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Principal: Catherine Skinn
Deputy Principal: Alison Parsons

Monday 9th September 2024

Dear Families,

A very warm welcome back to school! I hope you had a wonderful holiday and are ready for a busy and exciting term ahead. A special welcome to new pupils, families, and staff to our school; I hope you will be very happy here at Kingfisher.

Over the Summer holidays, there have been lots of updates to school. Our Main Hall has had the floor sanded and repolished and it now looks amazing and will provide a great environment for PE and assemblies to take place in. There have been repairs taking place to the roof in a number of places, above the Y5/Y6 classrooms, the IT suite and the hall. This is to ensure that these roof areas are watertight. This work is due to be completed by October 2024.

Classrooms were lovely and calm as I went round and saw everyone. Thank you to Reception parents for following your child's transition schedule to ease them back in.

With the British weather ever changing, please remember to send your child to school with a raincoat as it can rain for a short time, then be sunny in the next minute. Always ensure items of clothing are named. The lost property boxes have been emptied and they were full of unnamed clothing.

Thank you to the Staff for their hard work and commitment to the school. I will continue to work closely with them to ensure that your children receive the best possible education. Finally, I would like to say how pleased I am to be your Principal. Kingfisher is a very special school and one which I feel extremely privileged to lead. I will always try my best to make time to be out on the playground before school, so please do not hesitate to stop and speak to me. I will continue to send regular Newsletters, so please ensure you read them carefully to stay informed about the events taking place this term.

The first newsletter of the year focuses on Attendance; I have already had a number of families speak to me about communications which school send out in relation to attendance. You may or may not have seen during the summer information about the Government's response to concerns about falling attendance in schools across England. As a result of this, the Government has introduced new legislation which schools now have to implement; this includes a change to fines for holidays taken in term time, attendance which is classed as Persistent Absence – attendance which is below 90%. There is information included in the newsletter about the changes which have been made, as well as on the website. In addition to this we are currently agreeing a date for a presentation to families about what this looks like at Kingfisher; as soon as this date is agreed we will send out information via the app.

Yours sincerely,

Catherine Skinn
Principal