

NEWSLETTER, September 2021



Dear All

Welcome back to your first Newsletter of the academic year 2021 - 2022.

We are delighted to be able to invite you to face to face coffee afternoons again this term. The format may be slightly different – we cannot allow visitors into classrooms just yet, but you will be able to meet some of the colleagues from your young person's class team. Invitations to these events have been sent already.

This month, as it's the start of the new school year, we've included some important general reminders, Ruby's Ramblings and there is also an update from our new Chair of Governors, Bev Mitchell-Wright.

Finally, I would like to say a huge thank you to Lesley for the amazing work she has done over the holidays to create our new Horticulture area. In addition to growing lots of beautiful plants and flowers, Lesley has recycled old cupboards to make the seating area / pagoda and a new wormery which houses in excess of 200 worms!! I'm sure our learners will really enjoy working with her in such a lovely environment!

Enjoy this edition.

Kind regards
Jenny Baker
Headteacher



Attendance



Please remember to call the school office **each day** your child or young person is unwell and will be absent from school. There is an answerphone service if you are calling outside of school hours. Please do not email your young person's teacher, SLT Link or Department Lead in regards to absence. All absence reporting must go through the School Office.

Covid-19, Illness, Sickness, Germs, Bugs and other nasties

Your cooperation is greatly appreciated in adhering to the following when your young person is unwell:-

- For any of the following;
 - a loss or change to taste and/or smell
 - a high temperature
 - a new continuous cough

You must keep your young person at home and arrange a PCR test to rule out Covid-19.

Once a negative result is received, your young person can come back to school provided they are feeling better.



- For sickness and diarrhoea, please do not return your young person to school until **48 hours** after the symptoms have completely stopped.

Ruby's Ramblings



Ruby had a lovely summer holiday. She enjoyed being on the boat, sitting and enjoying the views.

Ruby kept cool on hot days in her paddling pool in the garden.



Ruby is learning how to talk using switches. She will be showing the learners in school when she visits classes. Ruby is excited to be back for the new school year and hopes to see lots of you over the next year in school.



Planetarium Visit



On Tuesday 21st September, groups of learners enjoyed a space exploration day to bring this half term's topic "Stargazers" to life.

In the hall, a giant 6 metre inflatable planetarium was waiting for the learners so they could lay back and watch the wonders of the solar system and space beyond our universe. The presenters answered lots of questions and were so pleased at how interested and enthusiastic everyone was. Afterwards there were space suits to try on to become astronauts and tasty astronaut food to eat – astronaut ice-cream!

We handled meteorites that were over 4.6 million years old and looked at a sample that had come from a shooting star! The investigations were finished off with a trip into space on a space station using virtual reality headsets, it really felt like flying through space!

Harvest Festival

Please send any donations into school by **Friday 1st October** for our Harvest Festival. Donations will be taken to our local Food Bank. Thank you to Carly for creating this very Autumnal look in the school reception area.



Governor Update from Bev Mitchell-Wright, Chair of Governors



Hello everyone. As this is the first newsletter of this academic year, I wanted to take the opportunity to introduce myself to you all. My name is Bev Mitchell-Wright and I have recently taken over as the Chair of Governors at Kennel Lane School. Although, I am new to the role of Chair, I have been a governor at Kennel Lane for over 8 years and previously held the role of Vice Chair for several years. My son Tom was at Kennel Lane from the age of 11 until he left at the age of 19 in 2018. I am currently the only governor on the board who has had a child at the school but we are hoping to rectify that when we hold parent governor elections later on this

term. Look out for more information on that over the coming weeks but do start giving some thought as to whether you might like to play a vital role in the ongoing success of the school by becoming a parent governor.

Due to Covid it has been 18 months since the governors have been able to meet at school whilst the learners have been present, so we were delighted to be able to have our first on-site governors meeting earlier this month. To be able to see the learners and staff again and to soak up the unique atmosphere of our school was something very special after being away for so long. We are looking forward to further visits to school over the coming months, including opportunities to meet some of the parents and carers so do look out for us at upcoming parent events. We are a friendly bunch and always happy to chat about what we do and the role that governors play at KLS.

Morrisons 'Good to Grow' Campaign

If you shop at Morrisons we'd be really grateful if you would collect 'Good to Grow' points from your shop to us, so that we can benefit from lots of free gardening equipment. Download the 'MyMorrisons' app, follow the steps below and get collecting! Thank you very much for your help.

A promotional poster for the Morrisons 'Good to Grow' campaign. The left side features a photograph of a boy and a girl watering plants in a raised garden bed with a yellow watering can. The text 'Good Thing' is written below the photo. The right side is a green background with white text and icons. It lists five steps: 1. Download the MyMorrisons app. 2. Sign in or register and select the school. 3. Scan the app at checkout or use online. 4. Receive a Grow Token for every £10 spent. 5. Exchange tokens for gardening equipment. Below the steps, it says 'Grow Tokens can be exchanged for things like...' and shows images of a Mini Greenhouse, Wheelbarrows, Plant Pots, Watering Cans, Trowels & Spades, and Seeds. The bottom of the poster says 'It's Good to Grow from Morrisons' and includes a small disclaimer: 'Items subject to availability and colour variation. Expiry of stock and pricing. Please read special conditions and terms which apply. #goodtogrow/askulberries'.

School Lunches

School lunches are £2.60 for Primary learners and £2.70 for Secondary learners including desserts. Please remember that school lunches must be paid for in advance. Visit www.scopay.com or download the **SCOPAY mobile app** to register if you haven't yet done so.



If you have a question regarding your SCOPAY account, see the SCOPAY Parent Information Page at help.scopay.com. This page includes information regarding the SCOPAY mobile app, setting up Parental Alerts and FAQs to help with your queries.

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 news or information to you 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.

Transport



If you are collecting your young person early from school for any reason, please remember to call the transport team and let them know.

Likewise, if you bring your child to school late, please notify Transport that they will need to be collected at the end of the day as usual. It is always a parent/carer responsibility to do this. Thank you.

Car Parking

We kindly remind you to adhere at all times to the Highway Code, paying particular attention to double yellow lines, "keep clear" signs and school zig-zags. Please also avoid parking on blind bends and take care not to block our neighbours' driveways or access. This will not only help to keep Kennel Lane residents happy but will ensure the safety of our school community too. Thank you very much for your co-operation.



Dates for the Diary



Friday 1st October	Harvest Festival	
Tuesday 5th October	EYFS/KS1 'All Join In' Coffee Afternoon	1.30pm – 2.30pm
Wednesday 6th October	KS2 'All Join In' Coffee Afternoon	1.30pm – 2.30pm
Thursday 7th October	Secondary Coffee Afternoon	1.30pm – 2.30pm
Friday 8th October	Woodlands Hub Coffee Afternoon	1.30pm – 2.30pm
Friday 15th October	World Mental Health Day	
Monday 25th to Friday 29th October	HALF TERM	