



Kennet Valley C of EVA Primary School Newsletter



Friday 4th September 2020

Curiosity, Compassion, Courage

Welcome Back!

As you can imagine all of the staff are very pleased to have started the year with all of their children back.. We have welcomed 14 new children to the school - 5 in our reception cohort and 9 more across the school from year 2 to year 6. I know that you will join me in welcoming Jess, Ben, Daniel, Erin, Mia, Karlya, Teddy, Rupert, Esme, Sonni, Mable, Freyja, Jamie and Ava. We are so pleased to welcome them into the school. I have loved sitting and working in my little office while hearing the hustle and bustle of the children starting back to school.

As you will see we have changed our strap line. It is now “Curiosity, Compassion, Courage”. This was decided last year after getting ideas and then votes from staff, governors, children and parents, and I feel that this really represent our children and the ethos of our lovely school. I never fail to be amazed by how courageous and compassionate our children are while they show their curiosity about the world around them.

I plan on writing to you every 2 weeks to give you an update on what we have been doing at school. If your child has any outside achievements that you would like to have included, please do not hesitate to send an email to the office so that we can include them.

I am looking forward to seeing you all as the term continues. Please do not hesitate to contact me, via the school office if you need to book a meeting with me,

Many thanks - Mrs Emma Russell

A Celebration!

We are celebrating Mrs Watts' 25th year of working at KVS this week. She also came to the school as a child and grew up in our villages. Her children also came to the school.

As your children will tell you Mrs Watts is an incredibly caring member of the team. Throughout the time that she has worked here Mrs Watts has been a TA in all of the year groups. She has also been an MDSA at lunchtime and of course, is our ELSA.

Personally speaking, I can not express how grateful I am to have Mrs Watts on the staff team. She is wonderfully supportive, kind and caring but also challenges and asks questions to ensure that we are provide the very best for all of the children here.



I would like to say on behalf of the whole staff team, governors and children, a HUGE thank you for all of her hard work and commitment over the last 25years - I am sure that you will join me in this.

Class structure and emails,.

You will know the class structure now as the children have all started but I wanted to take this opportunity to remind you of the staff within the classes.

Class	Teachers	TAs
Wrens	Mrs Morgan (M/T)	Mrs Alexander
Kingfishers	Mrs Russell (M/T) Mrs Hues (W/T/F)	Mrs Bushnell Mrs Porter (W)
Harriers	Mrs Byford - Mornings only	Miss Harvey (formally Mrs France)
Kites	Miss Chalker	Mrs Watts / Miss Harvey

Due to the change of class names, we have also changed the email address for you to use if you need to contact a member of staff. Seesaw or contact via the office is the easiest way to make contact with staff, but if you would like to email them, please use the following emails, rather than their personal staff addresses :

- wrens@kennetvalley.wilts.sch.uk
- kingfishers@kennetvalley.wilts.sch.uk
- harriers@kennetvalley.wilts.sch.uk
- kites@kennetvalley.wilts.sch.uk



If you wish to email me, please do so through admin@kennetvalley.wilts.sch.uk rather than to my heads email address.

I feel that it is also important to say that you should not message via Facebook/messenger/WhatsApp (except through the community page) to any staff member.

PE

From **Wednesday 9th September** we will return to the Kennet Valley Hall to start PE sessions. This year we are being joined by a coach from PH Sports - Rhys Floyd. He will start the year working with the Blue bubbles (yr5/6).



Please ensure that children come to school in their PE kit on a Wednesday, with a rain proof coat. They must also have good quality trainers rather than daps which do not cope well with the grass on the field. All children will need to be picked up at the hall, unless they are booked into Dragons Club, sports club or are going on the bus.

Extra PE sessions

Harriers, Kites and Kingfishers will have an extra PE session each week. These will be on Monday for Kingfishers (yr3/4) and Thursday for Harriers/Kites (yr5/6)

Kingfishers will start their extra PE sessions on **Monday 14th September**

Kites and Harriers will start their extra sessions on **Thursday 17th September**



Reading Rewards

This year we are being 'Dotty about Books', with children being awarded a dotty badge for each 25 home read that they complete, which we would encourage them to wear on their school jumpers. They will get a star badge for 100, 200 and 300 reads along with a prize for getting to these important milestones. All the children have a yellow reading record for you to fill in, date and sign. Please fill in the reading record with a blue or black pen - we use other colours for different purposes.



Reads will be counted every Friday by the class TAs and then badges will be awarded on a Monday. We are asking children to read to an adult at least 5 times a week. Reading is a vital skill for all learning and it is important that children are encouraged to read more at home and at school. Children will have a reading scheme book, but we always encourage children to have a second book to read. This allows them to develop their love of reading different authors and different genres.

Award Colours -

25 reads - White Badge	50 reads - Yellow Badge	75 reads - Red Badge
100 reads - Blue Star and Prize	125 reads - Orange Badge	150 reads - Pale Blue Badge
175 reads - Green Badge	200 reads - Yellow Star and Prize	225 reads - Black Badge
250 reads - Red Badge	275 reads - Purple Badge	300 reads - Green Star and Prize
325 reads - Pink Badge	350 reads - Dark Blue Badge	

Drop off and Pick up

All staff would like to say a HUGE thank you to the whole school community for how well the first 3 days of drop offs and pick ups have gone. Children and parents have all been using the orange circles to socially distance without needing reminders and it make a real difference to us all that everyone is being so sensible.

Please could I ask all parents and carers to ensure that they come into the playground when picking up their children. We will no longer send children out of the gate to you, especially as the road is busier than usual because of local road closures. If you have a dog please could you leave it outside the gates before entering the playground.

Thank you!

The whole school would like to say thank you to the follow parents that have helped us over the summer. And at the start of the new school year.

Mr Paradise, who has made us a lovely welly rack for Wrens class.

Mr and Mrs Smith, who gave us a wood work bench so that our Reception children can increase their continuous provision and play

Mr and Mrs Beverly, who have given us a lovely chair for the foyer area so that children have extra space to stop and think during the day.

Mrs Tilley, who took time this summer to paint the friendship bench which is in our playground.

Mr and Mrs Humphries, who have continued their generous offer to allow 1 or 2 staff members to park on their driveway.

Governors

This year we have had a slight change in Governors. Simon Jones has continued as Co-chair but has been joined by Peter Barry, with Lizzie Daley as vice-chair. We are very pleased to say that Sarah Till-Vattier who was chair and then co-chair for the past three years has stayed on the governing body for the coming year. In the next few weeks I will be sending out information for the vacancy for a new parent governor, as Chris Diddams' term is coming to an end in October - although I am delighted that he is staying involved by becoming an associate governor.



I am always very proud of how our governors work within and for the school. They are all passionate about the school being the very best it can be. They know the school, staff and children very well and help to drive forward improvements while being a great support.

D A T E S F O R Y O U R D I A R Y



School Year 2020 - 2021



Wednesday 9th September - PE Kennet Valley Hall

Wednesday 16th September - PE Kennet Valley Hall

Wednesday 23rd September - PE Kennet Valley Hall

Wednesday 30th September - PE Kennet Valley Hall

Wednesday 7th October - PE Kennet Valley Hall

Thursday 8th October - **GREEN** bubble (R/1/2/3&4) Harvest Festival service at West Overton Church, children will walk back to school afterwards *

Wednesday 14th October - PE Kennet Valley Hall

Wednesday 21st October - PE Kennet Valley Hall

Wednesday 21st October - Last Day Term 1

Monday 2nd November - First Day Term 2

Monday 2nd November - Nasal Flu Vaccinations R-Y6

Wednesday 4th November - PE at School (not KVH)

Tuesday 10th November - **BLUE** bubble (5&6) Service of Remembrance at West Overton Church, children will walk back to school afterwards*

Wednesday 11th November - PE Kennet Valley Hall

Wednesday 18th November - PE Kennet Valley Hall

Wednesday 25th November - PE Kennet Valley Hall

Friday 27th November - Teacher Training Day - School CLOSED to children

Wednesday 2nd December - PE Kennet Valley Hall

Monday 7th December - Nativity Rehearsal - drop off KV Hall 8.30am

Tuesday 8th December - Nativity Rehearsal - drop off Kennet Valley Hall 8.30am

Wednesday 9th December - Nativity Dress Rehearsal Kennet Valley Hall

Wednesday 9th December - Nativity Performance KV Hall 6.00pm

***GREEN** bubble Harvest Festival service & **BLUE** bubble Remembrance Service- we are waiting on Covid Guidance to clarify if one parent/family member for each child could attend their child's service, we will keep you informed. Children will need to be dropped off at West Overton church and not at school.

Nativity and Christmas productions will also have the same issue but Covid Guidance may well change again before December!