

Kingfisher Courier

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Kingfisher Primary Letter No. 1

Wednesday 7th September 2022

Welcoming Everyone back to school and we start the year with an apology!

Welcome back to school from all the staff at Kingfisher Primary. It has been wonderful to see the children coming through the doors brightly as the new school year begins.

Thank you, as ever, for your efforts in ensuring that they are smart and in full school uniform and black shoes. Please make sure they are also coming in with a coat each day due to the usual changeable weather. Could you please make sure that the children's jumpers and cardigans have been labelled (an indelible marker with their initials on the label is enough).

An Apology

I must apologise to all families for how the year has started in relation to booking school meals, clubs or making payments of any sort. This has been beyond our control, although I know this does not help you. Astrea Academy Trust have introduced a new payment system into school and there have been a number of teething problems with this and ensuring that everything is accessible to families. The Admin Team have worked tirelessly for the last two days to get this up and running and will be available to support in anyway they can so you can access all you need to on the system. Members of the team will be available in The Hepworth Building on Thursday and Friday between 8.30am and 9.30am to support anyone who would like to drop in. In order to access any information now from school, including payments, letters etc families will need to download the My Child at School App (MCAS). Again if you require support with this please just contact school.

Again, I apologise for this start, it is not what we wanted for you and doesn't reflect well on school, but we will continue to work to ensure that we support you through the next few weeks so that you feel happy and confident in using this system.

Allergies

We currently have children in school with severe nut allergies. Please ensure that you do not send any nut products in your children's lunch boxes.

Learning

As in previous years, we will continue to have a big drive on English and maths skills and we would appreciate your support with this as we strive to ensure that the children have an early focus on spelling, punctuation, grammar and reading as well as counting and calculation skills, you will shortly be receiving individual year group newsletters which will give you more detail about expectations.

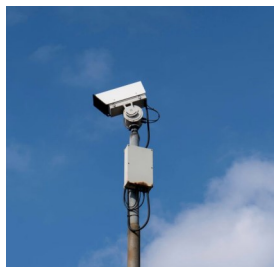
Pupil Premium

As you know we receive a sum of money for every child who is entitled to free school meals (or would be if the meals were not provided free of charge to all children in reception and key stage 1). This money is used by the school for the benefit of your child(ren), through funding areas such as additional training for our staff, reduction of class sizes, investing in partnership working with our colleagues in the area to further our expertise, and supporting our staff in working on specialised areas such as speech and language. It is a vital source of income for the school and has had a great impact. In addition to this if a decision is made by Doncaster Council to issue Food Vouchers during the school holidays you will be entitled to receive these which provide a family with a £15 voucher for each child for a week of the holiday. If there are any changes in your circumstances, please notify the office who will take you through the procedures to apply for the premium.

These are the main messages for you at the moment as we start back, but we will send out further correspondence as needed, throughout the term, usually through the MCAS App. Please keep checking your child's bag and also the website where any correspondence is published.

When we return in September cameras will have been installed around school by Doncaster Council. These cameras are part of system purchased by the council for the purposes of the enforcement of the 'School Keep Clear Markings'. These marking are there for the safety all school and road uses and unfortunately we regularly have concerns raised about drivers ignoring these markings and parking in areas which make it dangerous for children and families arriving or leaving school.

The cameras will only be operational during school times.



Research has shown that regular attendance and good punctuality are crucial factors in children achieving their full potential in education. At Kingfisher Primary we wish to work in strong partnership with families to ensure we can achieve the best for and from everyone.

Poor attendance can result in slow rates of progress and lower attainment, as well as missing out on learning experiences and the possibility of problems socialising with other children. We monitor attendance daily. Term time holidays are **not authorised** and will result in the Local Authority issuing fines.

This means we are seeking your full support in ensuring that your child attends school every day and on time. We are always pleased to work together with families in resolving any difficulties or barriers to learning but we are also committed to improving attendance levels Kingfisher.

Please notify us by phone (01302349275) to let us know and explain your child's absence. In order to ensure the safety and well-being of your child, we will contact you if we have not received notification from you. If we are unable to make contact you as part of our safeguarding approaches we will undertake a home a visit.

We monitor attendance daily and send an attendance report home with each child at the end of each term. If we have concerns about a child's attendance or punctuality, we will contact you to discuss how this might be improved.

Good attendance is encouraged and a certificate is awarded to the classes with the highest attendance in Key Stages 1 and 2 each week.

The target attendance figure for all children is a minimum of 96% attendance.

I wanted to give you advance notice of when Parent Conversations will be taking place for each class in school. This will be an opportunity for class teachers to share with you how your child has settled in and how they are doing, as well as an areas for you to support your child with.

There will be two different options from you to choose from this year, firstly we know that many families like the opportunity to have the conversation with the class teacher by phone so it can be scheduled around their commitments. We also know that some parents would like to have the opportunity to have a face to face conversation, so this year when you return your slip for the Parent Conversation you will be able to indicate whether you would like it to be undertaken through a telephone call or a face to face appointment.

Class	Date	Time	Class Teacher
Nursery	Monday 14 th November and Monday 21 st November 2022	8.00am – 4.00pm	Miss Geraghty
C1	Monday 14 th November 2022	8.00am – 4.00pm	Mrs <u>Hlidreth</u> /Mrs Wilde
C2	Monday 21 st November 2022	8.00am – 4.00pm	Miss Gibson/Miss Wilkinson
C3	Friday 4 th November 2022	8.00am – 4.00pm	Miss Hughes
C4	Monday 7 th November 2022	8.00am – 4.00pm	Mrs McAdams
C5	Monday 10 th October 2022	8.00am – 4.00pm	Mrs Thornton
C6	Monday 17 th October 2022	8.00am – 4.00pm	Miss <u>Towland</u>
C7	Monday 10 th October 2022	8.00am – 4.00pm	Miss Mallinson
C8	Monday 17 th October 2022	8.00am – 4.00pm	Miss Cooper
C9	Wednesday 2 nd November 2022	8.00am – 4.00pm	Miss Morrice
C10	Monday 7 th November 2022	8.00am – 4.00pm	Miss Fawcett
C11	Monday 10 th October 2022	8.00am – 4.00pm	Miss Sutcliffe
C12	Friday 2 st October 2022	8.00am – 4.00pm	Miss McGinty
C13	Friday 4 th November 2022	8.00am – 4.00pm	Miss Penn
C14	Monday 7 th November 2022	8.00am – 4.00pm	Miss Stallard

The dates are listed for every class in school so that you have advanced notice of this information.