



Dear Parents and Carers,

20th November 2020

Message from the Chair of Governors - Parent Governor Election

Dear Parents and Carers,

We haven't had any nominations for the parent governor vacancy and as such we have extended the deadline for applications until Wednesday 2nd December. It's a fantastic opportunity to have a positive impact on school life and make a difference to your school. In particular, parent governors play a vital role on governing bodies by bringing a parental perspective to the issues discussed. You will also develop and learn new skills! Please do consider supporting the school and joining the board - if you have any questions please get in touch - governors@kings-meadow.oxon.sch.uk.

Thank you, Sophie

ROOF REPLACEMENT: I am delighted to report that the roof on the main part of the school is being replaced. A lot of time and effort has been spent by the school and the governors in getting the county council to agree to fund this costly project. The original start date had been May but the pandemic and subsequent lockdown stopped those plans! The new start date is Monday 30th November, with scaffolding and fencing being erected before that date in preparation for the work. The Health and Safety governors, Mrs Hargreaves Hands and I met with the contractors and the county on Tuesday to review the risk assessments and iron out the finer details. The project is due for completion in March 2021 – fingers crossed for good weather! I would like to thank Mrs Hargreaves Hands for liaising with the county and securing funding for this project – although it did try her patience on more than one occasion!

RECEPTION CLASSES: I am very pleased to report that we will be welcoming our Reception classes back to school on Wednesday morning. We have really missed them all. Thankfully, due to technology, we have been able to meet with, and check in with, the Reception staff – but it is a poor substitute for face to face meetings, as I know most of you will be only too acutely aware.

CHRISTMAS CARDS AND GIFTS: To minimise the risk of the coronavirus entering KMS, items travelling between school and home have been limited since the school reopened in June. Unfortunately, this restriction is still in place and children cannot bring in Christmas cards and gifts for fellow pupils and staff this year. I appreciate how disappointing this will be for the children, as sharing cards and gifts in school at this time of year is a highlight for many. I explained this protocol to the children in this morning's virtual assembly. I thank you for your support.

MACMILLAN COFFEE FUNDRAISER: Thank you so much to all the parents who have continued to donate on ParentPay for Macmillan Cancer Support. We have raised another £ 45.00 since our last update taking the total up to £ 320.00. There is still time to donate to this worthy cause on ParentPay until Monday.

MINCE PIE MONDAY: To celebrate the last week before Christmas, we will be hosting an event called **Mince Pie Monday** to raise money for **Sobell House**, a hospice located at The Churchill hospital in Oxford. Like all charities, its fundraising opportunities have been severely hit by the COVID restrictions. On Monday 14th December, the children will be able to buy a **mince pie or Christmas biscuit for £1**, and across the school we will be spending the last hour of the day (2-3pm) doing Christmas colouring, playing boardgames and eating the mince pies/biscuits. . Collection buckets will be available on the gate on the day.

NURSERY NEWS: This week in Nursery our topic has been My Home. We have continued our work on shape by making beautiful house collages. Lots of parents kindly uploaded photos of their house onto Tapestry, and the Ducklings have enjoyed looking at the numbers and shapes they could spot. We went for a refreshing walk on the field this morning and found some trees with no leaves at all. Mrs. C. Spearman, Nursery Teacher

ASSESSMENT WEEK: Next week the children will be assessed in literacy and maths. The pupils always sit tests at this time of year, but this year these tests are more important than ever. The analysis of the results will identify the gaps that may have arisen due to the school closure and allow the school to address them. I am confident that our excellent staff will ensure that every pupil makes up for lost time in school.

PHONICS WORKSHOP: On Thursday 26th November we will be holding a Phonics Workshop to upskill parents on their phonics knowledge. All parents with children in years Reception to Year 3 are invited to attend. This will be a virtual meeting and details on how to join will be sent out by ParentMail next week.

CHRISTMAS ART AND CRAFT DAY: Next Friday we will be holding our annual Christmas Art and Craft Day. The children will all be working off timetable and will be immersed in activities that involve lots of glitter, glue and sparkles. Traditionally this is a non-school uniform day, and this year is no different. The children may come to school in their home clothes for a donation of £1 for the school fund. Collection buckets will be available on the gate on the day.

IN SCHOOL THIS WEEK: (All meetings are held remotely via Teams)

- Monday: Teachers had Safeguarding training and the alarm system was inspected
- Tuesday: The hall projector was replaced
- Wednesday: Mrs Devaney, Mrs Partridge and Mrs Sutton attended 'Writing Social Stories' training. The staff had a twilight training session (3.30-6.30pm) on 'Managing Challenging Behaviour' delivered by the Mulberry Bush Foundation
- Thursday: Miss Golden attended the Oxfordshire Schools Inclusion Team (OXSiT). There was a Governors' meeting at 7pm

Have a good weekend



Mrs L Daulton

Headteacher