

# Knaphill Federation of Schools

Knaphill Lower School and Knaphill School

"Together we are Better"

Weekly Focus

Friday 17th December 2021

Dear Parents and Guardians,

We have reached that time of year when we reflect on all that has gone before and we look ahead with great hope to all that is to come. As for many schools, 2021 has continued to provide a number of challenges. COVID remains a disruptive factor for many families and the impact is still felt within school. Nevertheless, we look forward to 2022 with a renewed sense of hope for our Federation.

Over the last two weeks, we have had a huge number of Christmassy community celebrations happening across the Federation: two nursery performances with jingle bells included; our first nativity performances for Reception; carol concerts in the woodland enclave from Year 1; outside nativities and a much anticipated filmed nativity for Year 2 and the first (and not the last!) outdoor carol concert for our Junior children. Somehow, we have also managed to fit in nine Christmas parties and a wonderful visit from Father Christmas at the Lower School on Tuesday.

Although we have had to adapt to current COVID measures, each performance was memorable in its own way. We have very much enjoyed the community feel of live audiences once again, after all, to fit nativity tradition, there is nothing quite like watching a deviation from the script in real time. I would like to thank our whole community for their support and understanding over the last two weeks—next year will be even bigger and better! I would also like to thank our PTA, particularly our Chair Natalie, for booking an exclusive slot with Santa and for funding some new books for all of our classes across the Federation. These new texts will bring joy to our children.

As we look ahead to January, we will be starting our term with a renewed sense of purpose. Firstly by focusing on our communication across both schools. We have already responded to feedback by adding a third page to this update that includes current dates for the diary. These will be updated weekly as we share trips, visits and special days from the rest of the year. As well as developing communication, we will also begin our Spring Term by focusing on 'Healthy body, Healthy mind' as a weekly focus. This initiative is aimed to improve the overall health and experience of our children through a weekly focus as we encourage better eating, increasing physical activity, good quality sleep and a healthy mind. Please see below for our first focus.

Lastly, I would like to wish everyone a very safe and merry Christmas. I hope that everyone manages to spend some time with friends and family, something that is more important than ever before.

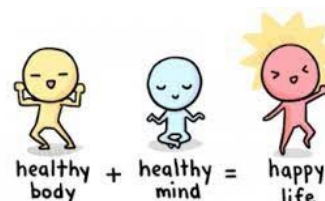
Have a lovely break, a Happy New Year, and we shall see you all in 2022.

Best wishes,  
Vicky Harbridge

## Healthy Body, Healthy Mind

**Aim: Children have a balanced, healthy diet at school**

Beginning in January, all classes will look at what makes a healthy, balanced diet. A good diet has been seen to help children to improve their focus and concentration, as well as sustaining their energy throughout the day. Although treats are important, children will only be allowed healthy snacks during break time from now on. Our Lower School children will continue to receive the daily supplied fruit and our Juniors will now be encouraged to bring fruit, vegetables or healthy cereal/ grain bars (not containing nuts).



We thank you for supporting this initiative as we try to ensure that all aspects of the school day helps children to be the best they can be.

# KFOS Community Updates

## Chief Financial Officer Vacancy

An exciting opportunity has arisen for a Chief Financial Officer to join our team.

Bright Futures Learning Trust are seeking to appoint an experienced, dynamic and strategic leader with the financial knowledge and skills needed to secure an efficient and effective finance team that is able to support all our academies to ensure every child receives the best education possible, enabling them to achieve a 'Bright Future'.

For more details and an online application form, please click [here](#) to view the vacancy advertised on eTeach.

Closing date for applications: Midday 10th January 2022

Interviews: 12th January 2022. Interviews may take place remotely depending on restrictions.

## Meet the Team:

Each week, in our 'Meet the Team' section we will be helping you to get to know members of the KFOS team. We believe that it is very important for us to build our sense of community across the Federation, as we develop the relationship between staff, children and their families.

To start off this section, I thought I would tell you all a little more about me.

### Miss Harbridge:

I am a very passionate teacher who is driven by the desire for children to receive the best possible education and opportunities available to them. Whether they are future authors, Olympians, astronauts or doctors, I want our school to give children the best possible starting point for achieving their dreams. Outside of school, I am a very keen rugby player and I proudly represent Guildford Rugby Club most weekends. Fitness and sport is very important to me, as it not only leads to a healthy lifestyle but also teaches the importance of respect and humility. Lastly, although it is a little challenging at the moment, I have also been privileged enough to work with teachers across the world. Having completed teacher training projects in Nepal and Laos and with future plans of completing a project in Kenya, I believe in the importance of sharing kindness, expertise and learning.



## Welcome to the Team: Mrs Afzal and Mr Mills

We are very pleased to welcome Mrs Afzal as our Hedgehogs Class Teacher. Mrs Afzal is very experienced teacher who believes in the importance of working with parents in partnership to support children in making good progress.

We also would like to welcome Mr Mills to 3B and the KFOS team. Mr Mills is a very creative teacher, who has a background in leading science and computing. Both teachers are an asset to the Federation and we look forward to benefitting from their expertise.

## Do you want to be a bigger part of our Federation community?

We are seeking parent helpers to support the children in school for an hour or so during the school day. Whilst in school you may listen to children read, support children with writing skills (finger gym), or help children with their learning.

If you are interested, please contact Mrs McBride on [info@knaphill-lower.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:info@knaphill-lower.surrey.sch.uk)

Volunteers have a huge impact and find the experience extremely rewarding.

## Dates 2021-22

### Spring Term Dates

Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> January – INSET Day

Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> January – Return to School

Monday 10<sup>th</sup> January – After School Clubs commence

Monday 7<sup>th</sup> – Friday 11<sup>th</sup> February – Mental Health Week

Friday 11<sup>th</sup> February – Year 3 Trip

Monday 14<sup>th</sup> – Friday 18<sup>th</sup> February – Half Term

Monday 21<sup>st</sup> February – INSET Day

Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> February – Sports for Schools Workshops

Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> March – Owl Visit (KLS)

Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> March – Owl Visit (KJS)

Monday 28 February – Friday 4<sup>th</sup> March – World Book Week

Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> March – Friday 11<sup>th</sup> March – Year 6 Residential

Friday 18<sup>th</sup> March – Year 4 Viking Day Workshop

Friday 25<sup>th</sup> March – After School clubs finish

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> April – Monday 18<sup>th</sup> April – Easter Holidays

### Summer Term Dates

May 2022 – Year 2 SATs test period

Monday 9<sup>th</sup> May – Friday 13<sup>th</sup> May – Year 6 SATs

Monday 9<sup>th</sup> May – Friday 13<sup>th</sup> May – Year 4 Bikeability

Monday 16<sup>th</sup> May – Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> May – Year 5 Residential

Monday 30<sup>th</sup> May – Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> June – Half Term

Monday 6<sup>th</sup> June – Friday 10<sup>th</sup> June – KSI Phonics Screening check

Friday 8<sup>th</sup> July – Inset Day

Friday 21<sup>st</sup> July – Last day of Summer Term