

Parent Newsletter



Monday 1st October 2018.

An official welcome to KPINS!

This academic year we welcome two new members of staff, Miss. Hollingsworth and Mrs. Vyas both join the early years' team. We also welcome back Mrs. Gohil following a period of long-term sick leave.

Four weeks into the new school year and the children seem to be settling well into their learning environment. This week our new Reception learners will commence their full time education and are enjoying the experience of being in the setting all day including hot school meals.

The Year 1 children are adapting slowly to a change in curriculum as they gradually transition from a play based curriculum in reception, to Key Stage 1 and a more formal style of learning and expectations. Year 2 children are finding their feet as they prepare for the high expectation of the curriculum and learning behaviours.

Later this month parents in Years 1 & 2 (KS1) will have the opportunity to book a one to one meeting with their child's new class teacher, the aim of this meeting is to start to build relationships and exchange information about your child. The class teacher will let you know how your child has adapted to the change of year group and provide a brief progress update (16th & 17th October). A more detailed consultation meeting will be organised in February. Information about how to book an appointment will be coming out to you via parent mail and you will be invited to book a slot on line. If you have not received the email by the 12th October, please visit the staff in the school office who will be more than happy to assist you.

Similarly, after the half term break reception parents will also have the opportunity to meet their son/daughter's classteacher and discuss how their child has settled into the setting. (Week commencing 5th November 2018 3.45 – 5.15 p.m. over the week).

Also during the this term Parents will be invited to sit in on teaching and attend our programme of seminar lessons for parents which will commence for our Reception and Nursery parents first and in Year 1 & 2 after Christmas. These dates will be communicated to you via the Reception and Nursery Parents fortnightly newsletters and the teachers will display a sheet outside their classroom for parents to sign up if they wish to attend. Most of these sessions commence at 9 a.m. and last a maximum of 1 hour. We ask parents if they have other children below school age to arrange childcare so that they can attend alone and focus on the contents of the session.

In this months' newsletter the aim is to inform parents/carers of some forthcoming events, dates for your diaries, reiterate and provide information about any changes to school practice under the directive of the Local authority, DfE etc.

Health and safety

We are an accredited Gold Award Healthy School and encourage our children to have a healthy diet and promote oral hygiene by **banning** all forms of confectionary, sweets, chocolates, crisps, fizzy drinks etc. They are **not allowed** in school or on the school site at the start or the end of the school day.

Only healthy snacks may be brought into school and we expect similar treats at the end of the school day once the children have been collected from school. We do not want to see parents **bringing crisps and confectionary onto the school site at the end of school** as a snack for your child. **So please do not bring crisps, sweets and other unhealthy snacks on to the school site at the end of the day.** We want to ensure that the children learn that crisps and chocolate should be eaten in moderation and as a treat, not as a daily snack prior to going home for tea or evening dinner. We are seeing too many children missing school because of tooth ache. It is frightening to learn that children are having 8-9 teeth removed at one time due to tooth decay!

We have also been a **NUT FREE** school for a number of years but over the years' the number of children coming into the school with **life threatening food allergies** has been on the increase. We have a duty of care to ensure that their well-being along with that of all the other children is supported.

Therefore, you will notice on some classroom doors this year that there are signs indicating where there is a child with such a life-threatening allergy, and we would ask that you follow our strict guidelines by not sending any of the food items mentioned into school unless requested under controlled circumstances.

Some classes will have received more detailed letters requesting even stricter practice to support the learners in their child's class, it may even be your child. Please adhere to the requests made as all our children have a Right to be Safe (Article 19 UNCRC).

Birthday's

If it is your child's birthday and you wish to distribute treats', please either donate a book with a special inscription to commemorate the occasion or some form of stationary. Party bags containing edible treats **should not be sent in**, nor will staff be made responsible for distributing any party bags.

Events and activities during the Autumn Term 2018.

Seminar lessons and parent workshops Autumn 2018.

Date	Workshop	Classes
08/10/18	Maths parents workshop Year 1 and 2 parents.	KS 1 parents in the hall at 9 a.m.
06/11/18	Reception – Literacy parents' workshops 9-10 a.m. Focus on reading.	Dragon Class
07/11/18	“	Unicorn Class
08/11/18	“	Fairy Class
13/11/18	Ocean Maths sessions: Parent Workshops: 9 – 10 am:	Dragon Class
14/11/18	“	Unicorn Class
15/11/18	“	Fairy Class
14/11/18	Year 1 Literacy parents meeting	Yr 1 – 9 a.m.
15/11/18	Year 2 Literacy parents	Yr 2 – 9 a.m.

	meeting	
Week beginning 19 th November 2018	Nursery and Reception parents invited to ICT sessions.	Nursery and reception classes.
05/12/18	Nursery workshops	Morning Nursery parents
06/12/18	Nursery workshops	Afternoon Nursery parents

Highlights of the school's achievements in 2017/18.

Flagship status.

We pride ourselves on being an inclusive school and have been recognised as a Centre of Excellence when it comes to inclusion for the past three years. This has involved external quality assurance assessment visits annually to maintain the status. In June 2018, the school was assessed and awarded the highest accolade of Flagship status. The assessor wrote a detailed report on the school that can be found on our school website. Some of the highlights in the report are:

- Strong community feel with an emphasis on developing relationships between pupils, staff and parents.
- Diversity is valued and celebrated on a daily basis through special events such as International days, ... inclusion of songs in different languages in the Sing Sing Festival
- The school offers substantial support for parents and families, both formally and informally.
- Induction events for new families aim to get things right for children at the start of their education...

(The full report can be found on the school website)

Silver ArtsMark Award

This award is focused on the school ensuring the children receive a broad and balanced curriculum, bringing learning to life through arts and culture.

The school's submission was assessed by a panel who were pleased to read of the positive impact that developing art based experiences are having on outcomes for pupils and teachers. The school's focus on developing art activities has raised the skill level and confidence of teachers, resulting in a wider range of opportunities for pupils. The use of arts to develop a creative curriculum is emerging and new initiatives now need time to embed, in order for measureable effects to be collated.

Attendance.

Last year the Local Authority reviewed its Attendance Intervention Model and Education Penalty Notice (EPN) Code of Conduct. The key changes introduced were as follows:

Where a child meets the criteria and has 10 sessions (a typical school day counts as 2 sessions – a.m. and p.m.) unauthorised absence they will be issuing **one EPN per parent per child** as opposed to one per child to both parents; (potentially £60 x 2 = £120).

- Permitting **the issuing of multiple EPNs per child per academic year** (up to 3 per year) rather than limited to one per child per year;

- Change of criteria in relation to "lateness" for the issuing of an EPN from 12 lates in 20 weeks to **12 lates in 8 weeks**;

- Change of criteria for issuing EPN "Where the Harrow Council's Education Services believes that a Penalty Notice is the most appropriate way to deal with irregular school attendance as the child has attendance below 90% and at least 5% absences are unauthorised".

- Change in court process in that on receipt of referral, parents are written to and contacted to set expectations in relation in attendance with Pre Court Panel scheduled in 6 weeks to consider attendance and compliance with expectations set;

- Setting "excellent attendance" level at 95%

Last school year the school issued a number of Educational Penalty Notices due to parents taking their children out of school to travel abroad during term time. Factors like this have led to even shorter timescales for when penalty notices can be issued which if behaviours similar to that experienced last year continue we are likely to see an increase in the number of EPN issued. Therefore, we are making parents aware early on in the term of the proposed changes and the implications these will have not only on your child's learning and progress but your pockets!

Prior to the summer break a number of children were absent from school making claims that their child was ill but phone lines were ringing out internationally! The Court Attendance Officer has stated the following practice for schools with regard to medical evidence where a child was absent before the summer break, they should not have been abroad unless agreed with the school so no school would have to accept medical evidence in this case.

With regard to leave after the summer break, again the school does not have to accept medical evidence – the school would need to be satisfied that the family had made arrangements initially for the child to be back in the UK for the start of school, so schools should request the family's travel bookings showing that it was planned for the child to be back in time for school. If the child fell ill whilst abroad, it would be reasonable for school to ask for both the medical evidence **and** the family's booking amendment showing the date they changed their return travel arrangements. Without the original booking and the confirmation of when they had to change their travel plans, it would be reasonable for the school to advise parents that they have nothing on which to authorise the absences. In which case parents could be issued with an Education Penalty Notice.

Please note the timings of the school day:

It is important to ensure that children attend school regularly and equally importantly on time – **NOT LATE!!!!**

Nursery a.m. session: 8.45 – 11.45 a.m.

Nursery p.m. session: 12.45 – 3.45 p.m.



Reception 8.50 a.m. – 3.15 p.m. once the children are full time.

Year 1 & 2: 8.50 – 3.20 p.m.

Remember - This school **does not approve** any leave during term time for holidays. Any application for leave under the exceptional circumstances will need to be supported with appropriate evidence and then assessed to see that it fits the criteria. Any leave taken without authorisation could lead to a penalty notice. Parents are reminded not to make any flight arrangements before discussing any requests for leave with the school first. The school adheres to the local authority AIM procedures.

Gold Attendance.

Congratulations to the 18 children across the whole school who manage to achieve 100% attendance in the school year 2017/18. This is an improvement on 11 pupils at the end of the academic year 2016/17.

They were: Darius A, Gabriel, Vishaya, Bansi, Viorica, Nikshep, Jasmine, Alexandru, Prisha, Stefan and Dhrish who have all now transferred to the Junior school and Amirah, Elisa (a Nursery child), Naitik, Abirran, Darius O, Elsa, and Dorothea S. All the children received a Gold attendance certificate, and medals in celebration of their huge achievement.



School term dates.

AUTUMN TERM 2018

First Day of Term
Half Term
Last day Of Term

- Tuesday 4th September
- Monday 22nd - Friday 26th Oct
- Friday 21st December



SPRING TERM 2019

First Day of Term
Half Term
Last day Of Term

- Monday 7th January
- Monday 18th – Friday 22nd Feb
- Friday 5th April

SUMMER TERM 2019

First Day of Term
May Day Bank Holiday
Half Term
Last day Of Term

- Wednesday 24th April
- Monday 6th May
- Monday 27th - Friday 31st May
- Tuesday 23rd July

INSET dates below.

Monday 3rd September 2018
Friday 11th January 2019
Tuesday 23rd April 2019

Friday 19th October 2018
Friday 1st March 2019



***Please note if you have a child/children in the Junior School that they have an INSET day on Tuesday 23rd July the Infant school DOES NOT, So children will be required to attend school as usual on Tuesday 23rd July (the Junior School will end on Monday 22nd July)**

Remember each school term ends at 2.15 p.m.

Friday 21st December 2018. Friday 5th April & Tuesday 23rd July 2019. These are also Non-uniform days and the children donate £1 to the school for the privilege of coming to school in their own clothes. All the money raised is used to subsidise school events and support school projects. Last year the school purchased a new stage at a cost of over £5,000.

School Travel Plan

As an accredited GOLD travel plan school we continue to promote WOW – Walk on Wednesday encouraging every child/family to walk or park away from the school and walk to school at least every Wednesday.

Each month we will celebrate by announcing the class with the most pupils walking to school on Wednesdays. The children receive WOW badges. In September, Brazil Class had the most children WOW every Wednesday of the month. Well done!



Harrow Schools Counselling Partnership



The school is in year two of a three year funded provision from the John Lyons Trust which has allowed us to employ the services of Harrow Schools Counselling Partnership to help us look after your child's emotional health and wellbeing.

The aim of the service is to provide therapeutic support and advice to children, parents and staff across the school.

The Space.

Part of the provision is to offer a lunchtime drop-in service, called The Space, to all of the children in the school. They can come along and talk about anything that might be troubling them either on their own or with a friend. Today's children have many concerns about friendship, peer pressure, social media, body image, SATs and transition to high school. The Space offers them a place to talk about their concerns and receive support. Please let the school know if, for some reason, you do not want your child to attend The Space.

Parent's Drop-In

In addition, there will also be a confidential drop-in service for Parents. If you have any concerns about your child, need some strategies to help them at home or you need a space for yourself. The drop-in will be available on **Wednesday mornings between 9.00-10.00 am**. Remember our Counselling Services Manager **Maryam Rashid** is here to help you.

If you would like to know more or arrange an appointment feel free to contact **Maryam** by email at maryam@hscp.info or by phone on **07901 000606**.

After School Club.

The School shares the After School Club with the Juniors which provides parents with child care from 3.30 – 5.45 p.m. Monday to Friday it is run by Kenmore Park Schools and offers parents/careers greater flexibility. It is run from the school canteen. The provision offers parents casual child care provided your child is registered as a casual user. This means that you can phone on the day and ask for your child to attend the after school club and pay when you collect. There are a number of options too. You can select from the full session at £7 (3.30 – 5.45 p.m.) or a short stay at £4 (3.30 – 4.15 p.m.).

We now also escort children to the After school club if parents are late collecting their child at the end of the school day. Parents will be charged at the short stay or full day rate depending upon how late they are collecting their child beyond the end of the school day..

Therefore, it is in your best interest to collect your child on time at the end of the school day or register to be a casual user in the after school club.

Details can be obtained from the Junior School office.

Parent Governor Vacancy.

Dear Parents,

The governing body is responsible for both the conduct of the school and for promoting high standards. The governing body carries out its role by setting the vision for the school and then ensuring that the school works efficiently and effectively towards achieving its vision. It does this by building a thorough knowledge of the school and its community, by both supporting and constructively challenging the school, and by ensuring accountability and compliance. The governing body of our school is made up of parent governors, staff governors, Local Authority and co-opted members.

A vacancy has arisen for a parent governor on our governing body. The governing body is asking you to nominate someone with parental responsibility for a child at the school. If it receives more than one nomination, then a ballot will be held.

Before you decide to nominate someone, or indeed stand yourself, you may want to know a bit more about what is involved. Governors need not be experts in the field of education. What they do need is an interest in the school and in the welfare of our children and the time and willingness to get involved. The skills you have can be very useful to the governing body. If you are someone with the required experience, would you consider applying? Governors also need what is known as 'soft skills' – the ability to be able to build relationships with a range of people, to be able to work as part of a team, to be able to question, and to make connections between different types of information. All governors are expected to be able to read straightforward budget reports and data on school standards.

Our governing body expects governors to

- attend 6 termly meetings of the full governing body
- sit on sub- committees for either Finance & Premises or Pupils Achievement and Staffing and
- attend the meetings which are usually 2 of each a term
- visit the school formally for monitoring purposes at least two times a term/year
- visit the school informally at least three times a year
- commit to attend training courses, perform additional research as required and take part in
- monitoring at least [one] area within the school

In return, our governing body commits to

- provide you with a structured induction
- provide access to quality training via Harrow Standards and Effectiveness Team Governors services SLA
- provide you with an experienced governor as mentor
- provide informal feedback on your contribution to the governing body on a bi-annual basis

If you would like to find out more about how you can contribute to governance at our school, please email the school office on office@kpins.harrow.sch.uk with your contact details and these will be passed on to the chair who will then arrange a time for a conversation.

Permanent & As and When cleaning staff required.

We are in need of one permanent cleaners and also keen to develop a pool of **As and When cleaning staff** to cover in the event of staff absence. Cover is usually required from 3.30 – 6 p.m. Monday to Friday. If you are interested in such a role then please speak to a member of staff in the school office for more information and find out about the application process.



COMPULSARY SCHOOL UNIFORM & PE UNIFORM.

Please be reminded that the school is taking a hard line of compliance with the school uniform from September 2018. It is parents' responsibility to ensure that their child is wearing the school uniform as stipulated in the school prospectus and website. From September, we are also requiring all children in Year 1 and 2 to wear the schools PE uniform and not their own sportswear on a Wednesday. This uniform can be worn for PE lesson in line with their class timetables on days other than Wednesday too. All Uniform orders can be made via parent mail at the school shop.

It has been noted since the start of the school term that a number of children are not in the appropriate clothing and black shoes. The Junior School and feeder High Schools all expect children to come dressed in the correct uniform so it is important to develop a discipline from the start of your child's schooling. We thank you in advance for your support with this.



**Girls may wear Black or Grey Trousers too.
White socks or grey tights
Boys black or grey socks.**

Summer dress From April - July