

# KEEVIL CoFE ACADEMY NEWSLETTER

## Up-coming Dates:

26<sup>th</sup> Sept – Curriculum (5-6pm)

Meeting for Reception children

3<sup>rd</sup> Oct – Harvest Festival (9.15am)

3<sup>rd</sup> Oct – Acorn SEND Sports Festival

6<sup>th</sup> Oct – Parent Coffee Morning (8.45 – 9.30am)

12<sup>th</sup> Oct – Stay and Learn (2.30 – 3.15pm)

## Message from the Head

It has been wonderful to see everyone back in school over the past two weeks, and to welcome all the new children and families who have joined us in YR and other year groups across the school. It can be quite a shock to the system coming back to school in September after the long summer holidays, and for many children it also represents a big change with a new class, teacher and/or school. So we are very mindful that this can be a difficult time for children. I know that all staff are working very hard to establish expectations and a safe, happy working environment for all children. We have also been working hard as a whole school in establishing new routines as part of our Behaviour Curriculum, to ensure our whole community is calm and caring. At the heart of everything we do in Keevil is our ethos of “Always treating others as you would like to be treated” – which to us means that the most important thing is having positive relationships between the children, staff and families. So please remember that we are always here for any questions or worries you might have, however big or small.

I am enjoying reading all the Holiday Scrapbooks that so many children have brought in, and finding out all the fun things that you have been up to in the summer. It has also been a busy couple of months in school! The following has all taken place in the holidays:

- Re-building of the school wall to ensure our site is kept safe for the children.
- Replacing of all desktop and laptops within school and an up-grade of all software and operating systems.
- A kitchen has been fitted in the staffroom, including a hob and oven that can be used by the children.

This represents a huge investment in the school and means that the opportunities we can give the children have been greatly enhanced. Many thanks must go to the Acorn Education Trust who have funded the new wall and all the IT improvements, and also to FoKS who are paying for the new kitchen. We are very grateful to have the support of so many people, and feel very lucky to have this.

### In our Good Learning Book this week:

**Winter:** Well done to all our new children who have settled so well into Winter class.

**Spring:** Well done to all our new Year 1 children who have settled so well into Spring class.

**Summer:** Well done to all of Summer class for a great start back!. Our ‘Fantastic Four’ in Summer class are Jack, Charlotte, Lottie and Kaylen.

**Autumn:** Well done to Harrison, Seren, Oscar and William for winning our Theme Park Challenge!

## End of Day Routines

Following the re-building of the school wall, we are asking all adults to come into the school playground to collect children at the end of the day. It is not safe for us to dismiss children when we cannot see who or where they are going.

We would also like to remind everyone that we do not allow dogs into the school playground for hygiene and allergy reasons.

## Spare Wellies

If you have any old wellies of children sizes 8-12 that you no longer use at home, please can you bring them in for Winter Class to use during their water play. Thank you.

### House points

Kestrels	Ospreys	Buzzards	Harriers
240	211	213	208

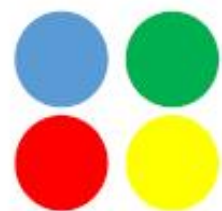
## Rolling Drop

Drop off for children in the morning is becoming quite chaotic and we are increasingly concerned that there will be an accident involving cars and/or pedestrians. We of course want to prevent this from happening. Therefore we would like to remind you of the Rolling Drop procedure:

- Cars should be travelling in the direction of Trowbridge when they pull up in front of school, not in the opposite direction.
- If you need to turn around before approaching school, please do this at the end of Martins Road, further into the village, not in School Close.
- Cars pull up in front of school and members of staff will help children safely exit the vehicle from the passenger side directly onto the pavement.
- No car needs to park or adults get out – school staff will support and accompany children from their car into school.

As well as being safe, we find that this is a very calm and independent way for children to start the day in school. Many thanks for your co-operation with this.

# Inter-House Competition



## Theme: AUTUMN CRAFT

The only rules are to bring your entry (or photograph if it couldn't be kept) to Miss Mortimer by

KS1 1st Place = 50 house points

KS1 2nd Place = 30 house points

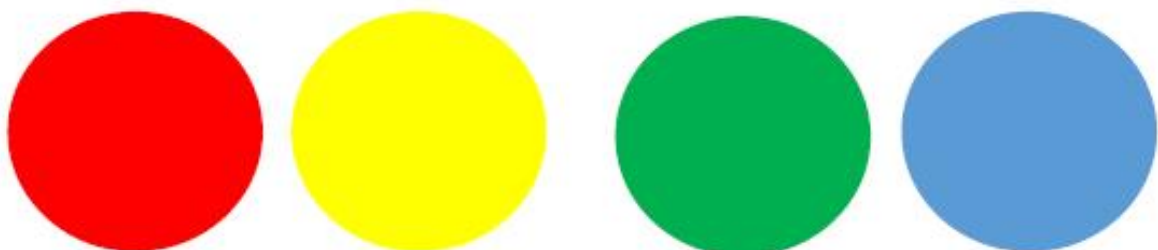
KS1 3rd Place = 20 house points

KS2 1st Place = 50 house points

KS2 2nd Place = 30 house points

KS2 3rd Place = 20 house points

Plus 5 house points for everyone who takes part.



## PCSO Visit for Children

Verity Yates and Sally Petrie have arranged for the local PCSO team to come and chat with children from Steeple Ashton village and Keevil School. The talk will include information about: bike and road safety, such as the importance of wearing safety equipment; social behaviour when children are out and about in the villages, such as respecting residents and equipment; and how to keep oneself safe more generally. It's not only for the children. As parents, if you have any worries about the local community you will be able to speak with the PCSOs after the talk.

Please come along and meet the PCSO team on **Sunday 24th September at 2pm at Steeple Ashton village hall.**

## Music Piece of the Term

### Arrival of the Queen of Sheba by Handel (1748)

This piece by Handel, is from his oratorio called Solomon. An oratorio uses a choir, soloists and an orchestra to depict characters in a story, but unlike an opera, it is not musical theatre, but more of a concert performance. Solomon is based on the biblical stories of the wise King Solomon and was composed in 1748. 'The Arrival of the Queen of Sheba' is a short instrumental interlude from Solomon that has become famous outside the context of the whole work. It is a bright and sprightly orchestral piece featuring oboes. It is often heard on TV/film/adverts and was used in the opening ceremony of the 2012 Olympics when James Bond met the Queen.

[Handel: Arrival of the Queen of Sheba | Academy of Ancient Music - YouTube](#)

## Art Work of the Term

### Wassily Kandinsky – Colour Study. Squares with Concentric Circles 1913

This



Well done to Will, Seren, Oscar and Harrison – the winning team of Autumn Class's Theme Park Challenge!



Learning has started at Keevil School!

Today I dropped off 10.6 kg of old pens for recycling! That's approximately 1500 pens that won't go into landfill. Let's see if we can beat this next year! Please drop off your old pens and their lids at school. We can take any type of pen, but not pencils or any other types of stationery. Thank you. Mrs Brown



Correspondence

# Letter to school leaders on mild illness and school attendance

Published 5 September 2023

Applies to England

Dear headteachers and trust leaders,

As you begin to welcome children and young people back for a new school year, we have been asked by the Department for Education (DfE) to provide you with a clinical and public health perspective on mild illnesses and school attendance.

We are aware that the COVID-19 pandemic may have caused some parents to feel less confident with assessing whether their child is well enough to be in school so we have laid out some information which we hope you will find helpful.

There is wide agreement among health professionals and educational professionals that school attendance is vital to the life chances of children and young people. Being in school improves health, wellbeing and socialisation throughout the life course. The greatest benefits come from children and young people attending school regularly.

It is usually appropriate for parents and carers to send their children to school with mild respiratory illnesses. This would include general cold symptoms: a minor cough, runny nose or sore throat. However, children should not be sent to school if they have a temperature of 38°C or above. We would encourage you to share the [NHS 'Is my child too ill for school?' guidance](#) with parents and carers in your schools and communities which has further information.

In addition to respiratory illnesses, we are aware that more children may be absent from school due to symptoms of anxiety than before the pandemic. Worry and mild or moderate anxiety, whilst sometimes difficult emotions, can be a normal part of growing up for many children and young people. Being in school can often help alleviate the underlying issues. A prolonged period of absence is likely to heighten a child's anxiety about attending in the future, rather than reduce it. DfE has published useful [guidance on mental health issues affecting a pupil's attendance](#) and those who are experiencing persistent symptoms can be encouraged to access additional support.

Thank you for your efforts so far to facilitate immunisation sessions within schools. As we head into winter, encouraging high uptake of seasonal flu vaccination and routine immunisations for eligible children and young people will help to reduce absences and the disruption they cause.

You, and the teachers you lead, are already supporting families to build up children's confidence to attend school regularly. The Royal College of General Practitioners (RCGP) recently approved [5 principles to promote school attendance](#). We hope this guidance will support GPs in having sensitive and reassuring conversations with parents, carers and pupils.

Thank you and your colleagues for your continued commitment to supporting the health and wellbeing of children and young people.

Yours sincerely,

Professor Chris Whitty, Chief Medical Officer, England

Pat Cullen, General Secretary, Royal College of Nursing

Professor Kamila Hawthorne, Chair, Royal College of General Practitioners

Dr Camilla Kingdon, President, Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health

William Roberts, Chief Executive, Royal Society for Public Health

Dr Lade Smith, President, Royal College of Psychiatrists