



# Kemble Primary School

9th May 2017

**8th May**  
**SATS Week—no**  
**absences for all**  
**classes**

**24th May**  
**Beech assembly**  
**9am**

**26th May**  
**Last day of school**

**5th June**  
**Return to School**

**7th June**  
**District Athletics**  
**Deer Park Y3-6**

**8th June**  
**Leavers Service**  
**Gloucester Cathedral**

**12th June**  
**Year 1 Phonics check**

**30th June**  
**Parent Head Chat**  
**9.20am**

**4th July**  
**Non Uniform Day**  
**Sports Clothing**

**6th July**  
**Sports Day**  
**12.00 Picnic**  
**1.15 Sports**  
**Afternoon**

**This Terms Worship Theme is:**

**Courage**

**Dear Parents,**

Assessment week has come around again so quickly, I am not sure where the time goes! All children are having fun - they seem to like the format of assessment papers! Thank you for not booking time out of school, it is so important to ensure that children do not miss school. If I can remind everyone about taking time out of school (this has been in place since September 2016) - I can only authorise absences for the following reasons:

If a family member is in one of the armed forces and due to this, the family needs to spend time together before or after a tour of duty.

For an exceptional / medical reason, eg, to spend time with a loved one who has a terminal illness

I will not authorise absence when current attendance is less than 90%.

Current attendance percentages:

	Kemble	Siddington
Reception	93.5%	93%
Year 1	94.7%	91.7%
Year 2	97.0%	95%
Year 3	96.6%	95.4%
Year 4	95.8%	92.9%
Year 5	94.6%	94.4%
Year 6	94.0%	96.3%

Well done everyone! Keep it up until the end of term.

## PARENT HEAD MEETING -

Kemble - Firstly thank you to everyone who attended, it was so good to catch up with parents again. Homework and school development were discussed. I explained to parents that using the research and teacher work / life balance and making sure the homework was good for children's learning and gave parents an opportunity to know and help with weekly work, that the changes were hopefully going to balance all these things. Teachers in some classes had decided to continue with what they were doing and some teachers were trialling a range of activities for children and parents. I reminded parents to look at the English and Maths pages on the school websites and that teachers should put homework activities on their blogs or class pages. Parents came up with lots of good homework ideas, parents really like Mathletics. We used to use Bug Club, but the internet connection would not allow multiple use - Ms Wyatt is now looking at 'spellodrome' - similar to Mathletics, but spelling!



The termly meetings that have been put in place to explain topics and homework were well received (another way to improve communication too) but not many parents attended the first ones.

The new gate system in the mornings is working well - and a parent pointed out that a padlock would be useful on the new gate.

Parents have requested consistency in communication - different parents access the communication differently (email or text or social media or paper letter) - can the school look into one communication sent to all platforms? (SDP item).

Parents asked if we could hold an information session about English and to re-do the Maths one - at the start of the year would be good.

Parents asked about houses - children are put in a house with their siblings unless there is an unbalanced number in which case children may be in a different house. If a child leaves then we do try to make up the numbers when new children come into school to make it fair.

Parents were very happy with the new fencing and development. More ideas were shared.

If any parents who could not attend the meeting want to participate in the areas of discussion - then please email me.

## SWIMMING & VOLUNTARY TRIPS

Just a reminder to say that we aim to provide as many opportunities as possible for the children to make sure that the curriculum is enhanced. The KPG and PTA often help to subsidise trips and we use our sport funding money to make sure swimming costs are kept as low as possible. These contributions are voluntary - but we do need parents to let us know as soon as the letters go out whether they will be able to go on the trip or swimming so that we can plan. We also need to know if you can make a voluntary contribution, or if not, please arrange a meeting with Mrs Dougill or let her know, so that assistance can be given. If parents do this we can plan much more effectively and parents will not be surprised when we say that children cannot go on the trips. Thank you.



**ADVERTS** - Please look on the Gloucestershire website as there are 4 positions to be advertised:

We are very sad to tell you that Mrs Parris at Siddington and Mrs Turner at Kemble are retiring at the end of this academic year after many years of service. We thank them hugely for all their hard work and dedication to our schools. It does mean however that a part time position is available in both Siddington and Kemble School offices.



Full details can be found on the Gloucestershire jobs website. There will be a clerk to governors position available working for the federation. The job is to take minutes at 6 Full Governing Body (FGB) meetings and 6 standards and performance meetings and

then writing up the minutes and a small amount of general governing body administration - it is for 30 hours per year (meetings are after school).

Kemble - Reception Class Teacher - 1 day per week to cover Mrs Newton's deputy release day on a Thursday.

Full details can be found on the Gloucestershire jobs website.

**SCHOOL MEALS** - Just to let you know I have been asking children in both schools what the meals are like now that the new kitchen is cooking them - I have had 100% positive comments by the children about the quality of the food and the way they are served. Thank you so much to our staff for making sure our children have good, healthy meals.

**HAPPY PLAYTIMES** - We are very lucky to have fabulous midday staff who play with the children and make sure they have a happy time. We are always in need of different things for the children to do. If you have any board games, card games (Top Trumps etc), felt pens, crayons, comics or annuals that you do not need any more, then please pop them to the school office to be used at lunch times. Thank you very much.

### **QUADKIDS**

Last Thursday, ten children from Horse Chestnut Class represented the School at Quadkids Athletics competing against 8 other schools. Each athlete took part in 4 events: the 400 m race, 50 m sprint, standing long jump and mini vortex howler throw. The children earned points for their team and also competed at an individual level. All the children performed incredibly well and were a credit to the school.



**SCHOOL UNIFORM CHANGES** .In line with other schools, from September we will not be able to supply parents with school uniform from the school office. Please do not worry as we have arranged School Trends who many other schools in the area use (Sapperton, Southrop, Paternoster, St Lawrence, Lechlade to name but a few), to supply children's uniform. We will however, keep one of each size of sweatshirt / cardigan and some other items in the school office for you to try sizes. The new system is an on-line ordering system. You will be able to place an order and pay for it on line and it will then be delivered free of charge to the school, if you request it sent to the school. If you do not have the internet you can still place a paper order which can also be delivered free of charge to the school. More details to follow shortly.



## **WELCOME**

Welcome to Willow Dobbie who has joined the school. We hope you will be very happy.

## **KPG NEWS**

School Disco 26 May

KPG camping and BBQ on school field on Sat 10 June (more details to follow on both in next KPG newsletter).

## **KEMBLE CHURCH FETE**

2pm Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> May

Lots of stalls &  
things for children  
to do

## **May Birthdays**

Elizabeth, Beth, Sebbie, Imogen,  
Harry S, Florence, Callum

