



# Kings Norton Primary School

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Newsletter No 4

To be posted on our web page

February 2018

[www.knps.org.uk](http://www.knps.org.uk)

Dear Parents/Carers,

We are at that half way point in the school year again, staff and children are all working very hard and I would like to thank you for the support you give the children at home with their learning, if you have any questions regarding how you can assist them further then please speak to your child's teacher or any member of our leadership team.

For parent's evening this term will be holding another extended one-day session on Wednesday evening March 21<sup>st</sup> from 3:30p.m until 7:00 p.m. I hope this is helpful in enabling more of you who work late to attend these important consultations.

All dates for the rest of the year can be seen below, thank you to everyone who has attended workshops this half term and supported in school so far this year, we really appreciate seeing so many of you at these important events. Thank you as always to our PTA members and to Mrs. Chapman who is taking on the chairs role temporarily. Parents give of their time so generously to support the children, enabling us to purchase additional resources. Please if you have any spare time and would like to join and support the PTA you would be made most welcome, please contact school for details.

Can I please ask all parents to always use the pedestrian crossing at the start and end of the day rather than trying to cross the road in front of the church, we would prefer you to be late rather than in an accident. To keep all our families safe please **do not** park in front of the bus stop or the school gates at any time. The safety of our pupils is paramount at all times.

I hope you have an enjoyable and safe half-term. Mr Tromans

**KS2 School Meals** A reminder that the children return to school on Tuesday 27 February, the dinner money required will be £9.00 (£2.25 per day) for that week. Alternatively, if you wish to pay for the half term the cost is £51.75 (23 x £2.25) for the half term. Payment is now online at [www.schoolmoney.co.uk](http://www.schoolmoney.co.uk). Anyone wishing to change their meal choice, please inform the school office in writing, giving at least one weeks' notice. Thank you.

**Roast Wednesday** If your child normally has a sandwich for lunch, but you wish for them to have Roast Wednesday after the holiday, please ensure that you have returned the slip to the school office. We will not book a lunch unless we receive the reply slip.

**Parking at the Navigation Pub** As you may be aware the Navigation pub has been sold and will close in February. Despite our best efforts we have been unable to speak to the people who have bought the premises and we understand that perimeter fencing and gates will be installed on 26<sup>th</sup> February. So unfortunately, from Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> February parents will no longer be able to park on the pub car park.

**Remembering Sydney** On Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> March, we will be raising money for Asthma UK in memory of our former pupil Sydney Neil. We will be marking this day by wearing pink bows. We have already bought bows for all the children and staff to wear on 6<sup>th</sup> March, children can also wear any pink bows that they already have. If you would like to make a donation, then please send this with your child on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> March.



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

Follow instructions with  
thought and care.

Headteacher: M Tromans

Care for everyone and  
everything.

Show respect and good  
manners.



**Fast-track to Attendance (formerly Spotlight)** is the new process we will be using to improve pupil attendance and punctuality. It is an Early Help approach which seeks to act quickly where there is unauthorised absence. Please see the whole school letter at the end of this newsletter.

**Message from Mr Atkinson** It's been a very busy and successful few weeks for our athletes and we wanted to say a big well done to them all.

Congratulations to our girls football team who won the district 4 a-side trophy for the third season in a row.

We also won the Basketball league and cup as well as the highly prestigious Birmingham Winter Games championships, defeating the very best the city has to offer. Our athletics team also won our partnership event and will therefore be representing the area in an All Birmingham competition next month.

Our cross country runners continue to impress and do well, as well as our netball team who will be battling it out for the trophies in a 3 way playoff final in a couple of weeks. Thank you to our parents and carers for the lifts and your continued support, Mr Atkinson.

**Communication.** Please ensure that you check your child's bag each day as we know some information does not reach every family, we encourage the children to take responsibility for letters, to put them in their own bags and to tell you if one has been sent home, especially in year 2 upwards. Please check the website regularly for updates and news.

**Messages for Teachers** If parents or carers have messages for Teachers in the morning, including child collection arrangements at the end of the school day, please find a Teaching Assistant in the rear playground who will be happy to help by passing the message on. Please only call the school office regarding home time arrangements in exceptional circumstances. If you wish to speak to a Teacher personally then please ask to make an appointment at a mutually convenient time. Visitors can only be admitted at the start of the school day for pre-arranged appointments. Thank you for your co-operation.

**Parent and visitors code of conduct:** Our code of conduct highlights acceptable behaviour for all adults in the school. You will find a copy on the website in the 'our school' menu. All discussions are held in a calm, supportive manner that follows the restorative approaches that we adopt with the children, views are listened to and valued at all times.

#### **Term Dates and Training Days:**

Friday 16 February - 3.15 pm School closes for half term holiday.

Monday 26 February - Teacher Training Day, school closed to pupils.

Tuesday 27 February - 8.55 am school re opens to pupils

Thursday 29 March - Break up for Easter Holiday 3.15 pm

Monday 16 April - 8.55 am School re opens to pupils

#### **Important Dates**

Friday 16 February - PTA Cake Sale in the Infant Hall after school.

Thursday 1 March - World Book Day, information to follow

Tuesday 6 March - Class 3C Assembly

Wednesday 7 March - Class 1E Inspire Workshop

Thursday 8 March - Class 1M Inspire Workshop

Wednesday 14 March - Class 4R Inspire Workshop

Thursday 15 March - Class 4L Inspire Workshop

Tuesday 20 March - Class 5O Assembly

Wednesday 21 March - Parent's Evening 3.30 pm - 7.00 pm

## School Attendance

*A very important message for all Parents/Carers*

February 2018

Dear Parent/Carer,

Kings Norton Primary School is working in partnership with parents and the Local Authority to improve school attendance. **We would like to congratulate the many parents/guardians who make sure their children attend school regularly and on time.**

Absence disrupts the education of the individual pupil and the whole class. Are you aware that children who do not attend regularly:

- do not achieve well in exams
- find it difficult to maintain friendships
- are more likely to become involved in crime
- miss out on opportunities in further education and the world of work?

### How does your child compare?

Attendance during one school year	equals this number of days absent	which is approximately this many weeks absent	which means this number of lessons missed
95%	9 days	2 weeks	50 lessons
90%	19 days	4 weeks	100 lessons
85%	29 days	6 weeks	150 lessons
80%	38 days	8 weeks	200 lessons

Absence can only be authorised by the Head Teacher, within the boundaries set by the Education (Pupil Registrations) (England) Regulations 2006. ***Head Teachers may not authorise leave during term time except where the circumstances are exceptional.***

Please remember that parental illness, going shopping, visiting family, truancy, not wanting to go to school, alleged bullying (speak to school immediately to resolve the issue) are not acceptable reasons to be absent. All of these will be recorded as unauthorised absence, including if your child arrives at school after the close of registration.

Family emergencies need careful consideration. It is not always appropriate or in the best interests of the child to miss school for emergencies which are being dealt with by adult family members. Being at school with support from staff and peers can provide children with stability. The routine of school offers a safe and familiar background during times of uncertainty.

It is a parent's legal responsibility to ensure their children receive appropriate education.  
Failing to send your child to school regularly without good reason is a criminal offence.

**Legal action that may be taken includes:**

- **Issuing penalty notices:** Each parent receives a penalty notice for each child who has unauthorised absence. The penalty is £60 or £120 depending on how soon payment is made. So, if there are two parents and two children the total penalties could be up to £480. Failure to pay may result in prosecution.
- **Taking parents to court for unauthorised absence:** Education Act 1996 Section 444(1) - court can fine each parent up to £1000 per child, order payment of prosecution costs and/or impose a Parenting Order.
- **Taking parents to court for persistent unauthorised absence:** Education Act 1996 Section 444(1A) - court can fine each parent up to £2,500 per child, order payment of the prosecution costs, impose a Parenting Order and/or sentence you to a period of imprisonment of up to 3 months.

**Being taken to court could result in you having a criminal record.**

Frequent absence can add up to a considerable amount of lost learning and can seriously disadvantage your child in adult life.

If your child's level of absence is of serious concern, the school will offer advice and support to improve attendance. After this, any unauthorised absence may result in the School and the Local Authority taking legal action.

**Again, we would like to thank those parents who make sure their child is attending school regularly and are therefore benefiting fully from their educational opportunity.**

Yours sincerely,



Mr M Tromans  
Headteacher