



# Knebworth Primary & Nursery School Newsletter

Friday 11<sup>th</sup> January 2019

## Message from the Head

Dear Parents/Carers,

Happy New Year! I do hope everyone had a restful and relaxing two weeks Christmas holiday and you are feeling refreshed and ready for the spring term.

We have had a very busy and productive first week back with lots of exciting learning opportunities. We welcome two new teachers into our Knebworth team Kate Clayton, who is teaching in Reception and Gemma Rajiah who is teaching in Year 3. It is wonderful to have them on board and I know you will join me in welcoming them into our community.

We also welcome some mysterious quiet critters into the fold. They help to keep our new whispering walkway quiet and safe during important transition times. The children are very excited to keep them around and are doing a great job of walking calmly so that these creatures do not run away.



We would like to remind you that we are always here to listen if you have any questions or queries. Your child's class teacher is always your first port of call: you can speak to them directly or make an appointment through the office. We kindly ask you to refrain from raising concerns on social media as we are unable to address these. It is also deeply unfair to the children, parents and staff members who are being discussed and who have no voice.

Fortunately for this time of year, the weather is relatively clement. However, it can change at any time so please ensure that your children arrive at school with their coats. In the event of snowfall, please ensure that you are registered with 'Everbridge' (link in reminders).

At Knebworth School we have very high expectations that includes presentation. We have noticed that some children are coming to school in a variety of footwear including knee-high boots and trainers. The school uniform policy specifies 'Black flat school shoes' and not trainers. We understand that the weather is getting colder and children are very welcome to wear alternative winter footwear to come to school and change into black flat school shoes once they arrive. We appreciate your support in this matter.

We really hope the children (and you!) enjoyed the first week back. We know it will be a fun and successful spring term.

Kind regards,

Natasha Laskey and the School Leadership Team

## E-Safety

### Online challenges and peer pressure

There are frequently online challenges that circulate on social media sites and many raise money or promote good causes such as the 'Ice Bucket Challenge'. However, some of the challenges are more sinister and can entice users into daring, frightening and sometimes harmful activities. Children can be drawn into a challenge through peer pressure, thinking all their friends are completing the challenge so they themselves also need to do so. It can be hard to tell at times if such challenges are real or rumoured but it is important to have a conversation with your child about the importance of saying 'no' to pressure, even from friends, to complete inappropriate and risky challenges and the consequences of taking part in challenges, whether offline or online. Children need to report online content that is dangerous and encourages harm. Visit the 'Parent Info' website for examples of viral trends and suggested conversation starters that may help you.

<https://parentinfo.org/article/viral-internet-trends-a-parents-guide>

## Awards and Achievements

### *House Points:*

*Aschil: 56*

*Bulwer: 69*

*Eudo: 33*

*Lytton: 48*

## Notices and Reminders

### **Severe Weather Conditions - URGENT CLOSURE NOTIFICATION**

The school will only close if it feels it is unsafe to open due to a critical incident or severe weather conditions and when advised by the Police and Hertfordshire County Council. If you have not already done so please sign up to the Hertfordshire schools closure notification system below. Once registered you will be advised by text & email if the school is closed as soon as possible.

<https://member.everbridge.net/index/892807736725489#/login>

### **NSPCC**

Next week, children in KS1 and KS2 will be taking part in the NSPCC's 'Speak Out Stay Safe' programme. Please see the attached letter for further information.

### **Termly Information**

Teachers will be sending out termly year group information leaflets, to give you an idea of what your child will be learning about in spring term. These are available either via Class Dojo, hardcopies or the school website.

**French Club** - please see attached letter from Hayley-Lloyd-Williams if your child is interested in learning French before or after school.

**Future Sports Clubs** - Happy New Year from the Future Sports Team.

It's not too late to enrol your child onto one of the after school classes in Football, Multi-sports or Dodgeball. All clubs resume from next week. For further information or to sign up, please contact John McKessick on 07747136714.

**Lost Property** - There are currently 5 outdoor coats in lost property. Mrs Moss will be on the playground outside the year 4 classrooms after school today with the lost property. If your child has lost their coat or any other item of clothing then please check with Mrs Moss this afternoon.

**Parent Volunteers/Bookworms** - If you are a parent volunteer or Bookworm please can you make sure that you have submitted a reference to the school office. You are also required to complete a 'Declaration form'. The next time you are in school please can you check with the office to see if you have to complete either of these? Thank you.

## Key Dates for your Diary - Spring Term 2019

*Details for upcoming events will be sent nearer the time where and when applicable*

**7<sup>th</sup> January:** Spring Term begins!

**15<sup>th</sup> January:** NSPCC Assemblies to children

**17<sup>th</sup> January:** Year 5 Sputnik Class Celebration Assembly at 2:30pm

**18<sup>th</sup> January:** First KS1 Celebration Assembly (then alternate weeks)

**22<sup>nd</sup> January:** Year 5 NSPCC workshop

**22<sup>nd</sup> January:** Year 6 trip to Harry Potter Studios

**23<sup>rd</sup> January:** Year 6 NSPCC workshop

**24<sup>th</sup> January:** Year 5 Hubble Class Celebration Assembly at 2:30pm

**25<sup>th</sup> January:** First KS2 Celebration Assembly (then alternate weeks)

**31<sup>st</sup> January:** Year 3 Attenborough Class Celebration Assembly at 2:30pm

**5<sup>th</sup> February:** Young Voices Trip

**7<sup>th</sup> February:** Year 3 Goodall Class Celebration Assembly at 2:30pm

**8<sup>th</sup> February:** Road Safety session for Reception children

**13<sup>th</sup> February:** Year 2 Aztec Day

**18<sup>th</sup> February to 22<sup>nd</sup> February:** **HALF TERM**

**28<sup>th</sup> February:** Year 2 Galileo Class Scootability

**1<sup>st</sup> March:** Year 2 Newton Class Scootability

**7<sup>th</sup> March:** World Book Day - children are invited to come to school dressed as a character from a book!

**7<sup>th</sup> March:** Year 2 Galileo Class Celebration Assembly at 2:30pm

**14<sup>th</sup> March:** Year 2 Newton Class Celebration Assembly at 2:30pm

**21<sup>st</sup> March:** Year 1 Rosen Class Celebration Assembly at 2:30pm

**26<sup>th</sup> March:** Open Evening 3:30 to 5:00pm - An opportunity to look around the school and look at your children's books/journals

**28<sup>th</sup> March:** Year 2 trip to Roald Dahl Gallery

**28<sup>th</sup> March:** Year 1 Dahl Class Celebration Assembly at 2:30pm

**1<sup>st</sup> April:** Year 5 Afternoon Tea to Neighbours at 2:15pm

**2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> April:** Parents Evenings from 3:30pm to 6:30pm

**3<sup>rd</sup> April:** Pupil Parliament trip to The Houses of Parliament

**4<sup>th</sup> April:** **END OF TERM - School finishes at 1:30pm**

**24<sup>th</sup> April:** Children return to school.

### FOKS DATES

FOKS play an important part within our school life and raise much need funds to continue supporting our children across the curriculum. Please help to support them at the events below.

**18<sup>th</sup> January:** Nursery & Reception Cake Sale

**25<sup>th</sup> January:** FOKS Mufti Day - donations of bottles for Gala Day

**1<sup>st</sup> February:** Year 6 Cake Sale

**7<sup>th</sup> February:** Film Night 3:15 to 5:00pm

**1<sup>st</sup> March:** Year 4 Cake Sale

**15<sup>th</sup> March:** FOKS Mufti Day - donations of jazzy jars for Gala Day

**22<sup>nd</sup> March:** Year 3 Cake Sale

**28<sup>th</sup> March:** Mother's Day gifts