

# Kingfisher Courier

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Kingfisher Primary Letter No. 1

Friday 15th September 2023

## Welcoming Everyone back to school

Welcome back to you all and welcome for the first time to any of our new families to our first weekly Friday newsletter. Despite only being back in school for 8 days, lots already has been happening this week with classes launching straight into the new learning. We welcomed in our new reception classes as they start their primary school journey—some old faces we know well from our nursery and siblings as well as some new children and families to Kingfisher. I know you will all make them feel part of our wonderful school community. That goes also for the children across the school who have joined us at the start of the year—it's great to have you with us and your children are, as always, being incredibly kind and nurturing helping them feel at home. I'd like to introduce two new members of staff to you—Miss Savage is our new Y5 Teacher and Miss Carter is a new Teaching Assistant, working across the school. I know you will all make them welcome. Have a great weekend and we look forward to seeing you next week.

## 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

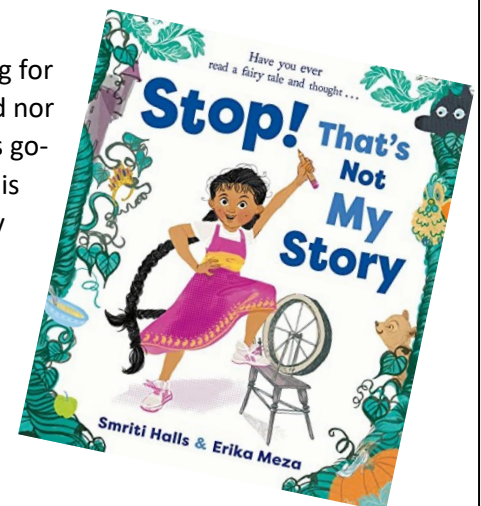
As in previous years, we will continue to have a big drive on English and maths skills and we would appreciate your support with this as we strive to ensure that the children have an early focus on spelling, punctuation, grammar and reading as well as counting and calculation skills, you will shortly 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.

## OUR READING RECOMMENDATION

"Stop! That's Not My Story" by Smriti Halls & Erika Meza A girl opens up a book looking for the story that's perfect for HER and tumbles inside. But Goldilocks is not her story, and nor is Jack and the Beanstalk or Little Red Riding Hood... There's only one thing for it: she's going to have to write her own story – and this time, SHE will be the hero. You'll enjoy this book if you like traditional fairy tales. This book is suitable for those readers in Nursery and Reception.



## Secondary School Places

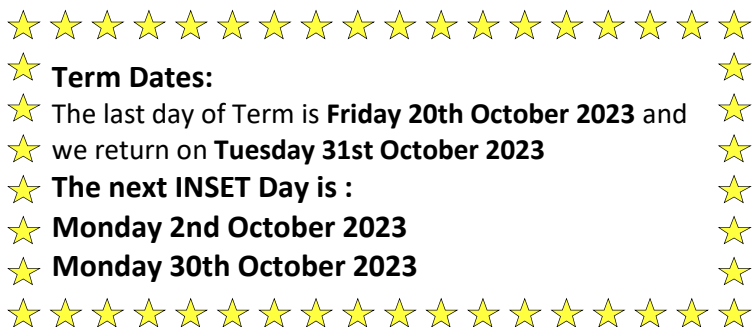
If your child is in Year 6, you can now apply for a secondary school place for September 2024. This year's application window runs from 1st September 2023 until 31st October 2023.

Before you apply, you should research the local secondary schools. This will help you decide which schools to put down as your preferences.

To find out more about a school, you could:

- Go to the school open day (dates will be on their website) Visit the school website
- Ask other parents what they think of the school
- Look at the latest Ofsted reports and school performance tables

If you would like any help with the application process, which is online through the Doncaster Council website, please contact the main school office and we would be happy to support in anyway we can.



### ★ Term Dates:

- ★ The last day of Term is **Friday 20th October 2023** and
- ★ we return on **Tuesday 31st October 2023**
- ★ **The next INSET Day is :**
- ★ **Monday 2nd October 2023**
- ★ **Monday 30th October 2023**

## Parents' Evening

There will be the opportunity on **Tuesday 17th October 2023** between **3.15pm** and **7.00pm** to discuss the academic and social progress being made by your child(ren) with their class teacher.

Information relating to the timings of the Parents Evening will be coming out shortly, please sign up and return the document to your child's classteacher when you have received them.

We will be continuing to offer the option of coming into school to meet with your child's class teacher face to face or offering you the opportunity to receive this information through a telephone conversation. You will be able to indicate on the letter coming out after half term what you preference is.



## Attendance

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 with you as part of our safeguarding approaches we will undertake a home 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.

## Let us know if...

**There has been change of contact details:** If anyone has been lucky enough to have a new phone and you have changed your number, please make sure that the office have been given the details so that we can update our contact systems. Also if you have any changes to your address or email details. Thank you.

**Changes in medical needs:** Has your child been recently diagnosed with anything that school should know about? Are they now Asthmatic and require an Asthma Care Plan? All these things school should be aware of. If your child requires medication a form must be completed before school can administer anything.

**Changes in circumstances:** If you feel there has been a change within the family which you think could affect your child and we should be aware of. By us knowing this helps us to monitor your child and help if required.