



Kinsale Junior School
Kinsale Avenue
Hellesdon
Norwich
NR6 5SG

Headteacher: R Robinson
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Wednesday 1st July 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

As many of you are new to the school, I would like to take this opportunity to welcome you once again to Kinsale Junior School and to tell you a little bit about the work that has been going on over the last year since we joined the Wensum Trust. This has certainly been an unusual year for us all and we have faced many challenges throughout, but also had many successes. The partial closure of the school has given us time to reflect on the work that needs to continue in order to make sure that the children who attend Kinsale are given the best educational experience possible.

There has been a lot of work done by myself and the staff to improve the curriculum that we provide for children. We introduced *Accelerated Reader* at the beginning of the year in order to track children's reading more accurately and to ensure that all children understood what they were reading. We have also restructured what we are teaching in all year groups and in all subjects, to make sure that the children have a greater understanding of what they are being taught and why. Being able to make links across subjects is very important to help children improve and make progress. Alongside this, all the staff have undertaken a vigorous programme of professional development to improve the learning experience for all children.

Along with the Wensum Trust, there has been a programme of work established to improve the grounds and buildings. This year, we have had three classrooms and one corridor completely redecorated. Our Trust has also been instrumental in making sure that we had all the correct equipment needed in order to open the school safely on the 1st June, for returning Year 6 pupils.

Over the past week I have received a number of emails regarding the uniform for the Year 3 children starting school in September. I understand that there is some concern regarding the new requirements. I do appreciate all the emails sent personally to me and value the perspective of our parents/carers. I do strongly believe that coming directly to the school with any concerns is the correct course of action as we can address things quickly, if need be. This matter was discussed by the Local Advisory Board (formally the Governing Board) at our meeting on Monday 29th June.

Earlier this year *Tesco*, who supplied our customised school uniform, informed us that they would be ending their contract, not only with us but with all schools who had previously used them. Therefore [Fosters Schoolwear](#) will supply all our customised uniform (with logos) from now on. There is no obligation to buy uniform with a logo on it. You are more than welcome to buy your child's uniform from a high street store that stocks our colours. Asda, Sainsbury's, Matalan and Amazon all stock royal blue V-necked jumpers, as well as white shirts and black skirts/trousers. Girls will also be able to wear a royal blue checked summer dress if they prefer, when the weather is warm.



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The colours for shirts and skirts/trousers were chosen as the parents who responded to the survey expressed a preference for those. I am also very mindful that the majority of our pupils transfer to Hellesdon High at the end of Year 6 and, if they still fit, the children can continue wearing them to school into Year 7.

Some parents have asked for clarification on hair accessories and boots in winter. Children with long hair, who prefer to tie it back during the school day, are encouraged to continue doing so. If you could choose hair accessories that are royal blue, black or white that would be very much appreciated. Again, Asda, Tesco, Amazon and Ebay all stock royal blue hair accessories. During the winter months, children are welcome to wear boots to and from school. All we ask is that they have a pair of shoes with them to change into whilst in their classroom for their own comfort.

On the first day of school we will give all the children a new tie. There will be no requirement for anyone to purchase a tie in the first instance. We will encourage the children to wear their tie with pride whilst being mindful of their comfort and enjoyment of school.

If you do need further clarification on anything in this letter then please contact the school via email on office@kinsalejunior.norfolk.sch.uk.

Kindest regards

Mrs Robinson