

Dear Parent/ Carer,

Welcome back to school and I hope you all had an enjoyable Christmas break and a Happy New Year! Our children have settled back into school really well and are all working hard! During the break I was in school a number of times and without the children inside it seems a really empty and sad place. It is so much warmer and happier now that the rooms and corridors are full of happy, energetic children! It really is a lovely atmosphere. Thank you all.



£8k of new books have arrived!

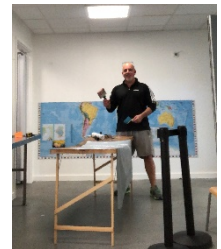
We are all very excited now that all of the brand new library books have arrived. We have new collections of non-fiction books to help with the children's Topic learning and also hundreds of fantastic fiction books for children from Nursery to Year 6. Our hard working pupil librarians have been busy sorting and cataloguing all of the new titles, ready to put on the shelves. As soon as this is done we will give out children's login details so they can access our library online, browse the books and even reserve titles they want to take out when it is their library day.

Outdoor Learning in EYFS

We are currently improving the outside area for our Reception children. We will be installing numbered stepping stones and featured areas for music play, water play, growing and of course the ever popular mud kitchen! The works should be done by next week.

Maximising Learning.

I managed to dust off my DIY tools over the break and managed to put up a large world map in the kitchen servery. Even though my papering skills were rusty it hasn't fallen down yet! Now, as children are queueing for dinner, they are also learning many geographical skills and much knowledge!



Developing your teachers

We place a continued high priority on developing our staff with high quality training. With that in mind we have invested a significant amount on all aspects of training to ensure our staff provide high quality English teaching. We are working with a company called TT Education who are training our staff on the teaching of Grammar and our subject leads on developing their subjects across the school. We have also invested in training from a company called "Read Write Inc" in order us to improve our teaching of early reading.

Alongside this we have bought into a Music scheme called Charranga which ensures our children get high quality music lessons and we have invested in DB primary so our staff have the resources to deliver IT lessons in line with the National Curriculum.



I am also really pleased to say Mrs Molloy and the children are enjoying the French lessons she is teaching. Even though the government only make learning a language statutory from Year 3 upwards, at Kingfisher we now teach French from Nursery upwards. I think that children learn a new language more easily when they are young and by the time they leave our school they will have had eight years of French lessons!

We continue to invest in high quality maths support from Peter Warwick, an excellent, highly sought after maths consultant. If we fail to ensure our teachers have the best training, then we fail to ensure your children have the best teachers.

Thank you all so much for your continued support

Matthew Clifford