



Dear Parents and Carers,

11th June 2021

WELCOME BACK: Welcome back to the final term of 2020-2021. I hope that you all enjoyed the fine weather over the half term break and were able to enjoy time with family and friends. I had hoped that there would have been a relaxing of restrictions by this point but unfortunately it was not to be. It also looks like the final step on the path out of lockdown, due on 21st June, is going to be delayed. I will, of course, keep you fully informed of any changes.

COVID19 UPDATE: There has been one new case of coronavirus in school this week. Fortunately, all protocols were followed and there was no impact on the rest of the school; no bubbles had to be closed. I thank the family concerned for heeding the government guidelines re infection control.

COVID REMINDERS: Some confusion appears to have risen over the guidelines of what to do when a member of the household has COVID19 symptoms. All members of the household have to isolate (not leave the house) until the person with symptoms has received a negative Polymerase Chain Reaction test (PCR). We have had incidents of children being brought into school when a sibling or parent is at home awaiting a PCR test – this goes against what the government are instructing us all to do. Please note that the PCR test is different to the Lateral Flow Test (LFT). The LFT is to be taken by people who are asymptomatic i.e., have no symptoms and the PCR by those who do have symptoms. I thank you for your support with this – by working together we can keep our community safe. The symptoms are; a raised temperature, a new continuous cough or a loss or change to the sense of smell or taste.

NEW PHE COVID-19 GUIDELINES: New guidance from Public Health England (PHE) has been received today to request that as an extra precaution, close contacts of a person with a positive result are to get a COVID-19 PCR test (ideally 5 days after exposure or day five of isolation). If they test negative, they must still complete ten days isolation. If your child has had a positive PCR test within the last 90 days, you do not need to get another test unless they have new symptoms.

ABUSE TO STAFF: Unfortunately, there have been a couple of incidents this week where members of staff have been verbally abused by parents. These have occurred when the school has either refused entry to a child or asked for a child to be collected due to a member of their household being at home awaiting a PCR test. The school appreciates that living under the pandemic restrictions is hard for everyone, but the staff are simply following government policy to ensure the safety of everyone and should not be treated in such a disrespectful manner. I am pleased to report that incidents like this are very rare at KMS, however when they do arise, they are deeply upsetting to the members of staff concerned.

DROP OFF AND PICK UP: In order to alleviate congestion at the gates and to minimise the risk of spreading infection, we politely ask that only one adult brings the children to and collects them from school. I thank you in advance for your support.

WARMER WEATHER: Now that the warmer weather is with us, please remember to apply sunscreen to your child/ren before they come to school and to send them to school with a sun hat.

STAFFING NEWS: Miss Partridge, a Special Educational Needs Assistant, has been offered a permanent position at a school in Oxford and will be leaving us at the end of this term. We have enjoyed working with Miss Partridge this year and wish her the very best for the future.

RECRUITMENT: We will be holding interviews for Miss Partridges' replacement and for two additional Teaching Assistants this term. These will be full time positions. If you are interested, then please contact the school office. Please note that all applications must be completed online.

FSU NEWS: Our focus in Reception this week has been Peter and the Wolf by Prokofiev. The children have loved listening to both the story and the music, in which different instruments represent the different characters. We would recommend watching Alexander Armstrong on YouTube reading the story again with your child if you are not familiar with the story. Linked to this and Forest School we have been thinking about how to keep ourselves safe in the woods. 'Don't pick, don't lick, be careful with the stick.' Very sound advice. We will be continuing to further develop our understanding of this story next week. It has been Pet Week in Nursery and we have been looking after a poorly snake in our vet role-play area, along with other sick animals. It has been great seeing films and photos of everyone's pets on Tapestry and the children have been great at talking about how they look after their animals. Ms Rainer FSU Leader

HALL BOARDS: The hall boards were changed this week and they look fantastic. The theme for the displays was 'Japan', to reflect the 2021 Olympics. Each time our boards are changed, I am stunned by the creativity of the staff and this time is no different. No two boards are the same and many different art mediums have been used. As impressed as I am by the ideas that the staff have come up with, I am totally overwhelmed by the execution of these by our talented pupils – they have done a brilliant job! Photographs of the boards have been uploaded onto the galleries page of the school website, do take a look. My thanks go to the staff for making the hall resemble an art gallery and especially to Mr Roberts who suggested the 'Japan' theme in the first place.

SWIMMING: After a long wait, children at King's Meadow will finally be able to return to swimming from the 24th June. For the final 4 weeks of term, Year 4 children will be able to resume swimming lessons down at the Sports Centre. Following a visit to the Sports Centre yesterday, where I looked at all the Covid measures that are in place, we were able to complete a risk assessment and pave the way for this return. These measures include:

- 1) A one-way system is in operation at the Sports Centre.
- 2) Children will change in the gym changing rooms before hanging their belongings pool side. Once their session is completed, they will move over to the usual changing rooms. This allows for a clean of the changing rooms between visits.
- 3) Swimming times have been adapted to ensure there is no contact with any other swimmers.
- 4) Penguin Class will have a 40-minute swimming slot, followed by a 20-minute gap before Eagle Class enter the pool.
- 5) All adults need to wear masks in all areas of the sports centre, except for those who are poolside.
- 6) There are no spectators allowed.
- 7) A number of other schools have returned to the swimming pool this week and I have heard nothing but positive comments regarding the safety of the visit.

Also, with Covid restrictions in mind, children will be walking to and from the Sports Centre. This will eliminate any further contact by using coaches. Children have been told the news and it is great to see so much enthusiasm. If there are any further questions, please send an email to the office and I will get back to you as soon as possible. Mr Roberts PE Coordinator

YEAR 6 TREATS: School has been very different for all of us since March last year, but it has been particularly hard on our Y6 pupils. The Lockdowns and the restrictions have meant that their final year at primary school has not been quite how it should have been. The school, however, wanted to give the Y6 children a memorable end to their time at KMS so we have decided on the following:

- Friday 2nd July 'Camping' overnight in school with pizza and ice cream. They will sing songs around the campfire in the woodland area, toast marshmallows and sing campfire songs. They will sleep in the school, possibly the hall, ICT suite and Library
- Thursday 15th July Water Fight
- Friday 16th July MacDonalD's lunch on the field and farewell Balloon Parade

All of the above are fully compliant with current regulations but they may be cancelled should the COVID19 situation change. More details will follow for the Y6 parents in due course.

PARENT QUESTIONNAIRE RESULTS – SUMMER 2021: Thank you to all the parents who completed the recent parent questionnaire. It's very important to the Governing Board to hear the views of parents and we very much appreciate you taking the time to fill out the survey. We have compiled the results and it's great to hear from so many of you (over 150!). The results have been overwhelmingly positive this year which is really good to hear, particularly when it has been such a difficult year for schools, parents and children. Thank you to all those of you who have added your comments at the end of the survey – it is incredibly helpful to hear your views in more detail. If you've been a parent at KMS for a while then you might have noticed that we ask the same questions each year. Not only is this because the questions continue to be important for the Governing Board to understand, but also so that we can compare and track parents' views over time. We will be discussing the survey results at our next Governing Board meeting on the 1st July and will be taking into consideration your views in our school development plans and future decision making. In the meantime I would like to share with you the results from the survey below:



If you didn't get a chance to complete the questionnaire and would like to feedback your thoughts directly to the Governing Board, please do contact us via email: governors@kings-meadow.oxon.sch.uk. Thank you again for your feedback, Sophie Hill Chair of Governors

CLASS PHOTOGRAPHS: On Monday 14th June 2021 we will be visited by Tempest Photography who will take group photographs of all classes. Please can we kindly request that **all children come to school in their uniform on this date regardless of whether they would usually have PE on a Monday.** These photographs will be available for you to purchase, and details will follow next week.

TT ROCKSTARS COMPETITION: Well done to everyone who took part in the half term times table competition. Over 110 children logged into Times Table Rockstars over the half term to earn points for their class. This is so good to hear as regular times table practice has been proven to support children to improve in many different areas of maths. Times Table Rockstars is always available for your children to access from home where they can earn coins to spend on changing the way their avatar looks as well as challenging their teachers! I would like to say a huge congratulations to our winners, Dolphin class, who scored 39,193 points. Eagles came second with 19,537 followed by Elephant Class with 17,703! I would also like to specifically congratulate Tom M who inspirationally led Dolphin Class to victory. I Look forward to another competition later this term where the children will be competing in house groups to score points for their house! Mr R. Cox, Mathematics Coordinator

PTA FATHERS DAY EVENT: Just a reminder that the Father's Day shop is on Monday and Tuesday next week (14th/15th June). The children will be given the opportunity to choose their gift and it will be bagged and named for them to take home after it has been quarantined. If your child would like to buy a gift, please send £2 (no change can be given) on the day for your child's class as detailed below:

Monday 14 th June	Tuesday 15 th June
11.45 Nursery AM	1.00 Giraffe
12.15 Yellow Wagtails	1.15 Lion
12.30 Bluebirds	1.30 Eagle
12.45 Red Kites	1.45 Leopard
1.15 Flamingo	2.00 Year 6
1.30 Swan	2.30 Penguin
1.45 Kingfisher	2.45 Nursery PM
2.00 Puffin	
2.15 Snowy Owls	

PTA VIRTUAL PET SHOW: Thank you if you have already entered our virtual pet show. However, unfortunately we have not had as many entries as we would have liked, therefore we have decided to extend the deadline to 9am Wednesday 30th June. We have got some great prizes donated mainly by Pets At Home in Bicester, and Pet's Corner, and an art prize for the drawing competition. Please see PTA Events for payment and more details King's Meadow School PTA (pta-events.co.uk) Any questions about any PTA events, please contact us at kingsmeadowschoolpta@gmail.com

ATTENDANCE: The attendance for the school this week was 96.98%. The class that achieved the highest attendance this week was Yellow Wagtail Class with 99.49% attendance, well done to Yellow Wagtail Class.

Bluebird: 98.99%	Yellow Wagtail: 99.49%
Red Kite: 93.68%	Puffin: 97.64%
Kingfisher: 97.57%	Swan: 97.29%
Flamingo: 96.79%	Giraffe: 97.86%
Lion: 94.46%	Eagle: 98.97%
Penguin: 98.99%	Leopard: 98.27%
Snowy Owl: 93.51%	Dolphin: 94.48%
Elephant: 97.07%	

Have a lovely weekend,

L Daulton

Mrs L Daulton

Headteacher