



Dear Parents and Carers,

11th September 2020

SCHOOL DROP OFF AND PICK UPS: I am pleased to report that the systems operating at the start and end of the day are running smoothly. Thank you for approaching the gates at the allocated times and leaving once your child has been dropped off – your cooperation is very much appreciated. The government are bringing in new restrictions from Monday that will mean that there can be no meetings, inside or outside, of groups of more than 6 people. Please bear this in mind when you are at the school gates. Please note that this ruling does not apply in schools or in other places of work.

RETURNING TO NORMAL: Slowly but surely little bits of 'normal' are returning to KMS. Gymnastics, Dance and Drumming lessons returned this week – to the delight of all the children involved. It was also great to have these teachers back with us, it has been a long 6 months without them.

FOUNDATION NEWS: It has been a really successful start in Reception and we have been so impressed with the children. They have coped brilliantly with coming into school and they are settling well. We love seeing their smiling faces each morning. This week we have been playing games to help us learn each other's names, learning nursery and number rhymes, writing our class rules and thinking about good choices. The children have loved moving up on the Going for Gold chart. We have been looking closely at our faces to create a self-portrait as well as practising writing our names and cutting skills. We have also begun assessing the children in phonics and maths, which will continue next week, and we will be in touch with a target to work on.

The Ducklings are settling down to new routines and are beginning to make new friends. We have been enjoying jumping and dancing to the piano and we have been learning lots of nursery rhymes.

COVID-19 SYMPTOMS AND SELF ISOLATION: Please remember that if your child or anybody in your household has symptoms of COVID-19 however mild, all family members must self-isolate. The most important symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) are recent onset of any of the following:

- a new continuous cough
- a high temperature
- a loss of, or change in, your normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia)

Please do not send your child or any siblings to school if they or anybody in your home is suffering with any of the above symptoms. The person displaying symptoms should have a test to see if they have COVID-19. Until this test result is received all members of your home should remain in self isolation. If a negative result is received, then the period of isolation ends and they, and any siblings can return to school if they feel well enough. Please notify the school immediately should you or any member of your household test positive for Covid-19.

WELLBEING: A key strength of KMS is how well we look after not only the academic development of a child, but their mental health and wellbeing too. It is not possible to hold assemblies at the moment, so the teachers have been using the assembly times in their own classes to focus on how the children are feeling about COVID19. Discussions have centred on worries, concerns, feeling sad, the world and so on. Mindfulness forms a part of every day and Chat Boxes (a child posts a message if they would like to talk to a member of staff about a problem) are in use. The staff have reported that they are amazed by how resilient the children are. They could teach us all a thing or two about how to behave in a crisis. Well done children – we are all so very proud of how well you have all coped and are continuing to cope with this situation.

HOMEWORK: From Monday Reading Diaries and Books will be sent home. Homework will continue to be issued on a Thursday and returned on a Tuesday. If your child is isolating or ill at home, then a set of activities for each year group will be available on the website.

A POLITE REMINDER: Please remember that KMS is a nut free school and that nuts of any kind should not be included in lunch boxes. Nuts are also found in Nutella, some cereal bars and Kinder Bueno's so please do not send any of these into school. Thank you.

PERMISSION FORMS: We have now sent out the annual student update and permission forms to all year groups, thank you to those parents who have already returned them. If you are yet to complete this for your child, please update any information that may have changed and return the form as soon as possible in your child's book bag.

Have a good weekend



Mrs L Daulton

Headteacher