



THE NEWSLETTER FOR KINSALE JUNIOR SCHOOL

Friday 1st October 2021



Dear Parents & Carers,

Even though this is the first newsletter of the year, we are already at the end of week four. Normally, we would have sent out a newsletter before now but with me being absent for a couple of weeks this is our first one. On that note, I would like to thank all the staff for their fantastic support whilst I was off school, and the pupils and parents for their kind good wishes and get well messages. I am now fully back at school and well on the road to a full recovery.

I have been very impressed with all the pupils and the manner in which they have come back to school. As I walk through the building there is a very purposeful atmosphere around the school – the children are settled and focussed on their work. Well done to everyone for such a great start to the school year.

During the summer holiday we had some planned building work carried out. The main corridor in school has been redecorated, new flooring laid and fire-break doors installed. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Estates Team at the Wensum Trust for organising and project managing the work. Without them these improvements to the school environment would not take place.

Towards the end of the summer term I announced that we would be having an outdoor gym installed for the pupils. Unfortunately, this did not take place and we are currently waiting for an update on the installation date. The gym has been manufactured but is currently awaiting an available delivery slot. We will continue to work with the company to make sure that we get the equipment as soon as possible installed on the school grounds.

Kindest regards,

Mrs Robinson

YEAR GROUP NEWS

YEAR 3

Year 3 have been very busy immersing themselves in all things 'animal'. In our discovery learning we have been finding out about the history of zoos, how they have changed and the role modern zoos play today. We have also been sketching animals in our art lesson, in music we have been listening to The Carnival of the Animals and studying different types of skeletons in science.

Most of the year group have managed to take their Star Reading test for our Accelerated Reader scheme (AR) and we are starting to get everyone set up with a reading book. This

YEAR 4

This half term, Year 4 have been reading The Firework Maker's Daughter by Philip Pullman. They have written some excellent setting descriptions using similes and fronted adverbials and are developing their suspenseful writing skills. In Maths, the children have been working on place value and have begun ordering four-digit numbers.

In Discovery Learning, the children have been learning about weather and climate. They have discussed the causes of climate change and have written some wonderful letters to Boris

scheme focuses on developing reading comprehension and once the children have read a book, they will need to take a quiz in the computer suite to assess their understanding of what they have read. Once they have taken their quiz they will then be able to change their book.

Please feel free to enjoy other books at home if your child has not been able to quiz on a book in school. You can always check if the book your child wants to read is suitable by searching on <https://www.arbookfind.co.uk/UserType.aspx?RedirectURL=%2fdefault.aspx>. The BL listed is the same as the ZPD that might be on the school book your child has brought home.

Johnson suggesting ways to help him to look after the environment! We have also created our own weather stations and look forward to collecting some data over the coming week!

The children have settled into Year 4 exceptionally well and are looking forward to their learning. Could we please ask that all children check their school email accounts and check into their new Google Classrooms as this is where weekly homework will be posted.

Miss Everett, Mr Hyde, Mrs Carter and Mrs Gray

YEAR 5

We have been very impressed with Year 5 and how well they have settled into the new academic year. In English, we have recently started a writing and reading focus on Dr Maggie's Tour of the Solar System: we have particularly enjoyed using 'thought experiments' when visiting other planets and finding out weird and wonderful facts.

The Magnificent Maya is our History topic this half term. The children have shown great interest in this particular ancient civilisation. We will be challenging ourselves to decipher ancient hieroglyphs and the Maya number system next week!

The children are loving the topic of Space in Science, they have shown great success when placing the planets in order and writing interesting facts they have learnt, utilising their learning from English also.

We have been thoroughly enjoying swimming on a Tuesday afternoon and are already beginning to see lots of improvements. As the weather starts to get a bit chillier, please remind your child to bring a coat or jumper with them when we walk over to the high school.

YEAR 6

Year 6 are now well underway with the curriculum content for this half term and the children are responding wonderfully to the lessons and activities offered. We, as teachers, continue to be amazed at the quality and quantity of work produced. Well done Year 6!

In English the children have particularly enjoyed the variety of retellings of the Shakespeare play 'Twelfth Night' and written outcomes have been thoughtfully developed and carefully crafted. Our Science unit of work based on 'Light' has allowed the children to be creative in producing models to prove theories and even constructing their very own periscope! Our 'Discovery Learning' sessions have been received equally well and children have learnt about the processes of erosion and deposition and how these form typical features such as meanders, waterfalls and oxbow lakes.

We are looking forward to our residential trip and have a packed and varied schedule of activities in place for those attending. We are hoping that this will provide the children with opportunities for challenges to be met and plenty of life-long memories to be forged.

The Year 6 Team

DIARY DATES

Tuesday 12th October

Flu Vaccinations (all year groups)

Thursday 21st – Friday 29th October

Half-term holiday

8th – 10th November

Year 6 residential trip

Friday 17th December

Last day of term

WISE ABOUT WORDS

Wise About Words is a new project that the Wensum Trust have recently launched, in partnership with Norwich Theatre. The aim of the two-year project is to further develop our teachers' storytelling skills with a broader focus on improving children's wellbeing, literacy and communication skills.

This year, 6O will be joined by Hilary Thompson, an actor who will be working with the children to explore new ways of telling stories and discovering different approaches to drama. This collaboration will also benefit the rest of our staff team, who will also have the opportunity to acquire new techniques and learn from Mr Osborn's experiences.

Wise About Words aims to use stories to foster empathy in our classrooms and to help children develop their listening skills. By experiencing and discussing the thoughts of characters, children will learn more about a wider range of emotions and our staff will be better equipped to support them in making sense of these emotions. Our teachers will be able to access a broader range of stories that will inspire deeper creative thinking and will expand children's vocabulary. This will, in turn, help children to be better at telling their own stories and at expressing their own thoughts and emotions.

We will continue to share our work with you and to keep you updated on Wise About Words through our newsletters and Facebook page, so keep your eyes peeled.

Please [click here](#) to visit The Wensum Trust website for more information on this exciting new project.