

HERE'S THE NEWS

Kingsthorpe Village Primary School

15th December 2023



Our School value for this term is:

RESILIENCE

Dear Parents and Carers,

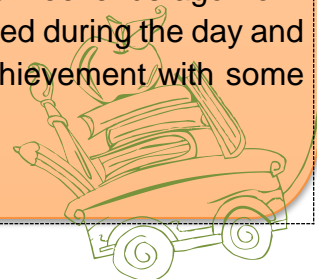
The term is almost complete with the Christmas holiday just around the corner. This term has been fun packed and the children have worked really hard and deserve a well earned break. Our Year 6 mock SATs results look really promising with some very high scores achieved especially in the math papers. The work we have been doing to drive writing standards up is already showing improvement across the school especially through our "Talk4 Writing" and this focus will continue throughout the year. Both the reception nativity plays and KS1 performance of "Santa's Hat" were brilliant and a great showcase for how talented our children are, and what a great job the staff at the school do. Thank you for the donations the school received, the collection at the end of the shows made over £120 for the school fund.



This week the children got to make their Christingle oranges for the service at the church, we all enjoyed the panto, Aladdin, our Christmas dinner service of over 180 was delicious which was then followed by our carol concert in the hall that afternoon. Singing all together in the hall with the lights and the Christmas tree really felt magical. The Christmas tree at the end of term will be collected and taken to the church to enjoy. Next week the children have their whole school Christmas party and then class parties to enjoy along with the Christmas film. The children finish on Tuesday 19th December with staff in on the Wednesday for a full day of training, working further on our curriculum, monitoring the children's books and preparations for new term.



Congratulations to our "Hotshots" basketballers for winning their competition two weekends ago now. The team remained undefeated during the day and all won medals – a great achievement with some great players.





Chess Club has now completed and the school tournament was won by Lewis in Year 5 closely followed by Finlay in Year 4 who came runner up. The highest place girl was Rosalie in Year 4. We now have many children that perform confidently in the town competitions and in February will be the county championships which I hope many of our children will enter to pit their wits and skills against the best players in Northamptonshire.



This year we have paid for extra sports coaches to come in to work with groups of children on a Friday afternoon in preparation for the competitions and festivals planned for the new year. This has been going really well and should prepare the children better for the competitions ahead. I look forward to hearing how we do as a school in 2024.

Several classrooms have received a complete set of brand-new chairs for the children to use. During the rest of the year we hope to be able to replace all classroom chairs as some were getting particularly grubby and old. I am thrilled to announce that the school (when we return in 2024) will be full at 210 pupils with all classes having 30 pupils.

These recent weeks have seen many children off school through seasonal illnesses, although our attendance in general has improved over the term. Maintaining high attendance is a priority for the school so thank you for your support and continued support with this into 2024.

Finally, I would just like to wish everyone a very merry Christmas and a prosperous new year!

Mr B Gwynne



Gardening Award

The Eco Committee are very pleased that their hard work in the garden area has given them their Level 2 Gardening Award from the Royal Horticultural Society. To earn this award, they had to learn about the benefits of composting and learn new gardening skills which we did when we planted all of our spring bulbs. We received a £50 voucher that we will be putting towards developing our planting beds. Well done to all those involved!



Fire Safety

Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 had a visit from the Northamptonshire Fire Service this week. They learnt about how they can keep safe when at home, at school and out in public places and they learnt how to 'stop, drop and roll' to stop fire spreading if their clothes catch fire. They found out more about the role of the firefighter and saw some of the protective clothing that firefighters wear. Year 1 and 2 were able to make comparisons between firefighters today and firefighters around the time of the Great Fire of London as they have been learning about this during the autumn term.

Northamptonshire Fire and Rescue Service offer free home safety visits and are able to install smoke alarms free of charge if your property requires them.

<https://www.northantsfire.gov.uk/safety/home-safety-checks/>

Christmas Hampers

This year the classes created wonderful hampers from your very kind donations. The draw took place today during assembly in front of the children and the **lucky winners have already been notified.**

Black Hamper – Year 6 pupil/family

Blue Hamper – Year 2 pupil/family

Gold Hamper – Year 4 pupil/family

Green Hamper – Year 4 pupil/family

Red Hamper – Year 4 pupil/family

White Hamper – Year 3 pupil/family

Purple Hamper – Support Staff member

Thank you to everyone involved! We sold over six hundred tickets and we will be supporting the charity, Kids Aid Northampton.

Food Bank Collection

Thank you to everyone who donated items for my food bank collection. There were way too many items for me to count but it filled 12 boxes when I delivered it to the food bank. We were also given a donation of £130. When I delivered the donations, I was shown around the foodbank and got a certificate. Thank you once again.

Caitlin Year 5



Bikeability

Some children in Year 5 and Year 6 had the opportunity to take part in Bikeability cycle training this week. Over four mornings, the instructors helped the children develop their cycling skills and their knowledge and understanding of the rules of the road. After the initial session on the playground, the remaining sessions were all taught on local roads. Congratulations go to the children who attended the training as they all passed Level 1 and Level 2. Certificates will be presented in our final assembly next week.

Carol Singing

Yesterday all the classes performed a Christmas Carol as part of our assembly. It was so great to hear each class singing and there were even a couple of solos and some fantastic piano accompaniment! Our KS1 and KS2 choir joined together to perform too before Year 6 finished with a special finale. It was also wonderful to have staff up on stage to perform their own Christmas song for the children too.

Christingle

On Tuesday evening, we held our annual Christingle at the church and it was wonderful to see so many parents and students join us!

I would like to say a huge thank you and well done to the KS2 choir for their performance at the Christingle. You have all worked so hard on the songs and you were a credit to the school. I would like to say an extra well done to both Sophie and Vienna for performing solos. You were both amazing and didn't let your nerves show!

Mrs Bushell



Governor Contribution

Hi all,

I'm Erica Young, one of the 'Parent Governors' here at KVPS. Therefore... (clue is in the name) I have 2 daughters, Imogen (Yr 5) & Heidi (Yr 3) who attend the school. When the opportunity arose for me to be nominated as a governor 3 years ago, I jumped at the chance. It is fantastic to be able to support the school, helping drive the development of each pupil and teacher, while celebrating their successes.

I work full time as a Branch Manager at Beaverbrooks and I'm able to use the skills that I have already developed in my career to support the Governing Body even further, by becoming Chair of the Finance Committee a few months ago. Becoming a governor has positively impacted me as a person in different areas of my life and I look forward to seeing my daughters continue to grow and develop here at KVPS.



Friday 15 th December	Christmas Film – KS2
Friday 15 th December	Christmas Hamper Drawer
Monday 18 th December	Christmas Film – KS1
Tuesday 19 th December	Whole School Christmas Party Buffet
Tuesday 19 th December 3.30pm	School Closes for Christmas Break
Wednesday 20 th December	Staff Training Day – School Closed to pupils
Thursday 4 th January 2024	All return back to School
Tuesday 9 th January 2024	New Parent Tours
Thursday 11 th January 2024	Year 5 Swimming starts at Moulton College (1 st block of 6 sessions)
Friday 16 th February 2024	Training Day – School closed to pupils
19 th -23 rd February 2024	Half Term
Monday 26 th February 2024	Return back to School



MERRY
CHRISTMAS!