

Kennington Primary School Newsletter

Date: 5th November 2021



Book Machine Winner

We have had our first winner from Year 3 (Hazel Class) of a book from the Kennington Book Machine this week. Well done to Zaynab who chose 'Leo and the Gorgon's Curse'. We are now expanding the criteria for winning a token for the machine. Not only is it for great reading but also for showing other signs of being a good Kennington Pupil for example, independence, resilience, hardworking, positivity etc. We feel that it is important to get the books into the hands of those children who may not have lots of books at home as well as the ones who are already good at reading.



Book Care

We have spent literally thousands this year to increase our book stock so the children have a wide range to choose from. Please can you ensure that the books are looked after when they go home. We already have a number that are quite badly damaged. We will ask for a contribution for replacements if books are returned in a poor condition.

Parental Questionnaire

You should have received a link to the annual parental questionnaire via Parent Apps. Oak Class parents will receive a separate link for their questionnaire as it deals with the experience of starting school. All views help us to shape our plans going forward.

Online Parents Evening

Yes, there were a few teething issues but on the whole we feel that doing it online had many more positives than doing it face to face. (See below). We will hold our Spring Parents Evening online as well as the guidelines are still not to have mass gatherings indoors. What we have learned is that Samsung phones default to the Samsung web browser which does not support video calls. We have also learned that phones, although most work, seem to throw up the most problems and that other devices such as tablets, ipads, laptops or PCs seem to work best. Please bear in mind as well that if there are any real issues that need to be discussed, the class teacher will contact you well before any parents evening.

Positives for online Parents Evenings	Negatives for online Parents Evenings
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Don't over run!• Parents don't get cross when other parents eat into their appointment time.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Technical Issues!• Possibly less personable than face to face• Don't see the children's books.

- No queue jumping.
- Better for working parents who can't get in to school.
- No need for a baby sitter.
- Don't have to come out in the rain!
- Teachers can do it from home.
- Less noise than there is doing it all together in the hall.
- Two parents can join from separate locations.
- More private.

- Some parents only have a mobile phone.
- Some parents not confident with technology.
- Some parents more likely to forget an online appointment than face to face.

First Aid in School

We have made a few changes to our First Aid Policy recently after an incident on the playground involving a fractured leg. From now on we will contact parents if we feel that they need to decide to have any injury checked by a medical professional for example a GP or at Accident and Emergency (not just a head injury). This may be when there is no obvious signs of a serious injury but the child is still saying they are in pain after being checked. We will ask you if you are available to come to school yourself but if you are unavailable, we will monitor the injury and if we feel it is worsening, we will make the decision to call you again or call an ambulance if you are unavailable.

Mrs Hutabarat

You may have noticed that Mrs Hutabarat, one of our TAs and Welfare staff, has been absent from school since returning in September. Unfortunately she is in hospital quite poorly at the moment. We are in contact with her and we wish her a speedy recovery.

Governor Election

Unfortunately, we did not receive any nominations for the vacant position of parent governor. We will repeat the process after the Christmas break. Hopefully, this will give parents time to think about whether this will be something they are interested in.

Anti-Bullying Week

We will be taking part in Anti-Bullying Week this year which begins on 15th November. Anti-Bullying Week is an annual UK event which aims to raise awareness of bullying and to highlight ways of preventing and responding to it. In England, Anti-Bullying Week is organised by the Anti-Bullying Alliance, which is a network of more than 100 member organisations all united against bullying. This year the theme is '*One Kind Word*', emphasising the positive impact a small gesture or comment can have on someone else's day. We will be kicking off the week with Odd Sock Day. This day helps us to recognise that everyone is unique and different, and that we all need kindness and respect. If your child wishes to take part, they just have to wear a pair of odd socks (over tights if girls wish to). This is NOT a non-uniform day. Normal uniform should be worn.

Children in Need

This year Children in Need is on 19th November which coincides with the end of our Anti-Bullying Week. This will be a non-uniform day and the children can come to school in Children in Need themed clothing or something spotty if they wish for a minimum donation of £1.

This should be paid via Parent Pay.

KS1 Nativity and Carols

This year Oak Class will be performing a Nativity performance that will be recorded for parents as we did last year. We managed to raise some money from this by parents making donations to receive a link to download the video to keep.

We will also be recording a small carol concert performed by Cherry, Willow and Beech Class that will also be available to download for a small donation.

Office News

You may have noticed that Mrs Royle has looked a little less stressed this week as we have been able to find some help for her in the office. Mrs Broadbent (a new one!) will be helping her until Christmas. She is already enjoying the role but please bear with her as she is still learning on the job.

Uniform

Thank you to everyone who has purchased the plastic retainers to replace earrings. We still have a small stock of them for purchase in the office. Once you feel that the holes will not close up then they should be removed. For any uniform policy infringements, you will now receive an electronic notice via parent app.

Absentees and Lates

These are now being monitored again by Mrs Nuttall as they were before the pandemic. We will send you a letter if your child is flagged up in our checks. Holidays in term time will still not be authorised. Penalty Notices will start to be issued from the Spring Term to parents who remove their child from school for 5 days or more of unauthorised leave.

School starts at 8:45am. Your child should be in school no later than this. If they arrive after this, they are missing valuable learning time. You can drop off from 8:35am.

Christmas Food Market

We will not be holding our Christmas Fair again this year as the guidelines are advising against indoor mass gatherings. The PTA however have come up with the idea of a Food Market where parents and friends can purchase different homecooked food to take away. This is similar to the food we sell at the Christmas Fair but on a larger scale. Plans haven't yet been finalised but we are letting you know now so you can start looking through your recipe books for the perfect take away feast!

Head Teacher Awards

Oak: Still settling in!

Cherry: Eisa M

Willow: Aizah K

Beech: Zidan K

Y3: Muhammad L & Aminah P

Y4: Muhammad Ismail M

Y5: Hasan H

Y6: Sana P

COVID-19 Update

As you will know, whole families are not required to isolate if a member of the household tests positive for Covid-19. Children who are negative should be sent to school. This is unless a parent or parents have tested positive and have no other way of getting their child to school. You should inform school and the class teacher will set work for the child. If your child has tested positive and is poorly then it is not expected that they complete online learning. They should rest and concentrate on getting better. If they are asymptomatic and you feel that they are able to complete work, please inform school and work will be set.

