

Curiosity, Compassion, Courage

Well, what a finish to our busy Term 2!

I have been very sad to have missed the last few weeks of term but have enjoyed hearing about and seeing films/pictures of the amazing events and activities that our children have been up to.

From the Christmas party with a visit from Santa and his marvellous elves, to making their nativity films and creating wonderful artwork, the children have had a great end of term. The staff team have worked incredibly hard to ensure that we have kept the magic of Christmas alive at the end of what I'm sure you will agree has been a very challenging year.



We are also very grateful to our wonderful Friends Association who helped so much with the Party Days and visit from Santa.

This year we have bought all of the children at school a special gift to open on Christmas day, which we hope that they will love. We are very lucky to have had 2 donations which has helped us to achieve this - thank you to the members of our community who have helped so much with these presents.



As the term draws to a close, as does the 'interesting' year of 2020, I would like to tell you all how incredibly proud I am of the whole school. Kennet Valley has remained a really happy, joyous place to be in and I am overjoyed by this. We have had such a busy year which included the usual trips and visits at the start of the year but also more unique days or weeks too. From our successful Ofsted inspection in March, to the lockdown and reopening during the summer term, our children and staff have shown what truly amazing people they are. I am sure that many of you would agree that there was some anxiety when the school fully reopening in September, but the school has continued to be a great place for our children to learn in.

I would like to end by saying the most ENORMOUS thank you to all of the children, staff, parents, governors and wider community for your continued hard work, help and support. I can't wait to see you all in 2021. Have a fantastic Christmas and a Happy New year.

Thank you - Mrs Russell

Message from Governors

Well, 2020 will go down as possibly the strangest and most challenging year Kennet Valley School has ever experienced! But what is most pleasing is the wonderful way the school and particularly the teachers have continued to give all of our children the very best education possible. Every problem that beset them has been met in the cheerful and positive way we have all come to expect from our wonderful school. So I think you will want to join us in giving a massive thank you to every one of the teachers and staff who have worked tirelessly and with wonderful spirit through this difficult period.

Now we can look forward to 2021 and with light at the end of the tunnel, we can hopefully get back to some form of normality later in the year. So to all of the staff and teachers – have a wonderful and well deserved break and excellent Christmas. To all readers, this is the opportunity for all governors to wish every one of you a wonderful Christmas and New Year we will so look forward to seeing you in 2021. Mr Peter Barry and Mr Simon Jones

Friends Association Update

Raffle - A huge thank you to everyone for selling and buying raffle tickets this year, I am super pleased to tell you that we made just over £700! With no Christmas Fair this year this has been our main fundraiser. Another thank you to all those that donated prizes!



Christmas Party Day - Santa thoroughly enjoyed meeting all the KVS children, and loved hearing about their plans for Christmas Eve, don't forget to leave those treats out for him, the reindeer and what about those cheeky elves!?! The whole day which included the grotto, Xmas party lunch and panto with ice cream, was a huge success - big thanks to all those that helped make it happen.

Playground - we are well on our way with playground plans, the main contractor has been selected, planning permission is about to be submitted and more funds are coming in. Thank you to all those involved for pushing this along.

Wishing everyone a happy and healthy Christmas

Friends of KVS

Team SUPERSTARS

STARS OF THE TERM

The staff team are delighted to announce The Stars of Term. These children have constantly demonstrated that they are hard working, resilient and have a great attitude within school. Please join me in congratulating them.

Reception - MABEL

Year 1 - NOAH

Year 2 - TEDDY

Year 3 - MILLIE

Year 4 - INDIA

Year 5 - HONEY

Year 6 - HARRY



Covid Reminders

The main symptoms of coronavirus are:

- a high temperature – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)
- a new, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)
- a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste – this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

Most people with coronavirus have at least 1 of these symptoms.

What to do if you have symptoms

- Get a test to check if you have coronavirus as soon as possible.

You and anyone you live with should stay at home and not have visitors until you get your test result – only leave your home to have a test.

Anyone in your support bubble should also stay at home if you have been in close contact with them since your symptoms started or during the 48 hours before they started

What to do if your child tests positive during the Christmas holidays

Parents and carers should continue to inform the school of confirmed cases if symptoms develop within 48 hours of last being in school.

You should do this by emailing me at

head@kennetvalley.wilts.sch.uk

This email should only be used for covid-19 updates. If you have other concerns or questions, please contact the school in the usual ways such as through Seesaw or class emails.

If your child was not symptomatic but tested positive within 48 hours of last being in school, you should also contact the school by email head@kennetvalley.wilts.sch.uk In your email to me you should share the details which are in the poster attached with this email. These include date of onset of symptoms, date of the test, date of the result, date your child was last in school, how they travel to school and any additional information - The school will need this information to carry out a risk assessment of who may be a close contact.

At the start of term in January you will need to inform your school if your child is positive, self-isolating or symptomatic and contact the school on Monday 4 January and make sure your child self-isolates for the required number of days.

Thank you for your co-operation and understanding.

STAR OF THE WEEK

Another busy week at school, means that staff have had to debate with their TAs about who should be awarded Star of The Week. This week the following children have been awarded Star of the Week for their attitude and fantastic work. Well done to them all.

Reception - SONNI

Year 1 - JACOB C

Year 2 - SAFFRON

Year 3 - ERIN G

Year 4 - ERIN L

Year 5 - FREYA

Year 6 - ARTHUR



Term 3 - Next term we will be having 2 topic blocks - History and Geography. Class teachers will send out Knowledge Organisers at the start of these blocks.



Harriers and Kites classes are swapping rooms next term but they will keep the same teachers as they currently have. This will not affect the bubbles either and the timings for the day will remain the same.

DATES

Monday 4th January - TD Day School closed to all pupils

Tuesday 5th January - Start of Term 3

Wednesday 6th January - PE at School.

Please collect children from school not the KVH

Wednesday 13th January - PE at Kennet Valley Hall

Wednesday 20th January - PE at Kennet Valley Hall

Friday 22nd January - Individual Photographs

More information to follow

Wednesday 27th January - PE at Kennet Valley Hall

Wednesday 3rd February - PE at Kennet Valley Hall

Wednesday 10th February - PE at Kennet Valley Hall



In Term 3 the Year 6 children would normally have their trip to Kingswood on the Isle of Wight. We are still planning to go to Kingswood, but this trip is now planned for later in the year. If your child is in Year 6 we will write to you early in Term 3 to give you more information about the new dates.

The Year 4 children traditionally go to New Barn during Term 4, but unfortunately last year the trip was cancelled due to Covid-19. This year we have booked for all of the year 5 and 4 children to go to New Barn together later in the school year. We will write to you shortly about this residential visit.



Has your child tested positive for COVID-19?



If **YES** you need to inform the school as soon as possible

The school will need the following information to carry out a risk assessment of who may be a close contact

- Date of onset of COVID-19 symptoms**
(including what symptoms they had)
- Date of the test**
- Date of the result**
(and evidence of the result/ID number)
- Date your child was last in school**
- How do they get to school?**
Eg. walk, cycle, car, public transport, school transport, taxi
- If by car** – do you car share with anyone else?
- If walking** – do they walk in with anyone else?
- If public transport/school transport**
– do they know who they sat near?

Please provide any additional information you may have as to pupils or staff your child may have been in contact with during this period.

Please note: The infectious period is 48 hours prior to the onset of symptoms (or date of the test if tested when asymptomatic).