



Dear Parents and Carers,

12th January 2024

WELCOME BACK: Happy New Year to you all! The children and staff have all returned to school feeling refreshed and ready for the spring term. The teachers have worked hard to plan an interesting and inspiring curriculum for the term ahead and I know the children are going to make excellent progress whilst having a lot of fun. Mr Weeks has joined us and is very much enjoying being the teacher of Snowy Owls – we are so pleased to have him with us.

FSU NEWS: There has been something 'fishy' going on in Reception this week! We started our focus on fish by reading 'Rainbow Fish' and thinking about what makes us beautiful on the inside. We certainly have lots of kind, caring and sharing children in our classes. We have also been looking at real fish and discussing where fish live, how they move and how they breathe. Many children were keen to touch the fish, to feel the scales, open out the fins and gills and even look for teeth! Having looked carefully, we have used coloured glue to paint our favourite fish onto tin foil to make them shimmer. The Ducklings have settled down well after the break and we have started our story topic with 'Goldilocks'. We have drawn some beautiful bears and added colour and some texture using water colour pencils. We have been making porridge and telling the story together using props.



DATES FOR THE TERM AHEAD: Please find attached the dates for the term ahead. As ever at KMS, a busy term is ahead of us and there are many events that we would like you to come along to. Key dates for parents are the Y4 Production, Class Assemblies and the Easter celebrations led by Nursery, Reception and Y3 – please make a note of them.

PICK UP ARRANGEMENTS: We have reviewed the new pick-up arrangements that were put in place last term and have decided that some changes need to be made. A bottle-neck has been created at the KS1 gate and parents and staff are finding it difficult to safely dismiss/collect the children at the end of the day. Therefore, from Monday we ask that the children in Y1 and Y2 are collected from their classrooms, as was the case previously. There is no change to the pick-up arrangements for Foundation Stage or KS2. I thank you in advance for your support with this.

STAFFING NEWS: It is with great sadness that I announce that Mrs Cox will be leaving us at the end of this term due to ongoing health problems. Mrs Cox is a very popular member of staff with pupils, staff and alike and I appreciate how disappointed you will all be to read this news. Mrs Cox has worked at KMS for 8 years but her involvement as a volunteer and mum at the school goes back further than this. Her warmth, dedication, sparkle and sense of fun will be greatly missed by us all.

MAD SCIENCE: On Wednesday, Solar System Sophie from Mad Science led our assembly. She wowed the children with all things science and it was great fun. Mad Science have extended the sign-up time to Wednesday 17th January, please sign up via the attached flyer. **This club will now be starting on Monday 22nd January.**

FACEBOOK PAGE: Just before Christmas we launched our Facebook page. Please take a look at it and enjoy the photographs and videos that have been uploaded onto it. My thanks go to Mrs Clifton for managing the FB page for the school – your photos are great!

WORLD BOOK DAY: I thought I would give advanced warning as to how we will be celebrating World Book Day this year. The children can come into school dressed as their favourite character from their favourite book. Time to get your thinking caps on!

PARENTING PUZZLE: Do you believe in gentle positive parenting? Do you wish to add a few new ideas to your already extensive toolbox for bringing up your family? Parenting Puzzle is a 10 week, positive and impactful programme, for all parents of children attending KMS. It is run by our own staff member, Sharon Fowler, you may know her from the Reception class, Yellow Wagtails. Sessions look at Self-esteem, Choices and Consequences, Giving Praise and Nurturing Ourselves to name but a few. Read our testimonials to give you an insight to how the sessions have been received.

"I was a little reserved at first, I felt like a 'bad mum' for being here, but I soon realised actually I am a GREAT MUM, because I'm trying to better myself as a parent."

*"This is a wonderful course, which is real and meaningful, I've been made to feel so included, it's helped me capture what really matters when it comes to parenting, and that's **Being Present!**"*

"This has really changed the way I think about my children, it's has taught me how to understand them, to get to the reason instead of just reacting to their behaviour!"

"I now know that I can have some 'me time' without feeling guilty!"

"I can really see a difference in home life, but more importantly, it has brought me and my children closer!"

Come and join us next **Friday 19th 12:30pm** for Week 1, in the ICT suit at the front of the school.

POP-IN CAFÉ: The Pop-In Café is on every Friday from 14.30 in the ICT Room.

IN SCHOOL THIS WEEK:

- I led a prospective parents' tour on Tuesday afternoon
- Mrs Bell and Miss Ryczowski attended SEN training on Wednesday
- Miss Hutchinson attended a Bicester partnership Y6 meeting yesterday
- Mrs Hargreaves-Hands and I attended a meeting with builders re the ongoing roof work this morning
- Mrs Fowler ran the Pop-In Café today

ATTENDANCE: The attendance for the school this week was 94.69% The class that achieved the highest attendance this week is Dolphin Class with 99.00% attendance, well done to Dolphin Class.

Bluebird	87.14%	Lion	93.33%
Dolphin	99.00%	Penguin	98.00%
Eagle	91.43%	Puffin	92.33%
Elephant	91.33%	Red Kites	96.84%
Flamingo	94.83%	Snowy Owl	97.41%
Giraffe	93.00%	Swan	92.86%
Kingfisher	96.67%	Yellow Wagtail	98.00%
Leopard	98.15%		

FLAMINGO CLASS ASSEMBLY: Miss McGuire's class will be putting on the first class assembly of 2024 next Friday at 9am in the school hall. Please make every effort to attend if your child is in this class. Refreshments will be served at the end.

Have a lovely weekend.

L Daulton

Mrs L Daulton
Headteacher