

## Magical Moments

It is definitely school trip season with our children enjoying lots of different trips over the last few weeks. They have had a great time and we have been incredibly proud of how well they have represented the school when out and about.

### Year 3 Trip to Ipswich Museum



### Year 4 Residential to Whitwell Hall



### Year 1 & Year 2's Banham Zoo Visit



### Kittens' Farm Visit



### Every Child, Every Day

Attendance is going to be a big focus at Kedington Primary. This has been identified as a national priority with the School's Commissioner saying it is 'the number one priority for everyone working in the interests of children in this country'. Understandably, attendance has dropped over the last two years as a result of the pandemic, but we now need to work together to do everything we can to get it back up to pre-pandemic levels.

Even without a pandemic, children do of course get poorly from time to time and be too unwell to attend school, but our aim should be that every child is in school every. Pre-pandemic, attendance nationally was around 96% and Kedington's was higher than this. It is currently below 93%.



93% sounds quite high. If I scored 93% on a test, I would be delighted! However, attendance of 90% means that the child has missed the equivalent of one day of school every fortnight or a month off over the year!

It is important that children are in school as much as possible for a whole range of reasons, both academic and social. If children miss lessons, there will inevitably be gaps in their learning and there is a proven link between how much children are in school and how well they do at GCSEs.

I have heard the curriculum compared to a box-set series on TV which I think is a great analogy. If you think of a subject like science or maths as a series with seven seasons, one each year when children are at primary school, by the end of Year 6, they will have a really deep understanding and be able to make connections and deepen their understanding each year. However, we all know what it is like if we miss episodes of a series we are watching. We can catch up with what is happening to some extent, but it never makes quite as much sense as if we had watched it and we can begin to lose interest. It is the same with learning. If children miss some, they can catch up to some extent, but it is never quite the same. Despite everyone's best efforts, we all know from the periods do school closure that remote learning is nowhere near as effective as face-to-face learning in school.

A big part of school is being able to make and sustain relationships with others. When children are absent, not only do they miss important opportunities for this, but friendships with young children can move on quickly and it can be hard to slot back into a friendship group when you have been away.

I am very hopeful that with your support and now that Covid is largely behind us, our attendance will start to rise. If your child's attendance dips below 90%, our policy is for me to contact parents to arrange to meet to see if there is anything we can do to support your child to be in school more. We want to work together with you and sometimes there is something small we can do which can make a huge difference.

Please also remember that holiday should be taken in the school holidays. Holidays taken within term time will only be authorised in the most exceptional circumstances. From September, we will be more rigorous about requiring to see evidence of all exceptional circumstances such as wedding invitations and evidence of changed flight bookings.

If there is ever anything we can do to help your child to attend school at any point, please do not hesitate to get in touch with the class teacher or with me.





## Second-Hand Uniform

From Monday until the end of term, all our second-hand uniform will be put outside by the office every day (when the weather is fine). Please feel free to help yourselves to anything that you can use. We have a huge amount and I am keen for it to be reused.

## PE Kits

I am really pleased that more children are wearing dark, plain coloured tops/hoodies now. Thank you for your support with this. However, there are still some children who are not. It is only fair that all children follow the rules.

A reminder that from September all tracksuits or similar must be black or navy and plain. A small logo is acceptable.

## End of Year Assembly

Our final Family Assembly is on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> July at 8.55am will be a special celebration. As is tradition, two Child of the Year awards will be presented to children in each class – a progress award and a values award. The progress award is presented to a child who has made significant progress over the year, often overcoming barriers and showing great determination. The values award is for a child who is a shining example of our school values and an excellent role model for others.

This will be online as usual and all are welcome to join us. If your child is getting an award, I will message you in advance so you can arrange to join us.

Year 6 will have their Leavers' Assembly the Friday before this and their own awards. This is the last day at Kedington for most of them as they have three days transition to their high school in the final week.

## Early Finish – 20th July 2022

A reminder that school will finish at 1.30pm on the last day of term. Please collect children in the usual way. If you need us to continue to look after your children until the usual time, please let your class teacher know.

## Church Coffee Morning

The church is open on Tuesday mornings after drop-off for coffee and cakes and a chance to meet up with friends.

### **"DOLCE GUSTO" COFFEE MORNINGS**

**TUESDAYS**

**St Peter and St Paul's Church,  
Kedington**



- Just dropped the children at school?
- Waiting for the Mums and Toddlers to start at the Legion Hall?
- On your way to or from the shops?
- Just fancy a change of scene?

**Starting Tuesday 14 June 2022**

**From 8.30am until 12 noon in term time  
otherwise 10am until 12 noon**

**All welcome**

**Bring your friends**