

Dear Parent/ Carers,

It has been another very busy week for the children with lots of fantastic activities and learning across the school.

As many parents will know, we currently have a number of staff absent from the school for a variety of reasons. All schools will experience this from time to time. Fortunately, I have been able to recruit some very experienced staff to provide cover. I want parents to know that these qualified teachers have regular guidance and meetings with myself and my senior team to ensure the children are receiving the best possible learning in the event of an absence. I also met this week with the Chief Executive of the Trust which manages our school. We have agreed a plan to recruit new teachers where we need to in order to resolve the situation as quickly as possible. I will keep you updated.

By popular demand – more regular communication

I always consider carefully suggestions from our parents. A number of you have been asked that I write a short letter at the end of each half-term to update parents on key issues. I am very happy to do this.

Stay in contact

Apart from this newsletter, there are lots of ways in which you can stay in touch with what is going on in the school. We have a website, Facebook, Instagram, Twitter. Details are [here](#).

Coffee morning on Friday.

I hope to see as many of you that can come into the school for this. I will be updating parents on plans for the school. The Chief Executive of the Trust will join us. We will also have Nicky Ross, a senior headteacher who is working with *us and the other schools in the Trust to make further improvements to teaching and learning.*

Thank you grandparents and carers!

I wanted to say a special thank you this week to our grandparents and carers. You do so much, I know, to help the children. We certainly don't say thank you enough. I know parents will want to join in with me with a very big thank you. I have asked our excellent Community Outreach team to see if there is an event we can organise specially for our grandparents.

Hundreds of new books for the school.

We are investing £8000 in new books because it is critical that we continue to improve reading across the school. These have now been ordered and will be with us in the New Year. We will be holding special themed open days for parents to come in and use the new libraries with their children.

Please also read at home with your child. Our Read Aloud campaign suggests 15 minutes, every day. All the research shows that children who regularly read do better in all subjects, including maths.

Breakfast Club

We have a wonderful club for the children. If any parents are interested in their child attending in future, I will be dropping into Breakfast Club on Thursday (7.30-8am) and am happy to talk to you.

Celebrating children's work

I am creating a special page on our website to celebrate some of the great work our children do. Each week we will feature a child and a piece of their work.

Lunchtime procedures and rules.

I will be writing next week to all parents and carers. The behaviour of some children needs to improve and I will be asking for your support for us to achieve this. We will have updated systems in place for lunchtimes and these will be sent out so you can discuss with your child. Thank you.

Pupils hear inspirational talk

The inspirational Javed Moore, who lives with severe cerebral palsy, gave an incredible uplifting assembly to our pupils about positivity and believing in themselves. The children were so inspired by his life story and his achievements. Javed will be coming into school again soon to work more with our pupils. He is an amazing man.



Chinese delegation visits school

Teachers from Beijing came to see us this week and were impressed with the children and the school. We plan to establish links and discussed some ideas about what we might do in the future. Proposed collaboration includes joint Science Projects where the children collaborate using email and video. We look forward to this work.



Keeping up with topical news.

I am very excited to announce that we have invested in a news resource for our children called "The Day Explorer." Teachers will soon be using this in class to ensure our children are up to speed on all that is going on in the world. Most importantly the news is from reliable, trustworthy sources (no fake social media "news") and written in a child friendly way. For ease of access see the Daily Explorer [here](#).



Thank you all so much for your continued support

Matthew Clifford

Headteacher

Kingfisher Hall Primary Academy

Academies run and managed by Cuckoo Hall Academies Trust