

NEWSLETTER, November 2020



Dear All,

Welcome to our November newsletter!

Within this newsletter, our Governors have included some information about themselves as there has not been the opportunity for you all to meet them in school due to the current circumstances. As Headteacher of Kennel Lane School, I am also an active member of the Governing Body.

As is the case everywhere, Christmas will look rather different here at Kennel Lane this year. Christmas lunch will be celebrated in classrooms, rather than large events in the school halls. We'll also be holding our first ever '**Virtual Christmas Talent Concert**' with classes recording their performances and sharing them with each other. Although this is not the Christmas any of us had planned, everyone here will ensure that the learners have the best one possible at school.

This year, we are taking part in 'Elf' Day in support of the Alzheimers Society, which this year is more important than ever, due to people living with dementia being isolated from their families and communities during the coronavirus pandemic. Dress up as an Elf (or with an Elf theme) on **Friday 4th December** and donate £1 which will go straight to helping support people with dementia. Also on this day, we'll be holding a **Virtual Transition Event** which we have sent more information about already, please see the link on our website.



Finally, we'll be wearing our Christmas jumpers to school on **Friday 11th December** for Christmas Jumper Day and **Tuesday 15th December** for Christmas lunch, to help get us all in the Christmas spirit! It is not compulsory to wear your Christmas jumper however, and we do not require a donation.

Kind regards

Jenny Baker
Headteacher

Children in Need



No introduction necessary for this regular visitor to Kennel Lane! Thank you for your kind contributions to Children in Need 2020 – here's how you did it!



Omar and Aisha dressed up as Pudsey



Robin class made Pudsey masks



Introducing Ruby



Hello, I'm Ruby. I am going to be the new school dog. I am living at home with Michelle and will be visiting school regularly. So far I have visited the adults in Admin and spent time practicing sleeping in Michelle's office.



Watch out for me around school - wave from a distance at the moment and hopefully it won't be too long before I will be able to come in and see you in your classrooms!



KS4 Working Experience

During the week of 9th-13th November, Key Stage 4 took part in an onsite working experience. Learners worked within their classes to create a notebook which will be available to sell within our virtual shop. Learners prepared for the week by wearing office wear and looked very smart!



Together, the classes went through a design process, creating mood boards and looking at nature around us for ideas and inspiration. Learners also

looked at costs of making a notebook and profit and loss.

The designs were amazing and we look forward to making them available for pre-order soon.



Our Governing Board

Peter Floyd



I have four main passions in my life – family, travel, sport and ensuring excellent outcomes for children. I have been involved in one way or another with children's organisations since I was a teenager - including being a school governor in a large Secondary School for the last 25 years and a member of the Bracknell Forest Safeguarding Children Board until two years ago. I have been involved with KLS for 4 years and am just starting my 3rd year as Chair of Governors. I am proud to be helping a school that has such a great ethos and excellent staff who have such a clear focus on doing the best for every learner.

I spent my working life as a project and change leader and am happy that I can bring that experience to bear in my governor role, additionally governance has taught me many things that have benefitted me away from school.

Governing is a very rewarding volunteer opportunity and I would be happy to share my experience of it with anyone considering being a school governor.

Bev Mitchell-Wright

I have been a governor at KLS for almost 8 years. I joined as a Parent Governor when my son joined the secondary department from a mainstream Primary School and he is now at Reading College.



My work life revolves around helping companies to increase their employee engagement and align their company culture with their business strategy. My interest in the development and engagement of people continues into my governor role where I am the Lead Governor for Staffing and for the recruitment and development of our governing body. I truly believe that it is the people in any organisation who make the difference and I am lucky to be working with a group of staff and governors who are all dedicated to supporting our learners to be the very best they can be.

From a personal perspective I am married and have one son, Tom. I love travelling, going to the theatre and concerts, developing my vegetable patch, walks in the countryside and reading. Becoming a governor at KLS has made such a positive impact on my life and I would encourage any other parents/carers who might be interested to come and have a chat with us.

Martin Gocke



I've been a Governor at Kennel Lane School since September 2010 and am currently the governor with oversight of finance and site matters. My background is in education and children's services and I have worked in secondary schools and for the local authority. I started teaching in London and after that moved to Bracknell to Easthampstead Park School where I was a member of staff for eight years, teaching mainly economics and business studies but also some mathematics. After that, I moved into work with the local education authority, first Berkshire County Council and then Bracknell Forest Council from 1998. Amongst my responsibilities whilst working for BFC was Special Educational Needs and that is when I first became associated with Kennel Lane School. I stopped working for Bracknell Forest in 2010 and since then have worked for a number of organisations on various projects related to young people.

Having lived in Bracknell for nearly 40 years now, I feel a real sense of attachment to the local area. My two children, now grown up, attended local schools and my wife is a teacher at the school they attended right from their early years education!

I am fortunate to have the time to devote to a number of local organisations. As well as being a Governor here, I am also Chair of the Management Committee at College Hall Pupil Referral Unit, and Chair of Trustees for Youthline, Bracknell's youth counselling agency. I am a member of the Bracknell Forest Schools Forum, and currently its chair.

I'm proud to be associated with Kennel Lane and hopefully to use my knowledge and experience to contribute to the work here as a member of the Governing Body. Good things happen here!

Amy Owen

I have become a governor at Kennel Lane, because I want to have a positive impact on the learning environment of our young people. Having worked with children and young people across a broad spectrum of roles and settings for about 13 years, I wanted to share my knowledge and expertise for the benefit of the community.



I currently run a not for profit organisation providing mental health support to children and young people in the community and am a registered Drama Psychotherapist. I hope that my unique insight will be helpful to the board of governors and very much look forward to seeing the school develop and thrive even more.

Clare Dando

I have been involved in the education sector for nearly twenty years, including being a primary teacher, SENCo, SEN officer for both Bracknell and Wokingham councils, and governor at two previous schools. I have been a governor at KLS since July of this year and am excited to be joining an interesting and diverse school and be part of this supportive and dynamic governing body.

I currently work as a primary teacher in a school in Woodley and I am also involved with fundraising for a local children's hospice and volunteering with my children's scout group. I have two sons, who are 11 and 12.

Any spare time I have, I love to travel and visit new places, I enjoy going to the theatre and cinema, and I love to spend time walking and cycling in the countryside.

I am hoping I can use both my educational and voluntary experience to support the vibrant KLS community.

Sue Bushby



Had I got enough to offer as a school governor? I did have some self-doubt when I first considered it, but as a positive person I asked myself why I wanted to be a governor at Kennel Lane. The answer is that children are our future and I care about giving them the best possible opportunities through education. I have spent a lifetime with children, raising my own and being a teacher in several schools around the country. I have lived in 6 counties. Now retired, being a governor is, even in a small way, continuing to help children achieve good outcomes and their potential.

As a very new governor it has been a steep learning curve, I have to admit, but the excellent support I am getting from fellow governors and online learning is giving me so much confidence. If the staff and governors I have met so far are a reflection of the whole school community, this is a school worth spending time with, and I look forward to a rewarding relationship. I also look forward to meeting lots of young people and parents in person in the future – that currently far off dream for us all!

Chris Reece

I am originally from the beautiful Peak District (Derbyshire) and moved down to Berkshire for work during and after leaving university.



My work passions have been split between education in coaching swimming and tennis and developing my trade within the High Tech industry, working at companies like Microsoft, Canon and Apple. I currently work at Oracle in Thames Valley Park, Reading as a Director in our Cloud division.

Education has always been a massive interest of me and although I never did quite make it into the classroom, I have massive admiration for everyone who dedicates themselves to educating children every day.

I would say my main hobbies would be most sports, including Skiing, Tennis, Football. I also love to travel, however now I have a 3-year-old, my main passions are spending time with my beautiful wife, amazing son and sleeping when at all possible.

Becoming a Governor and an active member of the Bracknell Forest community has always been high up on my agenda and I look forward to many years as a Governor providing a slightly different view from an outside perspective. KLS and all the staff do an incredible job every day to provide a tailored education to all of their students

School Photographs



A reminder that school photographs will take place in the Spring Term and we will communicate the date as soon as we can.

School Gateway

If you haven't already done so and have an Android or iPhone, please download this app for the 'School Comms' service. This saves us the cost of a text when we need to communicate urgent news or information to you and more importantly, in this current situation will enable us to keep you to keep updated immediately. **If you already have the School Gateway app, please**

check that the email address you have nominated (there is only capacity for one per household), is correct. Please email secretary@kennellaneschool.com if you need to make any changes.



Dates for the Diary



Friday 4th December	'World of Work' Day and Dementia Society 'Elf Day' – dress up as an Elf for a donation of £1
Friday 11th December	Christmas Jumper Day!
Tuesday 15th December	Christmas lunch in classes – you can wear your Christmas jumper to school today
Wednesday 16th December	Virtual Christmas Talent Concerts – in classes
Friday 18th December	<p style="text-align: center;">END OF AUTUMN TERM – finish times are:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Bubble 1 – Woodlands Hub – 12.15pm Bubble 2 – EYFS & KS1 – 12.15pm Bubble3 – KS2 – 12.45pm Bubble 4 – KS3 – 12.30pm Bubble 5 – KS4 & KS5 – 13.00pm</p>

COVID-19 RELATED PUPIL ABSENCE

A QUICK REFERENCE GUIDE FOR CARERS AND PARENTS

What to do if...	Action needed	Return to school when...
My child has Covid-19 symptoms: - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HIGH TEMPERATURE- this means you feel hot to touch on your chest and back • A NEW, CONTINUOUS COUGH – this means coughing a lot more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours • A LOSS OR CHANGE TO YOUR SENSE OF SMELL OR TASTE – this means you’ve noticed you cannot smell or taste anything 	DO NOT COME TO SCHOOL Contact school to inform us Self-isolate the whole household for 14 days Get a test INFORM SCHOOL IMMEDIATELY ABOUT TEST RESULT	...the test comes back negative.
My child tests positive for Covid-19	DO NOT COME TO SCHOOL Contact school to inform us Agree an earliest date for possible return – minimum of 10 days Self-isolate the whole household for 14 days Bubble isolates – remote learning	...they feel better – they can return after 10 days even if they have a cough or loss of taste/smell as these symptoms can last for several weeks
My child tests negative	CONTACT THE SCHOOL Discuss when your child can come back to school (same/next day)	...the test comes back negative
My child is ill with symptoms not linked to Covid-19	FOLLOW USUAL SCHOOL ABSENCE POLICY PROCEDURE	...after 48 hours following the last bout of sickness/diarrhoea if this is the cause of the illness
Someone in my household has Covid-19 symptoms	DO NOT COME TO SCHOOL Contact school Self-isolate the whole household for 14 days Household members get tested INFORM SCHOOL IMMEDIATELY ABOUT TEST RESULTS	...the test comes back negative
Someone in my household tests positive for Covid-19	DO NOT COME TO SCHOOL Contact school Agree an earliest date for possible return – minimum of 14 days	...the child has completed 14 days of isolation
NHS test and trace has identified my child as having had close contact of someone with symptoms of confirmed Covid-19	DO NOT COME TO SCHOOL CONTACT SCHOOL Agree an earliest date for possible return – minimum of 14 days	...the child has completed 14 days of isolation
We/my child have travelled and has to self-isolate as a period of quarantine	Do not take unauthorised leave in term time Consider quarantine requirements and FCO advice when booking travel Agree an earliest date for possible return – minimum of 14 days from return date Self-isolate the entire household	...the quarantine period of 14 days has been completed
We have received medical advice that my child must resume shielding	DO NOT COME TO SCHOOL CONTACT SCHOOL Shield until you are informed that restrictions are lifted and shielding is paused again	...school informs you that restrictions have been lifted and your child can return to school
My child’s bubble is closed due to a Covid-19 outbreak in school	DO NOT COME TO SCHOOL At home support your child with remote education provided by school Your child will need to isolate for 14 days	...school will inform you when the bubble will be reopened.