

## Parent Newsletter



Friday 1<sup>st</sup> March 2019

Welcome back, we hope your children had a good half term break and are refreshed and ready for the next six weeks prior to the Easter break. This month parents have the opportunity to meet their child's class teacher and receive an update on their child's progress and a mid-year report which is a good indicator of how your child is performing in line with age related expectations.

Our Early Support workers will also be on site to meet with parents who may require support with managing issues related to their child. Twenty minute slots are available and if you haven't signed up already you can do so by visiting the school office to check availability.

Radish our school caterers will also be on hand to offer samples of some of the food items your children receive as part of the Universal Free School Meal offer, so take the time to sample the food on offer. Their contract is coming to an end and we are in the process of tendering for a provider from September 2019. We will keep you updated on developments in this area.

### **What is happening for you and your child/ren at the school this half term?**

March is no different from any other month in the school calendar with lots of fun learning opportunities and first hand experiences offered to our pupils in order to enrich their curriculum and learning.

This half term we saw February come to an end with the children experiencing Bollywood Dance workshops on Thursday. During March Mother Nature will be visiting delivering Science workshops, we have a drama company booked performing as part of World Book Day, plus design and technology workshops for Year 2 pupils. Also later this month some of our pupils will be taking part in Harrows annual Dance Festival performing in front of a public audience at Hatch End High School on the evening of Monday 18<sup>th</sup> March.

### **Seminar lessons and parent workshops second half of the spring term 2019.**

We look forward to welcoming parents back into school this half term to look at how we are engaging your children in learning at the school so that we can continue to strengthen our home-school partnerships and work together to ensure the best possible outcomes in terms of learning for our pupils.

Date	Workshop	Classes
05/03/19	Reception maths workshops – focus on calculations. 9 -10 a.m.	Dragon Class
06/03/19	Reception maths workshops – focus on calculations. 9 -10 a.m.	Unicorn Class

07/03/19	Reception maths workshops – focus on calculations. 9 -10 a.m.	Fairy Class
12/03/19	Nursery parents C & L workshops	Morning Nursery session
13/03/19	Nursery parents C & L workshops	Afternoon Nursery session.

### **Staff News/Updates**

Sadly prior to the half term break we said farewell to two valued members of our support staff who left. Mrs. Kapadia who has supported in early years for over 10 years and Mrs. Vithalani who had been a parent and then became an employee at the school working for over 22 years supporting a range of interventions over the years. On behalf of all the staff, parents and pupils we would like to wish them all the very best for the future.

### **February was the month for focusing on becoming healthy**

February saw us encouraging you to supporting **Fizz Free February!** The aim was to help reduce tooth decay and help reduce the harm fizzy drinks can have and weight gain through excessive intake of sugar.



At School **VEGPOWER** is now underway in the canteen.

The children have been encouraged every week to try a raw piece of vegetable and they receive a sticker. Each week the vegetable changes. This campaign is running for 9 weeks introducing the children to vegetables such as broccoli, cauliflower, pepper and butternut squash to name but a few. At the end of the 9 weeks the class with the most stickers will receive a special prize from our caterers Radish.

### **Nursery Admissions for September 2019**

The **closing date** for the **Nursery applications** came to an end on Monday **25<sup>th</sup> February 2019**. Application for those pre-school children who meet the **eligibility criteria** of being a child who turns 4 years of age from 1<sup>st</sup> September 2019 to the 31<sup>st</sup> August 2020. Letters will be posted to parents on the 18<sup>th</sup> March 2019 in advance of the start date on September 2019.

### **Attendance.**

As mentioned in last months' parent newsletter, this half term parents meeting have been scheduled and held involving the Local Authority Schools' Attendance Liaison Officer. Parents have been called in where concerns regarding a child's attendance have continued to be an issue and well below the threshold of 90%, in spite of the school sending notification during the autumn term and no improvements have been made. This demonstrates the importance of school attendance and the hard line the school takes in implementing the policy consistently in line with its safeguarding duties.

On a positive note we also wrote out to numerous parents thanking them for working with us to ensure an improvement in their child's attendance.

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

Parents should be reminded that the school reviews each case on an individual basis and works in line with Local Authority and Government guidance on attendance. A strict line is taken in the best interest of the child and the education system in the UK.

Sadly we have had to issue a number of Penalty notices where parents have attempted to provide disingenuous evidence for removing their children from school for long periods of time to travel abroad thus impacting on their education/ progress.

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 now open the door at 8.45 a.m.** so parents can drop children off before walking around to the playground to drop of Year 1, 2 and Junior School pupils for 8.50 a.m.

Reception pupils' day ends at 3.15 p.m. now the children are full time.

Year 1 & 2: 8.50 – 3.20 p.m.

## **School term dates.**

### **SPRING TERM 2019**

Last day Of Term

- Friday 5<sup>th</sup> April

### **SUMMER TERM 2019**

First Day of Term

- Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> April

May Day Bank Holiday

- Monday 6<sup>th</sup> May

Half Term

- Monday 27<sup>th</sup> - Friday 31<sup>st</sup> May

Last day Of Term

- Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> July



### **INSET dates below.**

Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2019



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

Remember each school term ends at 2.15 p.m. Friday 5<sup>th</sup> April & Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2019.

### **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 February **Brazil & Peru** Class had the most children who participated in WOW each 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.

**In 2017/18 Eighteen parents took advantage of the support offered by this provision.**

### **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\*\*](mailto:maryam@hscp.info) or by phone on **07901 000606**.

### **Are you on Twitter? Well we are!**

Why don't you follow us on our Twitter Account **@KenmoreParkInfN**.

The school is very keen to celebrate what we are doing at the school so we have set up a school Twitter account, please note the following guidelines for parents below:

