



Knebworth Primary School Newsletter

Friday 17th September 2021

Message from the Senior Leadership Team

Dear Parents and Carers,

What a wonderful week it has been in welcoming so many of you back into school for Meet the Teacher this week. We do hope you all enjoyed the opportunity to meet your child's teacher and to see your child's classroom. We loved seeing you all this week and we look forward to future school events so watch this space!

At the end of this half term we will be holding our annual Autumn Term Parents Evenings. During the pandemic these meetings were held remotely and many parents found this a preferable option. We have created a short online survey whereby we can receive parental feedback on future Parents Evenings therefore we would appreciate it if all parents could complete the survey by **1st October** so we can plan accordingly. The survey can be accessed at: <https://forms.gle/wh66pFQLim9w3YFq9>

On Thursday, children in Years 1 to 6 were fortunate to receive a special virtual assembly led by Katherine who works at Knebworth House. She used the assembly to tell the children all about our four school Houses – **Aschil**, **Bulwer**, **Eudo** and **Lytton** and the children really enjoyed hearing about the history of the Houses as well as all about these famous figures in Knebworth History. If you take a close look at our school logo you will see the letters A, B, E and L which represent our four Houses! Thank you Katherine for this informative assembly.

This afternoon, Miss Bains held her very first virtual KS1 Celebration Assembly of the year and it was such a joy to hear how well all of the KS1 children have settled into their new classes. The school values of **Respect**, **Responsibility** and **Resilience** have most certainly been in abundance in KS1 and the teachers found it very difficult to choose just one child per class for the Silver Vales certificate this week! Later this afternoon the parents of the children who were awarded the silver values certificate enjoyed a Celebration Tea with Mrs Laskey, Miss Bains and Mrs Maynard. The iced gems were very much enjoyed by all and it was so lovely to see the children sharing their success with their parents. We are all looking forward to the KS2 Celebration Assembly next week!

This morning, FOKS hosted a coffee morning for our new and existing EYFS parents. Mrs Laskey and Miss Bains also popped along for some tea and cake and it was so lovely to see so many parents there – we really enjoyed meeting you all. A BIG thank you to The FOKS team and to The Station Pub for organising and hosting this event for us.

Lastly, regular attendance at school is vital to ensure that all children receive a full-time education. Irregular attendance and/or lateness leads to missed learning and this has a huge impact on children's education. National data clearly shows a correlation between high attendance rates and high performance. At Knebworth School, we want the best for all our children and will continue to closely monitor any school absences. We understand that there may be unavoidable circumstances when a child misses school but we want to support all our families to ensure that each child attends school for every session possible. Remember that attendance of 95%, which may seem high at first glance, means 48 hours of learning time lost over the year. Please ensure that any appointments are made outside of school hours wherever possible. Please note that legally, schools may not grant any leave of absence during term time unless it is deemed there are exceptional circumstances. If you feel you need any support to improve your child's attendance then please do get in touch.

Have a lovely weekend everyone.

Kind Regards,
Natasha Laskey, Sim Bains & Grace Maynard

Message from The FOKS Team

Welcome to the Autumn/Winter term 2021 from Friends of Knebworth School (FOKS)!

Firstly, welcome to our new Nursery and Reception Parents and Guardians, it was really lovely to meet some of you at our Coffee Morning today.

Secondly, well what more can we say but you all really love Doughnuts! Thank you so much for your support- buying and helping to sell on the stalls - it was truly amazing to kick the year off with such a successful event!

As for the rest of the term, we are just finalising our Calendar and are pleased to say we will be announcing our plans next week! If you would like to be ahead of the game, please do come to our **Committee Meeting** on Wednesday 22nd September 7.30pm at The Station Pub, where we will be discussing our ideas and plans for the term ahead. We would love to welcome anyone who has an interest in the Committee to please join us on Wednesday, you can be involved at whatever level you would like - from helping at Doughnut stalls, to sourcing smarties or reindeer antlers, or even running a stall, we have something for everyone!

If you would like an easy way of raising funds for FOKS please do check out Amazon Smile and our newly relaunched School Lottery! Both are really simple ways to raise much needed funds for the school. Please check out the PDFs attached for more information.

Thank you for your much needed support as ever,
FOKS

Wellbeing Quote

"Little by little, day by day, what's meant for you will find its way"

Attendance

Now that we are back to school full time, we are reintroducing the attendance cup, which will be awarded to the class with the highest attendance each week. Congratulations to our winning class this week: **Byron!**

Y1 Nightingale	Y1 Seacole	Y2 Bronte	Y2 Byron	Y3 Churchill	Y3 Pankhurst	Y4 Dahl	Y4 Rosen	Y5 Galileo	Y5 Newton	Y6 Attenborough	Y6 Goodall
97.2	96.6	96.2	99.6	98.1	97.1	93.4	98.3	92.5	99.3	94.3	97.8

Awards & Achievements

Thomas in Year 6 recently took part in a National Thai Boxing Championship! Thomas has shown an incredible amount of responsibility and resilience in achieving his goal of becoming a title holder! Thomas committed himself to hours of training to ensure his fitness matched those fighting at National level, he has had to consider his diet and sleep and occasionally missed out on other activities to enable him to be fully ready to compete. Thomas says that he is, "Very pleased with himself for winning and feels really proud!" However, he would like other athletes to, "Remember that there are defeats along the way which need to be thought of as learning experiences, and that it is important to not give up on your goal". The losses he experienced have been something to learn from and meant he tried even harder on the day. Such a fantastic example of our school value of **Resilience** in action. Well done Thomas!



Silver Values Certificates

Knebworth Silver Values Certificates: Year 1: Avery & Poppy and Year 2: Harry B & Sofia.

Year 6 Head Boy & Girl & House Captains

We are very pleased to announce that after much deliberation the Head Boy, Head Girl and House Captains have now been chosen for this academic year. Congratulations to:

Head Boy: Zac

Head Girl: Lexie

Aschil House Captain: Grace

Bulwer House Captain: Patrick

Eudo House Captain: Katelyn

Lytton House Captain: Poppy W

House Points

Aschil

260



Bulwer

210



Eudo

259



Lytton

231



Top house point earners this week

Y1	Y1	Y2	Y2	Y3	Y3	Y4	Y4	Y5	Y5	Y6	Y6
Nightingale	Seacole	Bronte	Byron	Churchill	Pankhurst	Dahl	Rosen	Galileo	Newton	Attenborough	Goodall
Bella L Annie	Bluebelle	Lily	Zachary	Flo	Hallie Max	Lewis Tommy	Jack	Luke Orla	Gracie	Caspar	Zac Liam

Notice & Reminders

Drop off: Can we gently remind all parents to adhere to the drop off times of 8:40 – 8:50 for EYFS and KS1 children and 8:50 – 9:00 for KS2. If your child is late into school please do not knock on the classroom door as this interrupts the children's learning. Please bring your child to the school office. Children arriving after 9am will be marked as late.

Parking Poster: Please see the attached poster from Hertfordshire Constabulary.

School Menu Change: Please note that on Tuesday's ham flatbread has been changed to ham baguette. Also, Italian chicken will not be available on Tuesday 21st October. These changes will show on the HCL grid ordering system.

Wellbeing Leaflet: Our Inclusion Team have put together a list of useful websites to give parents and carers some tips on how to look after their and/or their child's wellbeing and mental health. You can also contact your child's class teacher if you are worried about your child's wellbeing and your concerns will be discussed with the inclusion team. Please see the attachment for more information.

Handling Anger for ASD/ADHD children: Please see the attached leaflet regarding this course.

Toys: A gentle reminder that children should not be bringing toys of any description to school for use at playtime and lunchtime.

Baby Bank Leaflet: Please see the attachment regarding support for families with young babies.

Key Dates for your Diary – Autumn Term 2021

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

17 th September	Celebration Assemblies start
20 th September – 1 st October	Galileo Class Intensive Swimming Course
23 rd September	Virtual EYFS Meeting at 4pm – see Class Dojo for more information
30 th September	Years 2 to 6 Virtual Reading Event with Dara McNulty
4 th October	Living Streets/WOW Launch
8 th October	Hello Yellow Mental Health Awareness Day
11 th October	Children’s Individual Photos
12 th October	Open Evening 3:30 to 6pm A chance for parents to come into school to look at their children’s books and celebrate their learning
20 th and 21 st October	Parents Evenings
22nd October	INSET Day – school closed to pupils
25th – 29th October	October Half Term
26 th – 28 th October	Football Fun Week
8 th November – 19 th November	Newton Class Intensive Swimming Course
24 th November	Flu Vaccination
3rd December	Occasional Day – school closed to pupils
10 th December	Christmas Jumper Day
15 th December	Christmas Lunch for children
21st December	End of Autumn term 1.30pm