Kinsale Infant School
December 2017 Newsletter

Developing a love of learning for all. Always ready to learn.

Diary Dates

Mon 4 Dec Christmas card post box opens in school!
Tues 5 Dec Reception Story café 2pm – Info sent out
Wed 6 Dec No Pens Day in school!
Thurs 7 Dec CHRISTMAS LUNCH – Christmas Jumper Day!
Fri 8 Dec Bobble hat day!
Sun 10 Dec Choir sing at Carol Service at HHS 3.15pm
Mon 11 Dec Clubs finish this week
Wb 11 Dec Y1 and 2 Home Learning due in please

Christmas Performances – 2 seats will be available per child for each performance:

- Mon 11 Dec 9.15am Year 2 Christmas Performance
- Mon 11 Dec 2pm Year 2 Christmas Performance
- Wed 13 Dec 2pm Year 1 Christmas Performance
- Thurs 14 Dec 9.15am Year 1 Christmas Performance
- Thurs 14 Dec 10.30am Reception Christmas Performance
- Thurs 14 Dec 2pm Reception Christmas Performance

Fri 15 Dec Y2 Horstead deposit due please
Fri 15 Dec Christmas parties (pm – no food needed, bring party clothes)
- Mon 18 Dec CHRISTMAS FAIR 3.15pm
- Tues 19 Dec End of Term
Wed 3 Jan 2018 INSET – No children in school
Thurs 4 Jan 2018 Children back to school

Welcome to Mr Hoare

We have been delighted to welcome Mr Andrew Hoare to our team this term. Mr Hoare is our new Site Manager and he has settled in so well already.

Well done!
Our cross country team recently took part in the cluster cross country competition, and we are delighted to announce that our school came 1st!! Very well done - all that training has definitely paid off! Thank you to Mrs Fifield and Mrs Taylor who trained the team.

Children in Need raised a FABULOUS £166! Thank you to Mrs Coughlan, Miss Matthews and School Council for organising this and for all your generosity and brilliant disco dancing outfits!

Reminders…

Contact details
It is VITAL that we have your most up to date address and telephone numbers so that we are able to contact you if necessary. Please ensure you update the office if your details change. There is a slip available in the entrance of the office which can be put into the ‘contact details update’ post box on the wall in the entrance area.

SUGGESTIONS BOX…..
Following feedback from one of our Governors, there is a ‘suggestions’ post box in the entrance area of the school office. Should you have any suggestions for improvements or changes in school, please feel free to post your idea to us. You may have ideas about a change in hot meal option or something else you think would make our school even better for all the children – we look forward to hearing from you!
Parking
Please may I remind all who drop off and collect children for school that no one should be parking on the yellow zig zag lines outside the main school gates. This is for the safety of all children and adults around at this very busy time. We have been really impressed by the number of children who wear their orange hi-viz jackets each day – thank you for your continued support with this. Please may I remind you that all children should wear a helmet if they cycle or scoot to school. (Helmets can be kept in school during the day)

Walk, Bike, Scoot Club – Update
We would like to thank you for ensuring that the children wear their Hi Viz jackets every day and we are really pleased that following the initial launch of the Walk, Bike, Scoot Club there has been a large reduction in the number of cars at school. In February (prior to the club) the figure recorded was 48% and in November (after the start of the club) the figure is now 21%!! So well done and thank you to everyone!!

School lunches
Menus are available on the school website and also from the school office. Many thanks.

Attendance
Good school attendance and punctuality is crucial and impacts hugely on learning and progress. An unauthorised absence of 10 consecutive sessions (5 days) or more will result in a penalty fine being issued. Please ensure children are at school at 8.50am and collected at the end of the day at 3.10pm. Medical and dental appointments should be made out of school hours or in the holidays please. Our school bell rings promptly at 8.50am when the classroom doors open, and it will sound again at 9am as the doors are locked.

Please ensure you inform us if your child is unwell. The office opens at 8.00am each morning. If your child has a minor cough or cold and you are in two minds whether to send them to school, please send them in and we will ring you if they feel unwell during the school day. Children should not be absent from school if they have head lice. This needs to be treated appropriately and then they may attend school normally.

We thank you for your support in ensuring that our school attendance improves.

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<th>Week beg 20th Nov</th>
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<td>Leopards – Reception</td>
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<td>Elephants – Year 2</td>
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Our School Improvement Areas
As you will be aware, every year schools identify specific areas of whole school improvement on which to focus. When identifying these areas, we consider previous data of children’s attainment and progress over time, discussions with staff and Governors and external support and challenge, and our latest Ofsted inspection.

In 2017 / 2018, we are focusing on the following key areas of curriculum improvement within school:
1. **To raise the attainment of all children to the ‘expected’ level in writing across the school**
2. **The additional funding that the school receives for disadvantaged pupils is used effectively to support their progress so that they achieve as well as others in the school**

We will be offering opportunities and further guidance for parents and carers to attend learning workshops in school to support with learning during this year. We are also going to try to accommodate younger siblings during these events by providing a crèche facility. More information to follow.
School visits and visitors

As part of our school curriculum we aspire to enthuse and excite children in their learning in as many different ways as possible. If children are excited and engaged in a topic, they will learn more easily, and hopefully be motivated to be lifelong learners.

As part of our enrichment opportunities, we believe both visits and visitors enhance the curriculum in ways that quality first teaching is not so able to do. It is our school policy for every class to go on an educational visit or have a high quality visitor into school each term. This is carefully planned to link to the class topic.

The children really look forward to these opportunities each term.

As these opportunities are in addition to the resources we provide in school, we have to ask for a contribution towards the visit / visitor. This is usual practice in schools, and we are very grateful to the majority of parents and carers who support us with this cost.

We do of course appreciate that for some families it is a challenge to be able to afford to pay the full cost of a visit or visitor, and a contribution is always gratefully received. Should you feel unable to contribute to any future visits or visitors we request that you talk to your child’s class teacher or pop into the office to let us know, so that we are able to see if financial support is available.

Thank you again to the majority who do contribute to our visits and visitors and to those who communicate with us if some financial support is required.

Christmas Performance Arrangements

We look forward to welcoming you to the Christmas performances at school this year. All dates are listed above.

Every child is allocated 2 seats at each of their performances. Tickets will not be issued.

Each year group performs the same play twice, so you can come to see it on either day, or both days if you would like to!

When you arrive for the performance your child’s name will be highlighted on a list, and we will only allow 2 people per child to enter the hall to watch the performance.

Please do not arrive with any additional hopefuls, as they will be disappointed! Many thanks.

(All buggies and pushchairs will have to be left outside the main hall)

The Christmas post box is available in school again for the children’s Christmas cards to each other. Please ensure every card has the recipient’s first name and class name written clearly on the envelope. Teachers will provide a list if you request one. Year 2 children deliver the cards each day!

Leopards – Reception     Lions – Year 1     Giraffes – Year 2
Tigers – Reception       Pandas – Year 1     Elephants – Year 2

Christmas Lunch – Thursday 7th December

Thanks for returning all the slips for Christmas lunch. Please remember children are welcome to attend school all day wearing their festive Christmas jumpers on Thursday! (Normal school trousers / dresses / footwear please)

Friends of Kinsale Infant School – Christmas Cards

A big thank you to all parents and carers who ordered the beautiful Christmas cards designed by your children. We have made an amazing profit of £151.50 from this fundraiser! A brilliant start to our fundraising and of course all profits will directly benefit children in school by improving resources and learning opportunities. THANK YOU EVERYONE!

On behalf of all staff and Governors may we wish you all a Very Happy Christmas and a Happy and Healthy New Year!

Louise Robinson
Head Teacher

www.kinsaleinfant.norfolk.sch.uk