



Weekly Newsletter

Friday 15th January

Wow. What a week. A lot has happened in a very short time! We have been so impressed by how well children have been working at home, alongside all of your working from home challenges. We have tried to blend the best bits of how we work at school into supporting your child with their learning at home this week, with children in school completing exactly the same work as that which is provided for the children at home. We can't thank you enough for your patience as we test our planning for this provision. Where your feedback has been constructive and applicable within the constraints we have, we have been listening and doing our best to filter this in to improvements, which we will continue to do. We know that we will not have got it right all of the time for everyone.

Next week I will send you (yet another) survey, seeking your views on what is working well and less well, what you would like more of and less of. This, we know, will be different for all families, with different circumstances and children of different ages. We will continue to try to accommodate this, and do our best to provide for all children.

Thank you to those parents who have reconsidered the need for places in school from next week. We appreciate that this does add additional challenges to you at home, but it helps keep the children of critical workers who are on the front line of the covid battle safe, along with putting our staff and their families at lesser risk by doing so. When our numbers are high, all of our staff need to be in, which does not enable us to be able to support the stay at home message, and our own children also have to go into their schools, which puts us all more at risk of spreading the virus at school and at home. For what we hope will only be a short while longer, please help us to follow the government rules by keeping your children at home where you can.

Staff have agreed that we are very keen to continue to reward children for their efforts in their work, whether working at home or at school. From next week, a celebration assembly will be available on Google Classroom on Fridays for you to watch, where merits are shared with children, and certificates virtually awarded for children who achieve their multiples of 10. We are keen that they remain motivated and aim high in their efforts, and wish to reward these as we would do in normal circumstances in school.

The following mental health and wellbeing link has been shared with us in schools this week to promote to support you all. Please do access this resource if you need to, and make contact with us if there is anything more we can do to support.

<https://documents.hants.gov.uk/adultservices/HCC-Wellbeing-Guide-Adults.pdf>

COVID and self-isolation - Please refer to the information sent out previously about continuing to update us with children/family members having tests for COVID or self-isolation due to symptoms. This remains relevant if your child is in school or has been in school, or is due to be in school. Miss Hewitt and I will be manning the email inbox which we have set up for this. Please contact us with any information about this on this email address: covid@kingsapps.co.uk.

Staffing update

Today we say a goodbye with well wishes to Miss Caplen, who is moving on to use the experience she has gained in her time at Kings Copse in a new and different setting. We know we will keep in touch with her so if there are any messages that you would like us to pass on to her, please let us know. Miss Caplen has made a big difference to both children and staff alike at her time here and we wish her all the best as she progresses on through her career.

I'd like to end by thanking all of the staff team at Kings Copse for their commitment, hard work and dedication. Through what has been a challenging time for all of us, the support for the children and each other has been incredible. Thank you too for your kind messages of support and the donations on the crowdfunding page kindly set up by a parent to raise donations for our tea fund. These are very much appreciated by us all.

Hayley Ferguson and the whole team at Kings Copse

INSET dates 12th February 2021, 7th & 8th June 2021