



THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND

Kingsland CE (VA) Primary School



The Kingsland Times

Friday 14th February 2020

Let your light shine

“Let your light shine before others that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.” Matthew 5:16

Let your light shine on our vision:

As God’s children, overflowing with His light, we will shine before others to inspire, nurture and bring joy so all may embrace life in its fullness to the glory of God.

Our Christian value for this half-term is
COURAGE

Please help your child to reflect on the importance of this Christian value.



COURAGE DOESN'T ALWAYS ROAR. SOMETIMES COURAGE IS THE QUIET VOICE AT THE END OF THE DAY SAYING, 'I WILL TRY AGAIN TOMORROW.'
—MARY ANNE RADMACHER

Life at Kingsland CE Primary School: life in all its fullness (John 10:10)

On Tuesday 4th February, the children treated us to a wonderful celebration of their musical talents in the annual Winter Concert. It is quite incredible to think that a third of the children at the school took part – well done to all our fantastic performers! The focus after half term will shift onto the Herefordshire Performing Arts Festival which will involve 60 children altogether. It is such a joy to see so many children thriving and flourishing with the performing arts, building their confidence and enjoying the exposure to such celebrated cultural capital. We wish you all a peaceful and relaxing half term break.

PLEASE DO NOT PLAN HOLIDAYS DURING TERM TIME

Kingsland CE Primary School, Kingsland, Leominster, Herefordshire HR6 9QN

Telephone: 01568 708436

Email: admin@kingslandengland.hereford.sch.uk

Website: www.kingslandceprimary.com



Dates for your diary

WB 17 th February	Half term
Tuesday 25 th February	Parents' Evening 3.30-6.30pm
Wednesday 26 th February	Parents' Evening 4.30-7.30pm
2 nd – 5 th March	Herefordshire Performing Arts Festival
Friday 6 th March	World Day of Prayer (Y6 children)
11 th March	Herefordshire Performing Arts Festival Celebration Concert 5.30pm
13 th – 15 th March	Ventures residential
Friday 3 rd April	Easter Service in Kingsland Church 1.30pm

The full 2019 - 2020 term dates can be found on the school website (2020-2021 term dates are also available) following the link: <https://www.kingslandceprimary.com/term-dates/>



Every Friday, a child is awarded with “**The Maths Rock**” – this is given to a child who has worked especially hard in maths during the week. Our recent winners have been: Callum and Ella. Well done to both of you!

Congratulations go to the following children who have received Headteacher's Awards:

Jack for great knowledge of his number bonds to 20; **Joseph** for great progress in RWI and sentence writing; **Faith, Rosie** and **Jessica** for excellent science contributions; **Zac, Chloe, Arthur, Max** and **Beau** for great problem solving in maths; **Poppy, Eva** and **Edie** for super RE reflections; **Owen, Evie** and **Jude** for writing wonderful Australian creation stories; **Thomas, Emily, Anabelle, Sophie** and **Harris** for amazing Japanese paintings; **Thomas** and **Ollie** for achieving full marks in an arithmetic assessment; **Joseph** and **Reece** for great progress in arithmetic; **Mary, Aimee, Maisie** and **Callum** for great progress in reading comprehension; **Emily** for wonderful leadership in yoga – well done to you all!

Current attendance levels – from 4th September to 14th February 2020

Class 1	Class 2	Class 3	Class 4	Class 5	School total
93.2%	95.9%	97.1%	97.1%	97.1%	96.3%

Well done to Class 3, Class 4 & Class 5 – you have the best attendance record!

Earrings

Please can we send a reminder that children have two options when participating in all PE and swimming activities:

1. Remove earrings (either they do this themselves, or at home before coming to school – school staff are not permitted to remove children's earrings for them)
2. Earrings are taped up securely – children must bring tape from home

As you will understand, these rules are to ensure the safety of the children.

Late Pick-ups

Please note that due to safeguarding and staffing reasons, children will be taken to Stay and Play Club if they are late being picked up at the end of the school day. This is to ensure there is suitable supervision for them. A £4 charge for the Stay and Play Club will be charged in such circumstances.

House Tokens

Congratulations to the following children for achieving a house token!

Ambrey	Berrington	Croft	Mortimer
Perry	Riley	Maxwell	Harley
Hallie	Nicko	Theodore	Darcey
Grace	Maximus	Riley	Connie
Peter	Joseph	Lexi	Theo
Jacob	William	Eleanor	Poppy
India	Ebony	Jude	Jacob
Evie	Rory	Hayden	Olive
RJ	Harry	Max	Rockley
Malvina	Jasmine	Louise	Edie
Faith	Zac	Wilson	Millie
Ada	Harley	Beau	Archie
Emily	Bethany	Eva	Flynn
Aaron	Daniel		
Josh			



PTA

The next PTA event will be a DISCO on Friday 27th March – more information to follow shortly.

FLAPJACK FRIDAYS will commence after half term on the playground – 50p.

Parents' Evenings

We look forward to welcoming you into school for one of our Parents' Evenings on either 25th or 26th February.

Sports Report

As you will know, we were delighted to be awarded with the prestigious School Games PLATINUM Sports Award. The trophy has finally made it to school, which gives us another opportunity to celebrate all the fantastic achievements and opportunities that are on offer for all our children in PE and sport. Well done everyone!

Congratulations too to Imogen and Aimee for achieving the GOLD medal at the School Games' gymnastics competition.

This year, three different teams went to the County Winter Games at Hereford Leisure Centre. Year 3/4 tennis: Year 5/6 sportshall athletics and a gymnastics team. The tennis team came third and the sportshall athletics team, although they have no idea where they came in the event, decided that they were 5th. The gymnastics team consisting of Aimee, Imogen and a child from another school performed incredibly well and won the whole event. Congratulations to them for achieving the GOLD medal! A big thank you to Mrs Perrott for giving up her time to take and chaperone the gymnasts.

Last Friday, Kingsland CE Primary School had their first tag rugby match of the year against Burghill. After a slow start, the children finally got to grips with the game and showed massive improvements as it went on - well done. The final score was 10-6 to Burghill.



Religious Literacy

As a Church of England school, open and welcoming to all children of all faiths and beliefs, we are challenged to consider the term "Religious Literacy". Below is a definition which you might like to reflect on ...

What is Religious Literacy?



"Religious literacy enables willingness and ability to live with religious and cultural tensions and with conflicting beliefs and practices. It supports social cohesion by providing safe spaces where different views can be aired, listened to and engaged with without the pressure to conform to an overall perspective."

Members of the Department of Theology
and Religious Studies
at the University of Chester



Class 4's Website

Class 4 have combined their learning about Australia and computing to create their own fantastic website. Please do follow the link below and have a look at all the information, including their wonderful Australian Creation Stories. Thank you to Mr Woodcock for all his support with this project.

www.australiawithclassfour.co.uk/

Brecon Mountain Railway

On Tuesday 11th February, Class Two went to Brecon Mountain Railway to experience the sights and sounds of travelling on an old fashioned steam train. They had an amazing visit looking at the landscape of Wales whilst sitting in the train carriage travelling to the top of the mountain. It was an extremely cold day but the children were very excited to see some snow.



House Treat

This half term's house competition has been won by **AMBREY**.

Ambrey will have their house treat on Tuesday 25th February.

On this day, the KS2 children in **Ambrey** will be allowed to bring in SCOOTERS and ROLLERSKATES, and the children in KS1 can bring in SCOOTERS and TRICYCLES. They will be able to ride these during playtime.

Children should also bring in appropriate safety equipment – helmets, knee pads.

If your child does not have a scooter / tricycle / rollerskates, please let us know, and we will try and make alternative arrangements for them.



Leave of Absence

The letter below was sent out in July 2019. Please note the leave of absence procedures.

Dear Parents,

I am writing to clarify and update our "Leave of Absence Requests" procedures in accordance with the school's Attendance Policy and government guidelines. With reference to the DfE document "School attendance" (September 2018), I quote the following paragraph:

Central to raising standards in education and ensuring all pupils can fulfil their potential is an assumption so widely understood that it is insufficiently stated – pupils need to attend school regularly to benefit from their education. Missing out on lessons leaves children vulnerable to falling behind. Children with poor attendance tend to achieve less in both primary and secondary school.

The government expects:

- *Schools and local authorities to:*
 - *Promote good attendance and reduce absence, including persistent absence;*
 - *Ensure every pupil has access to full-time education to which they are entitled; and,*
 - *act early to address patterns of absence.*
- *Parents to perform their legal duty by ensuring their children of compulsory school age who are registered at school attend regularly.*
- *All pupils to be punctual to their lessons.*

Headteachers retain the ability to authorise leave of absence. It is likely that Headteachers will be unable to grant any leave of absence during term time unless there are exceptional circumstances relating to the application. It is for the Headteacher to decide what is 'exceptional' and it is at their discretion if the circumstances warrant the leave to be granted.

Each application for a leave of absence will be considered on a case by case basis and on its own merits. Below are some examples of Leave of Absence requests which are not able to be authorised (this is not an exhaustive list):

- Availability of cheaper holidays.
- Availability of desired accommodation.
- Poor weather experienced in school holidays.

- Overlap with beginning or end of term.
- Booked the wrong dates by mistake.
- Booked by another family member.
- Attending a wedding that is not immediate family.
- Family birthdays.
- Unable to take a holiday in school holidays due to work commitments.
- Adult appointments affecting bringing a child to school or collecting on time.
- Different term dates for children at schools in another local authority.
- Where the child's attendance is below 96% (national figure)

As with all aspects of school life, trust is the key. If a child is taken out of school and the absence is not agreed by the head teacher, this will be recorded as unauthorised absence. The school may then contact Herefordshire Council who may issue a Fixed Penalty Notice. The Governors and I are very keen NOT to have to go down this route. We ask for your openness and honesty with this so that we are able to maintain this position.

Below are some examples of "exceptional circumstances" which are able to be authorised:

- Family funeral / bereavement (close family member)
- Music / dance exam

In line with the Church of England's strapline from John 10:10 "Live life in all its fullness", the school, of course, fully appreciates the importance and power of giving children a wide range of experiences, both in and out of school. However, from a legal point of view, children are expected to be in school and to aim for attendance of at least 96%.

If attendance falls below 93%, a letter will be sent home at the end of term informing parents of their child's attendance. This is regardless of whether the absences were authorised or not. Of course, there are many understandable reasons why a child's absence might be lower than hoped for – for example, a number of children suffered with a range of illnesses earlier in the year.

If a child's attendance falls below 90% this is categorised as "persistent absence" – this is a national figure and is tracked carefully both by the school and by national bodies. It could lead to involvement from the Education Welfare Officer.

It is requested, therefore, that **holidays are NOT taken during term time.**

If a leave of absence is requested, parents should use the new "Leave of Absence Request" form. A copy of this can be found at the end of this letter, and also on the school website under the "Information About Us" tab. Copies are also available from the school office. Requests should be sent at least four weeks in advance. Once a request has been received, parents will be informed in writing of the Headteacher's decision.

Thank you in advance for your support with these leave of absence procedures.

Yours sincerely,

S P Debenham
Headteacher

Kingsland, Leominster, Herefordshire HR6 9QN

Telephone 01568 708436

Email: admin@kingslandengland.hereford.sch.uk

Website www.kingslandceprimary.com

Dear Mr Debenham,

I am writing four weeks in advance to request leave of absence for my child / children ...

(Name/s)

... for the following dates:

I fully understand that, in line with government and the school's own Attendance Policy, it is likely that you will be unable to authorise this absence but would like to explain the reasons for requesting a term-time absence, which are as follows:

I will be able to provide evidence for this if requested.

My child has a good attendance record to date. It currently stands at 96% or above.

I understand that the school may have to refer holiday absences to the Local Authority as per the Attendance Policy.

Signed _____ Name _____

Date _____