

# Kinsale Infant School

## September 2020 Newsletter



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

Welcome to the first newsletter of this new school year!

It has been a very different start to our school year, but I have been as impressed as always to see such enthusiastic children joining school again.

I extend my thanks to all parents and carers for supporting your child to return in such a positive, happy way. We express a warm welcome to our new Reception children and also several new children joining us in Year 1 and 2.

Following my maternity leave, I am delighted to be returning to school as Head teacher. This is my 11<sup>th</sup> year as Head teacher at Kinsale, and I am sure this year will be just as successful (although with some different challenges.) As you know, Mrs Hazard (our Deputy Headteacher) has the role of Head teacher on a Friday each week when I am not working. Please talk to her should you need to on a Friday.

I hope you have seen that we have a member of our Senior Leadership Team outside each morning from 8.25am. We hope this will enable any questions to be answered should they arise.

Our class structure this year is as follows:

Year Group	Class Name	Class Teacher	Teaching Assistants
Reception	Leopards	Mrs Clennell (Every day except Wednesdays) Mrs Faithorn (Wednesdays)	Mrs Miller Mrs Leeper
	Tigers	Mrs Coughlan (Mondays & Tuesdays)  Mrs Sidy (Wednesdays, Thursdays & Fridays)	
Year 1	Pandas	Miss Galley	Miss Matthews Mrs Plunkett Mrs Secker
	Lions	Miss Gook	
Year 2	Elephants	Mrs Godwin (Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays)  Mrs Faithorn (Thursdays & Fridays)	Mrs Meyer Mrs Cletheroe Mrs Jackson Miss Renegado
	Giraffes	Mrs Hazard (Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesday and Thursday am)  Mrs Wallace (Thursday pm and Fridays)	

Senior Leadership Team includes: Miss Robinson, Mrs Hazard, Mrs Clennell and Mrs Wallace

We have welcomed Miss Riches to our staff team this year. Miss Riches is our new Sports Apprentice, and will be supporting the children in PE lessons, break times and lunchtimes.

Miss Galley is a new teacher joining us in her first year of teaching – we hope she will be really happy at Kinsale.

### Diary Dates

<b>September 2020</b>		
Mon 21 Sept		Reception children start full time
Fri 25 Sept		KS1 Home Learning out
<b>October 2020</b>		
Wb 12 <sup>th</sup> Oct		Parents Evenings – further details will be sent out about the format of these meetings
TBC		Individual Photographs in school
22 <sup>nd</sup> Oct		INSET – No children in school
23 <sup>rd</sup> Oct		Half term
<b>November 2020</b>		
2 <sup>nd</sup> Nov		Children back to school
<b>December 2020</b>		
1 <sup>st</sup> Dec	Am	Flu Immunisation for all year groups – consent details to follow (These immunisations are <u>optional</u> for Rec, Y1 and Y2)
18 <sup>th</sup> Dec		End of Term
<b>January 2021</b>		
4 <sup>th</sup> Jan		Children back to school

### Reminders...

School Uniform [www.myclothing.com](http://www.myclothing.com) or via the school website

<b>Boys</b>	<b>Girls</b>	<b>PE (In draw string bag to be kept on peg in class)</b>
Grey trousers / shorts White polo shirt Navy sweatshirt Grey / black socks Black school shoes ( <b>not trainers please</b> )	Grey skirt / dress / trousers Navy & white checked summer dress White polo shirt Navy sweatshirt or cardigan Grey tights / white or grey socks Black school shoes <b>Navy hair accessories</b>	Navy shorts White t shirt Plimsolls or trainers <b>Tracksuit trousers</b> <b>Tracksuit top</b>

**All children** need tracksuit top, trousers and trainers or plimsolls in their PE kit **all year**, as outdoor PE happens all year round. PE kits must be brought to school every Monday, and will be returned on a Friday for washing.

Children should not wear trainers as part of their everyday school uniform please. Black school shoes are required.

Earrings must be stud earrings and will need to be removed or taped for all PE sessions. Other jewellery (except watches) or nail varnish is not to be worn for school. Long hair should be tied back for school EVERY DAY.

**Please save the school holiday time if you wish to have artistic lines and patterns shaved into children's hair.**

Thank you.

### **Rucksacks**

Since returning to school with the new Covid restrictions in place, we have observed that it is incredibly helpful for children to bring a rucksack to school each day. This means all their belongings are kept together, and their hands are also free to use the hand sanitiser on entry to school. If you have already provided your child with a rucksack – thank you. If you are able to; that would be most helpful.

A reminder that they only require the following items in their bag please: named water bottle, lunchbox, coat if needed, PE bag (on Mondays) and reading book to be changed (on Monday and Friday only).

Please try to ensure the bag is an appropriate size for all their belongings. Many thanks.

### **Bikes and Scooters**

Children are welcome to bring their bike or scooter to school and leave it securely locked in the racks outside the Children's Centre and Giraffes class.

Bikes and scooters are left at your own risk, and MUST be locked securely each day.

Helmets must be worn if riding a bike or scooter to school, and please take the helmets home each morning.

Please remind children to walk with their bike / scooter when they enter the Kinsale site at the large gates.

(The racks are only to be used by children who attend Kinsale Infant School please)

### **Reading and Home Learning**

All children will have a new reading book and a reading record book. Please ensure that the reading record book is signed every time your child reads. Every class has a book changing box for your child to put their book in order for it to be changed. This will happen on a Monday and Friday each week.

Please talk to your child's class teacher if you have any concerns regarding reading or would like further support.

Children in Year 1 and 2 will bring home their new home learning books on 25<sup>th</sup> September. Further information will be emailed to you about how these learning activities can also be used if you are in the position of having to isolate.

### **Texting Service**

In order to ease communication in school we use a texting service, which will allow us to text important information to parents. We don't send numerous texts, but will inform you of crucial events such as; club cancellation, parents evening reminders, school closure due to bad weather and other important information. If you don't receive text messages from us – please come and tell us so we can find out why!

**Please ensure we always have your current mobile number on our system. (Update forms available from the school office – please ring or email Mrs Lake)**

### **Healthy Schools Award**

We are a Healthy School and we aim to ensure this philosophy is evident throughout school and promoted with the children. The children are all encouraged to enjoy the daily fruit or vegetable snack, and water is available all day.

In order to reinforce our status as a healthy school, we do not allow sweets, chocolates or cakes to be given out in class for birthdays. Please support us by encouraging your child to eat healthy options in their packed lunch box and water in their bottles in the classroom.

### **School lunches**

We are delighted to continue having our meals provided by Edwards and Blake.

As you know, we currently only provide packed lunches, but I am hoping to restart hot lunches by the end of this month. Please watch for further information...

### **NUT FREE SCHOOL**

As we have children in school who have severe allergies to nuts, we are a nut free school.

Please ensure your child's lunchbox does not contain any food containing nuts.

### **Breakfast Club** (From 8am everyday)

This is a very popular facility, but we do have a few spaces available currently. If you require a place please contact Mrs Cletheroe (Breakfast Club manager) via the school office.

All fees for the club **MUST** be paid in advance of the session, and any children who do not attend sessions that have been booked, will be charged.

### **Forest Schools and Nurture group**

During the Autumn term, we will not be running either Forest Schools or Nurture group. This is due to the increased risk assessment planning that is required due to Covid-19. We really value these activities within school and I know the children enjoy them immensely, and we will restart them as soon as we feel it is safe to do so.

### **Attendance**

Good school attendance and punctuality is crucial and impacts hugely on learning and progress.

Unauthorised absence from school may result in a penalty fine being issued.

Please ensure children are at school promptly at your allocated time and collected at the end of the day at your allocated time. Medical and dental appointments **MUST** be made out of school hours or in the holidays please.

Our school bell rings promptly at 9am as the doors are locked, so please enter via the office if you are late.

Please ensure you inform us if your child is unwell. The office opens at 8.00am each morning.

*A letter outlining guidance on Covid symptoms and other illnesses was emailed out earlier this week.*

### **Communication**

In addition to our texting service every class has a whiteboard near their classroom door. Staff will ensure important information is recorded on here, so please ensure you read it regularly.

School newsletters are distributed at the beginning of every month, and in addition every year group produces a specific newsletter with class information.

**Reception** – Newsletter emailed home every Friday

**Year One** – Newsletter emailed home fortnightly on Friday

**Year Two** – Newsletter emailed home at the beginning of each half term

Other letters are emailed out to you, unless a reply slip needs to be returned, and these will be sent in paper format.

Should your child have a parent not living at home who would like to receive important information and school reports, please provide Mrs. Lake (Office Manager) with an email address.

All newsletters are available on our school website.

### **Parking on school site – Polite reminder.....**

With limited spaces for staff, even our visitors struggle to find space to park. The car parks and in particular the access road up to the schools and between the Junior and Infant / Pre-School is particularly hazardous, so it is essential that we keep this access as free as possible since some of the road is shared between pedestrians and vehicles. Immediately upon entering the site there are clear yellow lines showing where the pedestrians should walk to avoid any accidents between cars and pedestrians.

The only exception is for Blue Badge holders and those collecting sick children during the school day. Please let us know if you are a Blue Badge holder so that we can amend our records accordingly. We hope you will respect these restrictions and understand that they are in place simply for the safety of the community.

**On behalf of the staff and governors, we look forward to working with you all this academic year. Should you wish to discuss anything please do not hesitate to talk to your child's class teacher or make an appointment to speak to me.**

Miss Robinson  
Head Teacher