



Dear All

Another school year is nearly at an end! This is the last newsletter of the academic year as the July edition will be replaced by the Annual Report to carers and parents.

As I write, final preparations are taking place for Enrichment Week, Sports Day and other end of the academic year celebrations, including leavers and achievers assemblies and the Prom. My thanks go to Jo and Vicky, and their teams, for organising Enrichment Week and the Prom – I'm sure all of the events will be fantastic and create a lot of memorable experiences for all of our learners.

Learners began their transitions into their new key stages for next academic year, and these are going really well. It has also provided the team at KLS the opportunity to meet the new learners who will be joining our school community in September.

On behalf of the entire school team at KLS, may I wish you a happy and relaxing summer break and we look forward to seeing your young people back in school on Monday 5th September.

Kind regards

Jenny Baker
Headteacher

Speech and Language Therapy News



The school Speech and Language Therapy team have been working with groups of secondary learners using an intervention called 'smiLE (strategies and measurable interaction in Live English) Therapy'. This is a functional therapy using role-play that teaches learners to use effective communication and social skills within everyday situations. Learners are filmed at the start of therapy and again at the end of therapy, to monitor progress.

One of the situations that has been targeted is: entering an adult's office, demonstrating personal space and use of eye contact, initiating using appropriate social greetings, asking for an item (and refusing where appropriate) and then knowing how to end the interaction before leaving the office.

SmiLE Therapy is used in conjunction with other communication strategies already used to support our learners. Colleagues from class teams join the sessions to see the skills being targeted, so that they can create opportunities for learners to practice using the skills they have acquired in sessions throughout their school day.

At the end of a block of intervention, carers and parents are contacted to offer them the opportunity to watch videos of learners both pre- and post-therapy, and to discuss ways in which they can encourage learners to use the skills they have acquired in the wider community for examples getting them to ask for an item behind a counter at a shop or placing their own order in a café. For more information about SmiLE Therapy, please visit the website at <https://www.smiletherapytraining.com/about-smile-therapy>.



In other Speech and Language news, Nikhil is using his new communication book to communicate for things he wants and needs in school.

In art he went to the 'Colours' page and expressed [I][want][blue] to ask for blue paper. He also likes going to the 'Food' pages and 'Messy Play'.

Ruby's Ramblings



Ruby has been busy again this month.

She is working with Badger class. The learners have been helping to brush Ruby using the glove brushes and learning how to safely feed a treat to a dog with a flat hand or throw it onto the floor.



Squirrel Class trip to the Hexagon

On Wednesday 15th June, seven learners from Squirrel class took part in the Berkshire Maestros' musical performance "Change is a Comin'" at the Reading Hexagon with other schools from the area. Everyone worked very hard during the 3-hour long rehearsal before the concert and the performance was amazing and enjoyed by all. We are very proud to have been able to take part and all our learners (and our minibus driver) were absolutely brilliant throughout the whole experience.



Celebrating the Jubilee

On the last day of the half term, the Secondary department enjoyed a street party to celebrate the Queen's platinum Jubilee. Tables were laid out with delicious food; bunting was put up for decoration and there



was music for dancing!



We were graced with visit from "The Queen" and her "bodyguard" and learners enjoyed having their photos taken to mark the special event.

Governor Update from Bev Mitchell-Wright, Chair of Governors

It has been lovely to see the sun shining over the past few weeks and on a recent tour of the school it was great to be able to see so many of our young people enjoying the outdoor learning spaces that we have throughout the school.



As we move towards the end of term, many of the Governors are looking forward to being involved in some of the activities during Enrichment Week and some of us will also be attending the Prom. This is such a special end of year celebration for our older learners, and I can't wait to see them in their glamorous outfits. It's also a good opportunity for the Governors to meet carers and parents and we hope to be able to say hello to some of you as you drop off and pick up.

As we approach the end of what has again been a very challenging year from a Covid perspective, I hope you all get the opportunity to recharge your batteries over the summer holidays. In the autumn term we will again be looking for a carer or parent to join our governing body as a 'Parent Governor'. Please take the opportunity over the summer to consider whether this is something in which you might be interested, and you can always contact the school office if you would like to know more about what the role entails. In the meantime, I'd like to wish you all a happy and healthy summer.

Social Media Safety

Over the summer, please be aware of your young person's exposure to social media. The following links may help you to understand and spot the signs of unhealthy use.

Parents' Ultimate Guide to TikTok (Commonsense Media)

<https://www.common sense media.org/articles/parents-ultimate-guide-to-tiktok>

TikTok app safety – What parents need to know (Internet Matters)

<https://www.internetmatters.org/hub/esafety-news/tik-tok-app-safety-what-parents-need-to-know/>

Family Support News

We appreciate that for parents and carers of our learners there are not always many opportunities to meet with other parents and carers, so we have teamed up with Waitrose Bracknell who are taking part in the '**Chatty Café Scheme**' – an opportunity to meet up for an informal drink and a chat.

We have booked tables at Bracknell Waitrose, Lexicon on **14th July at 10.30 – 12pm** for parents and carers of Kennel Lane learners to go along, have a drink and meet other parents from school. Our family support workers will also be there for support and a chat.

Feel free to join us, we look forward to catching up with as many of you as can make it.

Top Tips

As we are sure many of you have experienced, many of your young people may struggle in the holidays due to the change in routine and structure of the day.

Preparation is key - consider what structure you can build into your day over the holidays to minimise these challenges and what visual support you may need for your young person to help them cope with the routines, days out, holidays etc. over the summer.

Please contact your class team if you require any visuals to be provided to you such as first next boards, visual timetables, social stories etc.

Car parking in and around Kennel Lane / Garth Square



We have recently received a number of complaints from residents concerning dangerous/illegal car parking.

May we kindly remind you to always adhere to the Highway Code, particularly avoiding parking on blind bends, road junctions and anywhere which blocks residents' driveways or access when parking for school visits. Residents have warned that they will be photographing and reporting unsafe parking or driving to the Police. Thank you for your co-operation.

Dates for the Diary

Monday 4th – Friday 8th July	Curriculum Enrichment Week – including Leavers' Prom on the 7 th July
Friday 15th July	Primary & Secondary – End of Year Awards and Achievements
Wednesday 20th July	Primary – Year 6 Transition Assembly Secondary – Year 14 Leavers' Assembly
Wednesday 20th July	End of Term – see Department finish times below: Woodlands Hub 12:45 Primary 12:45 Secondary 13:00 Please remember to notify your young person's transport of the early finish times.
Monday 5th September	Start of Autumn Term – all learners return to school