

Knaphill Federation of Schools

Knaphill Lower School and Knaphill School

“Together we are better”

Weekly Focus

Friday 30th September

Dear Parents and Guardians,

It seems that autumn has crept up on us this week and the mornings are starting to get a little bit more chilly, but all is sunny inside Knaphill. Our children’s zest for life and joy of school really does make my day, every day! Just yesterday a visitor who was touring the school, commented on the fantastic behaviour of our children—she noted that they are all very polite, confident, and you can see just how engaged they are in their learning. I agree with this and it is something that can be seen throughout the week.

Reception—outdoor learning

In Reception, I have been getting to know our new children and I have joined them outside twice this week. Firstly, in their Reception outdoor area, where I could see all children engaged in independently learning through play. I was amazed by their understanding of repeating patterns and it was pleased to see that Knaphill has an abundance of worms, which they were carefully investigating and protecting from harm. At Knaphill, we even show kindness and compassion to worms. Yesterday, the Reception children also had their first outdoor learning session in the Woodland Enclave. They were very excited to show me what treasures they had found—“Crunchy leaves, tiny stones, shiny conkers and long sticks.” What a great way to practise new vocabulary!

Learning— KS1

I have also been very pleased to be working with the Year 1 and 2 teams for the last few weeks. Our KS1 children show incredible learning behaviours and this is reflected in their engagement during lessons. Having seen them in guided reading, English, maths, art and science this week, I can see the learning happening before my very eyes. The changes our teams have made to the curriculum is leading to children making links in their learning, whilst developing a real depth of knowledge. Don’t believe me? Test it out for yourself.

Year 1 parents—ask your child to explain the properties of an every day material (wood, metal, glass) and its suitability for different uses. They are little scientists!

Year 2 parents—ask your child to explain the techniques that Van Gogh used to paint his famous Starry Night. These artists know their stuff!

Caving— an opportunity for courage and confidence

We look forward to Thursday, when we will take part in our very own caving experience at KLS. Not only will this enhance our children’s curriculum experience, but it is also a new opportunity that could spark a life long passion for outdoor exploration. Please see our caving letter for more information.



As shared yesterday, Mrs McBride has moved on to a new job opportunity and she will be greatly missed by all of us at Knaphill Lower School. Once again, thank you for your patience during this time as our office is short-staffed. We will let you know an update very soon.

Have a wonderful weekend.

Best wishes,

Miss Harbridge

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I am trying a new format to our weekly newsletter, with the aim of keeping you better informed about what is happening at the school. Your feedback is always appreciated.

Value of the week: Courage

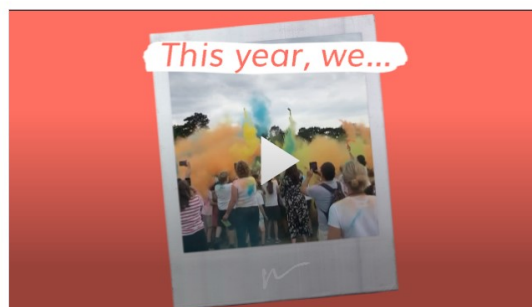
In assembly and in all acts across the school, we have been learning that by not giving up, showing resilience and giving new things a go we are showing courage. I have loved seeing the children challenging each other across the school both in classes and on the playground. Having a growth mindset is very important and helps to give us all the skills we need to succeed in life.

Community

Our PTA do an amazing job and have created this celebration video:

<https://animoto.com/play/OJdcD9DZHdu9NWF2H3bfVQ>

You may well remember the food and refreshments at the Year 3 Sausage Sizzle and refreshments at the Curriculum evenings, these were all provided by our PTA. These events really support us with building community spirit; where everyone is welcomed and is encouraged to be a part of.



You will have received an email yesterday for the next PTA event. As a community we want to support each other and as such the PTA have organised a Coat Sale. This will take place on Monday 10th October.

If you have any coats that you would like to donate, please drop them to either school office before the end of Friday 7th October. We will then hold the coat sale outside the Junior school at pick up on Monday 10th October. If you are unable to make the sale or would need to arrange for payment to be made later, please speak to one of the PTA Team who would be happy to help you. There is a suggested donation of £2 for each coat.

Volunteers needed

We are still eagerly searching for volunteers who can really make a difference to our school. Whatever your talent, we can use it!

At the moment, we particularly need volunteers to hear our children read during the day and play quieter board games at lunchtime (between 12.30pm – 1pm). If you are interested in volunteering please see Mrs Harrison or Mr Greenwood on the gate or email: dharrison@kfos.co.uk

What's happening in school

House point winners of the week

The winning team this week are: Windsor House Their prize is to have the playframe at playtime today.

Pupil Parliament

We're very excited to announce that the new Pupil Parliament for 2022-2023 has been formed. A very large number of children across the Junior School made a speech in front of their class, explaining why they thought they would be able to represent their class in our parliament. After the votes were cast and counted, we now have 24 Members of Parliament (2 from each class) who will be working hard to get the opinions of their peers heard.

The Pupil Parliament will have regular meetings where they will decide how they want to improve our school, meet with teachers to discuss topics that are important to their classes, and support their peers in showing the values of our school. We have a wonderful group of MPs this year and can't wait to see the impact they have on our school.

As part of our dedication to keeping our children safe, next week we will be joining the NSPCC to spread the message "Speak Out. Stay Safe." All children at the Junior school will be involved with an online assembly that teaches them how they should be treated by others, what they should do when they don't feel safe and who they can turn to when they are worried. A separate letter has gone out with more information about the assembly and links to advice and support from the NSPCC.

On Wednesday 12th October, Years 5 and 6 will be taking part in workshops run by trained NSPCC workers who will be looking in more detail about looking after themselves and where to turn in times of need.

This week we have continued to review our provision at playtimes and lunchtimes. The large playground has been set up for more active activities such as football, basketball, the playframe and we have just purchased four table tennis tables; which are proving a great hit with the children. The smaller playground has more structured, quieter games and areas for children to sit and chat. We have also opened a lunch club where children can be in a still quieter, inside environment for the last half an hour of lunchtime. This is being run by our Family Link Worker, Mrs Phillips and many children are benefitting from this provision.

On Thursdays and Fridays, Mr Greenwood is taking a girls team and a boys team to train on the field. Again, this has been hugely successful. We have a traverse wall ordered... watch this space!

Next Week

We have our NSPCC assemblies and then Year 5 and 6 have workshops. Please see email sent 28.9.22 with all the details.

Another action packed week here at the Junior School. Have a wonderful weekend and week ahead.

Best wishes,
Mrs Harrison



Community Updates

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Reading and Phonics Workshop

As you will have seen in our weekly updates and curriculum evening presentations, we have our 'KS1 Phonics and Reading workshop' next week – Thursday 6th October at 9am and 6:30 pm. We have organised these sessions to support you with reading at home and it would be great to see lots of you there!



In this session, we will cover:

- What is Phonics?
- What is Essential Letters and Sounds?
- How we teach phonics
- Getting children ready to read
- Supporting your child with reading at home
- Pronouncing pure sounds
- Supporting an understanding of books
- Other ideas to support reading
- Useful apps and websites

If you want like to attend these beneficial sessions, please complete the follow form by clicking on the link or scanning the QR code.

Link: <https://forms.office.com/r/8CzfEywSfR>



Thank you for your continued support.

Kind regards,

Mrs Everitt and Miss Harbridge

Knaphill Governors:

Please see the below email for our KFOS Governing Board. We are very lucky to have very supportive and engaged governors at Knaphill, who are determined to ensure the very best for your children. If you want to get into contact for any reason, please see the contact details below.

Marleen Naessens—chair@kfos.co.uk

Dates 2022-23

New events are being added every week—these will be in red so you can add them to your diary!

Autumn dates:

30/09—Monthly Fun Run @ 3.30pm (whole community invited)

06/10— Year 1 and Year 2 Phonics and reading workshop for parents @ 6.30pm—new time added at 9am

06/10—KLS Caving experience (all day - no charge, wear PE kit to school)

10/10 KLS individual photos

11/10 KS individual photos

13/10 KLS outdoor Harvest Festival— all parents are invited to attend @ 9.15am. The celebration should last about 1 hour.

Year 6 Victorian Day

31st October INSET day

Last day of Autumn Term—Tuesday 20th December 2022

INSET days:

3rd January INSET day

20th February INSET day

7th July INSET day

PTA Events

4/10 Bag2school (Moved due to Queen Elizabeth's Funeral on 19/9/22)

10/10 AGM 7:30pm at KS Hall

10/10 3pm Second hand Coat sale outside KS