

Kemble Primary School

admin@kemble.gloucs.sch.uk

Thank you everybody for another great few (incredibly busy) weeks.

Reading Award System

Thank you to all the children for their great efforts and work during the Reading Festival and also to all the parents who came to the reading information evening. It was great to see such a good turn out and I really hope that you found it useful. If you would like any more information or guidance on reading with your children at home please come in and see your child's teacher. The PowerPoint presentation that I showed, along with some resources are on our new school website.

As I explained in a previous newsletter, we are really trying to improve the reading and comprehension of the children in school this year, and the reading festival is just one of the many ways that we have already put into place. As I said during the information evening children reading at home to an adult is absolutely pivotal in the development of their reading. We have launched a new award system to encourage them to read to you or another adult at home. Every time a child reads at home to an adult (and their reading diary had been signed!) children can colour in a square on their class chart. As they read more and more the children are able to win awards. The first milestone is 50 signed reading experiences (which should be achievable in about 12 weeks. Upon completion of that, the children get a certificate. As they read more and more at home, the awards increase in size from a wristband all the way up to the children receiving a book! I really hope that you can help your children in their quest to work their way up through the prizes whilst at the same time improving their reading, comprehension and enjoying the experience. Remember, this is about the number of times that the children are reading rather than the number of books that they have read so that children who are reading longer and more complex books are not disadvantaged.



Dates for your Diary

28.11.14 – Chocolate Mufti

30.11.14 – Messy Church

4.12.14 – KPG meeting 2:30pm

5.12.14 - Panto

8.12.14 - Nativity Dress
Rehearsal 9:30 am

9.12.14 – Nativity 1:45pm

9.12.14 – YR and Y6 Height
and Weight check

10.12.14 – Y5/6 Indoor athletics
4:00pm @ Deer Park

11.12.14 – Nativity 6:00pm

15.12.14 – KPG Secret Room

17.12.14 – Christmas lunch and
class parties

19.12.14 – Carol Service 10:00
am (at the church)

19.12.14 – KPG Christmas fair
2:30pm

Other News and information

Wire Coat hangers

Mrs Wilson has asked that if you have any spare wire coat hangers please could you bring them into school so that she can use them with the children to make Christmas decorations and other wonderful things!

Parents' Evenings

Thanks to all parents that came to the parents' evenings two weeks ago. If you were not able to make an appointment with your child's teacher please see them and arrange a different time.

Children in Need and poppy appeal

I would like to say a massive thank you to everybody for the cakes and other donations for Children in Need. This year we raised £175, which is excellent. We also raised £110 for this year's poppy Appeal. Thank you.

School Starters for September 2015

Closing date for applications to be in Reception in September 2015 is 15th January. If you know anybody who has not yet expressed an interest please ask them to give the school a call and arrange a visit.

Term Dates 2015/16

On the newsletter page of the school blog (which can be access via the website) I have now posted the term dates for 2015/16 so that you can plan holidays for next year! Please note that the dates do not include any INSET days for 2015/16 as these won't be decided upon until the summer term.

Christmas related things

It is such a busy time of year that I thought that it would be good to have a recap on some of the festive events that are coming up.

Tomorrow (Friday 28th) we have mufti day for the children. In order to take part the children need to bring in something for the chocolate tombola at the Christmas fair. On **Monday 8th December** the Christmas Postbox will be available for the children to post their Christmas cards to each other.

Our KS1 Nativity afternoon performance is on **Tuesday 9th** December and will start 1.45pm. The evening performance is on **Thursday 11th** December at 6:00pm. We will also hold a dress rehearsal on **Monday 8th December** at 9:30 am, which is an ideal opportunity for parents with younger children to come and see the performance.

We will have tickets available from **Monday 1st December**, which will be limited to two per family per performance in the first instance. From **Wednesday 3rd** December we will open it up so that, if we have any spare tickets you can get them. I have included a return slip at the bottom of the newsletter and so, if you are unable to get into school to pick up tickets you can send the slip back into school by **Monday 1st December**.

On **Friday 5th December** we have our panto trip to see Sleeping Beauty at the Everyman Theatre in Cheltenham. In order to ensure that we are in our seats by 10:00am please make sure that your children are in school promptly by 8:15 am so that the teachers can register them and ensure they have been to the loo before getting onto the coach. The children will return to school at approximately 1:30pm and so all children will need to have a packed lunch on that day. If your child is entitled to a free meal and you would like the school to provide a packed lunch for them, please see Brenda as soon as possible. More information will come home shortly.

The KPG 'Secret Room' is being held on **Monday 15th** December and our Christmas lunch and class parties are on **Wednesday 17th** December. On **Wednesday 17th** the children are invited to bring in party clothes for the lunch and afternoon parties. Please could the children come to school in normal uniform. Our final two events are on **Friday 19th December**. At 10:00 am we have our Carol Service and you are all welcome back for a mince pie and cup of tea afterwards and then KPG Christmas Fair is in the school hall at 2:30pm. Please note that only children who have parents at the Fair will be able to leave their classrooms. If you are not attending the fair your children will be released from class at 3:00pm as normal.

Sporting Events



The children from across the school have taken part in a range of sporting events over the last couple of weeks including a Year 5/6 tag Rugby and Football Festival and also the Year 3/4 indoor athletics tournament. I have been really impressed with how well the children have shown determination, team spirit and individual brilliance.

Nits

Head lice are an ever present issue in schools across the country and at the moment there are a number of parents who are becoming frustrated with the fact that their children are continually coming home from school with nits. Please could I ask that all parents make this weekend a 'nit busting' weekend and check and treat as appropriate all your family. From now on, if nits are spotted in a particular class we will send home a brief note so that the parents of those children are aware. Thank you

New School Website

Last week I launched the new school website which I hope that you find both appealing and easy to navigate. I am sure that there will be a few bugs that I need to iron out over the next few weeks and so, if you find any, please let me know. Don't forget that the school does have a twitter feed that you can subscribe to.

Photos

If you intend to purchase a photo that was taken on Monday please return your order to school by 9:00am tomorrow morning.

Panto and Stackpole Payments

If you have not returned slips or payments for the Panto or the Y6 residential please could you send it in to school as quickly as possible.

Computers

We have some lovely shiny new computers ready to put into the computer suite. Rather than desktops we have gone for hybrid computers that are useable as tablets or fully functional laptops. I hope that this will mean that the children will be able to make even more use of them. I would like to say thank you to all of you who, through the KPG events, have raised the money to enable the school to purchase them.



Nativity Tickets

I would like ____ ticket(s) for the nativity play Jesus' Christmas Party for Tuesday 9th December/

Thursday 11th December (please delete as appropriate)

When additional tickets become available I would like _____ tickets for Tuesday 9th December/

Thursday 11th December (please delete as appropriate)