted to bring all of the sessions together to work on their team skills with the added bonus of competition and fun. They are already showing how well they can communicate with each other, solve problems and use their knowledge to complete each task. In fact, one child said, (and I am going to steal this line) "If you've had fun, you've already won."

This is one of the key things to any competition in my personal opinion – and they have had lots of fun.









We also had quite a lengthy talk about our composting toilet that is almost fully operational. The children have taken all of the “rules” on board about how to use it, and it does mean that we have far fewer accompanied trips across the field, meaning more time for fun! We are still waiting on a couple of parts to be fitted so it can be solar powered, too, but the actual composting part is working and not too stinky!

We hope you have a lovely weekend, and we will see you all next week for more fun in the forest.

Mr Smith and Mrs Little

Forest School Summer 2	AM		PM	
Monday		L	Year 6H	H
Tuesday	Reception	U	Year 3O	O
Wednesday	Year 1F	N	Year 2G	M
Thursday		C	Year 4W	E
Friday		H	Year 5B	

Summer Term Dates 2

Date	Time	Activity
Tuesday 23 rd & Wednesday 24 th May 2023	18:30	'Oliver!' Performances (Doors open 18:00)
Thursday 25 th May 2023	14:30	Year Group Assembly – Year 4
Friday 26 th May 2023		Mufti Day – Plants for Summer Fayre (Preschool – Year 3 children), Prizes for Adult Tombola (Year 4 – Year 6 children)
Friday 26 th May 2023	12:30 – 14:45	Year 6 Volleyball Festival – Holmer Green Senior School
Friday 26 th May 2023	15:10 – 15:30	Doughnut Sale
Friday 26 th May 2023	15:15	School closes for Half-Term
HALF TERM		
Monday 5 th June 2023	08:30	School re-opens
Tuesday 6 th June 2023	19:00	Parents Meeting for new Reception parents (children starting in September 2023)
Wednesday 7 th June 2023		Class photographs
Thursday 8 th June	14:30	Year Group Assembly – Year 5
Thursday 8 th June 2023	17:30	Sex and Relationship Education meeting for Year 5 parents
Friday 9 th June 2023		Mufti Day – Prizes for Children's Tombola
Friday 9 th June 2023		PTA Discos
Tuesday 13 th June 2023	09:00	Sex and Relationship Education meeting for Year 5 parents
Thursday 15 th June	14:30	Year Group Assembly – Year 1
Friday 16 th June 2023		Mufti Day – Lucky Bags for Summer Fayre
Tuesday 20 th June 2023	14:00	Teddy Bear Picnic (new Reception parents and children)
Wednesday 21 st June 2023	09:30-11:30am	Year 2 Mosque trip
Thursday 22 nd June 2023		Year 1 Trip to Mop End
Thursday 22 nd June 2023	14:30	Year Group Assembly – Year 3
Friday 23 rd June 2023		Cake donations for the Summer Fayre – no Mufti
Friday 23 rd June 2023		Year 2 Australia Day
Friday 23 rd June 2023	12:30 – 14:45	Year 3 Cricket Festival – Holmer Green Senior School
Sunday 25 th June 2023		Summer Fayre
Tuesday 27 th June 2023		Sports Day
Wednesday 28 th June 2023		Preschool Sports Day
Thursday 29 th June 2023		Reserve Sports Day
Friday 30 th June 2023		Windsor House Charity Day (Green Mufti)
Friday 30 th June 2023		Year 4 Netball Festival – Holmer Green Senior School
Tuesday 4 th July 2023		Transition Day
Tuesday 4 th July 2023	14:00 – 15:00	New Reception children 'Stay & Play' with parents
Wednesday 5 th July 2023	09:30 – 11:00	New Reception children 'Settling In' (no parents)
Thursday 6 th – Friday 7 th July 2023		Year 4 Residential – Woodrow
Friday 7 th July 2023		INSET DAY
Tuesday 11 th July 2023		Year 2 Trip to Whipsnade Zoo
Tuesday 11 th July 2023		Open Classrooms
Thursday 13 th July 2023	18:00	Year 6 Play – 'Shakespeare Rocks!' Arrive 18:00. Performance begins 18:30
Monday 17 th July 2023		Year 6 Trip to Littlehampton
Thursday 20 th July 2023	TBC	End of Year Progress and Values Assembly
Friday 21 st July 2023	12:00	Year 6 Leavers' Service
Friday 21 st July 2023	13:30	School Closes for Summer Holidays