

# Kingsfield Chronicle

Week ending: 16.04.21



Ready, Respectful, Safe

Dear Parents / Carers,

Well, I have never started the summer term with a snow flurry! Aside from the very cold weather, the children and staff have had a positive start to the term. Mr. Hilton (Director of Education for Active Learning Trust) visited us on Tuesday and was very complimentary about the changes that have happened within the school. Although he has been part of our IEB (governor) meetings, it was really good that he saw in person the changes that have been made. He commented positively upon the children's attitudes to learning, the quality and variety of displays and the calmness of the behaviour around school.

I understand that there are currently some social media discussions about Kingsfield and I thank those people who wrote such lovely comments about our setting. For those that were not quite as positive, please be aware that you can always raise your queries or concerns with me. The main issue discussed seems to be around change of personnel. Obviously, all schools would love to have a fully consistent team and that is my ultimate aim. However, we are currently a school on a very challenging journey and not every teacher wants to work in such a setting. We want to be able to offer your children the very best education and this means that we need exceptional staff with a positive mindset and desire to work in our school. We are interviewing next week for staff to join our team (rather than relying on supply staff who can leave without notice) and we hope that this will mean that we have a much more 'permanent' staffing solution from September.

The school is changing and Mr. Hilton saw this. I hope that in September we can have parental visits once again because I think you would then see for yourselves the significant changes within the building. The environment is calm, the learning offer is stronger and children are excited and keen to talk about their lessons.

Again, please do contact me with any concerns you have.

Have a lovely weekend.

Mrs. Coates

## Telephones



We have a new telephone system which we are all getting used to! All calls, including those to Mrs. Stephens, will be connected to the main office. They will then direct calls or take messages accordingly. Hopefully, this will mean that your call is not left ringing whilst a member of staff is in another meeting or virtual call.

## House Points

We have a change in winner this week!

Well done again to all those students in Green team!

Yellow 285

Red 271

Blue 314

Green 349



## Stars of the Week



Today's stars are as follows and they were awarded their certificates in our virtual celebration assembly led by Mrs. Coates:

- |                     |                   |
|---------------------|-------------------|
| RE Nancy R.         | RM Oscar B.       |
| 1G Jessica S.       | 1P Bluebell S.    |
| 2Re Henley-James B. | 2Ru Charlie Mc.C. |
| 3L Charley T.       | 3T Grace D.       |
| 4C Ayden D.         | 4P Imogen B.      |
| 5DC Charlee-Lou C.  | 5T Leighton S.    |
| 6C Jake C.          | 6L Robbie T.      |

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## Curriculum Updates

### Reception

This term Reception will be looking at the exciting topic of 'Animals.' We will be turning the mud kitchen into a farm and the role play area inside into a vets. The texts we will be focusing our work around will be 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar', 'The Three Billy Goats Gruff' and 'Oi Frog!'. We will also be continuing to follow the life-cycle of a frog as just before Easter we had some frogspawn delivered to us! In addition, we will be looking at the life-cycle of a caterpillar. In Phonics, we will continue to develop children's confidence in recognising and using phase 3 sounds both in their reading and writing. In Maths our focus topics will be: numbers within 15, shape and pattern; addition, subtraction and money.

*We are trying to develop the outside construction area and we are looking for safe planks of wood, plastic cones, construction site signage, safety tape and piping. If you have any of these items, please talk to Mrs. MacNeil. Thank you!*

### Year 1

We start this term exploring fairy tales. We will be listening to and re-telling these familiar stories as well as writing our own versions. For history, we are studying Kings and Queens and, in particular, comparing Queen Victoria with Queen Elizabeth II. This links to our Art topic of portraits where we will be learning how to draw the face with the right proportions and experimenting with different materials to create our own royal portrait. This half-term, we will be focussing on plants in science, particularly the parts of a plant and its life-cycle. We will also be investigating what things help a plant to grow well. In computing we will be learning coding and will be writing our own computer programmes. In Maths we will be continuing to reinforce our counting skills, improving our knowledge of place value and learning number facts to help us with our addition and subtraction.

### Year 2

This half term, our topic is castles and we will be looking at the different features of a castle. Our Art topic links with our History topic where the children will be creating their own observational drawings of the historical buildings. In English, we will be reading the fictional story 'The Paper Bag Princess' and then looking at non-fiction texts about castles. We will be writing our own non-chronological report using what we have learned about castles. In Maths, our topic is length and height and we will be learning how to measure both of these, including using a ruler accurately to do this. For the summer term, our Science topic is plants. Children will be learning about the parts of a plants, what a plant needs to survive and will be planting their own sunflower where they can use all the knowledge they have learnt to keep the plant alive! Our RE topic is Sikhism, where we will be learning about the faith and how the religion is celebrated.

### Year 3

This term our theme is the Ancient Egyptians. We will be exploring sculpture through use of Modroc to make a mummy in a sarcophagus. We started our theme by becoming Egyptologists and doing an archaeological dig to find stones with Egyptian artefacts painted on them. We are looking at non-fiction books to research Ancient Egyptian life and then we are writing non-chronological reports to record what we have discovered. We will be learning about the importance of the River Nile and what this provided for the Egyptians. Our Maths focuses on fractions of shapes and objects. In Science we are investigating different forms of light and how light travels. We will look at how reflective surfaces and materials can be useful, especially when outside at night. Also, how shadows are formed, as opaque objects block light from traveling through them. PSHE focuses on keeping healthy through exercise and eating healthy food. In RE we will be learning about Islam, and what is important to the Muslim people, including the prophets, holy book and place of worship. PE focusses on striking and fielding games, travelling in different ways and team work. Computing is focussing on learning about branch data bases.

### Year 4

This half term our topic will be 'Angry Planet'. Using the texts 'The Iron Man' and 'The Iron Woman' by Ted Hughes we will write newspaper reports and write a story exploring pollution and the effect it has on the planet. In Maths, we will develop our use of the four operations in the context of decimals, time, money and statistics. In Science, we will investigate sound through looking at how we hear noises and how they change over distances. We will then be learning about mountains, volcanoes and earthquakes linking to our topic. We will study how they are created and the impact natural disasters have on the planet. RE will focus on Sikhism, particularly looking their key symbols, place of worship and their main beliefs. PSHE will enable us to explore how to stay safe and the effects of different medicines.

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## Year 5

In Year 5 this term, we will be learning all about the 'Amazing Amazon!' Geography will take the lead focus as we learn all about rivers, predominantly the famous Amazon River, before moving on to looking at rainforest biomes after half term. In DT, we will be designing and creating bridges to go over the Amazon River and in Science, we will be looking at living things and their habitats; we will build on our understanding of life cycles and start to make comparisons between them as well as looking at the reproduction of some plants and animals. In RE, we will be learning all about what it means to be Jewish and in PSHE, we will be learning about healthy lifestyles. In Maths, our focus will be on fractions and during our English lessons, we will be reading 'Journey to the River Sea' by Eva Ibbotson and will begin by persuading our main character to move to a houseboat on the Amazon River!

## Year 6

Throughout the summer term our overarching theme is 'Fair Trade'. Within this we will learn all about Fair Trade, the Maya, nature and the Amazon, as well as take part in our own enterprise project linked to our learning. Financial capabilities, teamwork, steps to wellbeing and project management will be amongst the skills we will focus on. Our teamwork and resilience skills will be further enhanced through our P.E (rounders and team games), re-development of our outdoor area and our Commando Joe missions. Learning about Relationships and Sex Education will include the human lifecycle, growing up, personal responsibilities and families.

In English, we will be learning about writing letters, non-chronological reports, posters, business plans and advertising campaigns. In reading, we will share 'There's a Boy in the Girl's Bathroom' as our class text. In Maths, we will hone all of the fluency and problem-solving skills we have learnt previously as well learning more about money, budgets, statistics and geometry. We will be focussing on key life skills which will support transition to the next stage of preparing for secondary school.

*Year 6 are in need of shoe boxes for a Fairtrade farm project. If you have any spare, please send them into school as soon as possible. Thank you in advance for any contributions made.*

### Attendance Update

We are aiming to have brilliant (96%+) attendance all year. *Due to closing a bubble and absence from siblings, this week's totals are lower than usual.*

Weekly percentages:

RE	94.5%	RM	97.7%
1G	96.3%	1P	97.5%
2Re	99.3%	2Ru	99.3%
3L	95.3%	3T	97.6%
4C	97.0%	4P	96.2%
5DC	93.6%	5T	97.8%
6C	98.3%	6L	94.5%

Overall school attendance was 96.8% which is massively higher than last week.

WELL DONE TO YEAR 3 for being the highest attending classes this week!



1. Abel H.	Rock Legend	4C
2. <u>Katherina DeP.</u>	Rock Legend	4C
3. <u>Isaac L.</u>	Rock Legend	5T
4. Tyler S.	Rock Legend	5T
5. Max H.	Rock Legend	3T
6. Bethany H-E.	Rock Legend	5DC
7. Oscar W.	Rock Legend	4P
8. Evie L.	Rock Legend	4C
9. Adam G.	Rock Star	5T
10. <u>Lvall P.</u>	Rock Star	5DC