

Kents Hill School

Kents Hill School, Birdlip
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Newsletter

11

2017/18

27th

November

2017

For more information
and news, please visit:
www.kentshillschool.org.uk

Remember to like us on
Facebook:



It was fantastic to see so many families visiting the book fair last week. Don't worry if you haven't been yet – it is still open at the following times:

Monday 27th November – 3.05 – 3.30pm

Tuesday 28th November – 8.30 – 8.50am **and** 3.05 – 3.30pm

Wednesday 29th November – 8.30 – 8.50am

One of the benefits of having a book fair in school is that every purchase earns money for the school to be able to spend on books. Thank you for visiting and for supporting your school. My thanks also go to every member of staff who has given up their time to help with the book fair.

Thank you as well to all of the Nursery parents who attended parent / teacher consultations last week – and also to Miss Hussein (*who had to see more parents than any other teacher!*).

Please also remember that Friday 1st December is an INSET Day and the school is closed for children.

Simon Bolger

Stars of the Week

Last week's 'Stars of the Week' were **Sraddha** and **Dawid** in Year 2, **Drew** and **Abigail** in Year 1, and **Alfie** and **Siena-Leigh** in Reception. Well done to these children for putting a brilliant effort into all of their learning.

Attendance

It is a **legal requirement for parents** to ensure that their children are in school **every day**. If for some reason your child is going to be absent due to illness then you must make sure you let the school know as soon as possible. It is a legal requirement for us to take registers in the morning and we do this at 9.00am. This is a **safeguarding matter** because we must ensure that every child is where they should be at the right time.

If parents do not contact us when their children are absent we will always phone parents. We are doing this to ensure that the child is being properly safeguarded. If you do not answer then we will leave you a message and it is crucial that you return that phone call as soon as possible.

Unauthorised Absence

If for some reason you require a leave of absence during term time because of 'exceptional circumstances' then you must make a leave of absence request (*you can ask for a form at the main office*). Please remember that we cannot legally authorise holidays during term time. With this in mind, I am disappointed to say that we have had a very small number of parents be dishonest with us about holidays and days out by calling to say their child is unwell. This is morally and legally unacceptable. As part of our Values Curriculum we teach children about being honest. If parents are openly dishonest like this then they are transmitting to their children a belief that it is acceptable to be dishonest.

Punctuality

The school doors **open at 8.50am** and will **close at 9.00am exactly**. If you arrive with your child after 9.00am then you must bring them into school via the main office where you will be asked to sign the late-book and provide the reason why you are late. Your child will then be marked as late in the register.

Sadly, the number of minutes of lost learning time due to lateness so far this term is **948!** Can we do better next term?

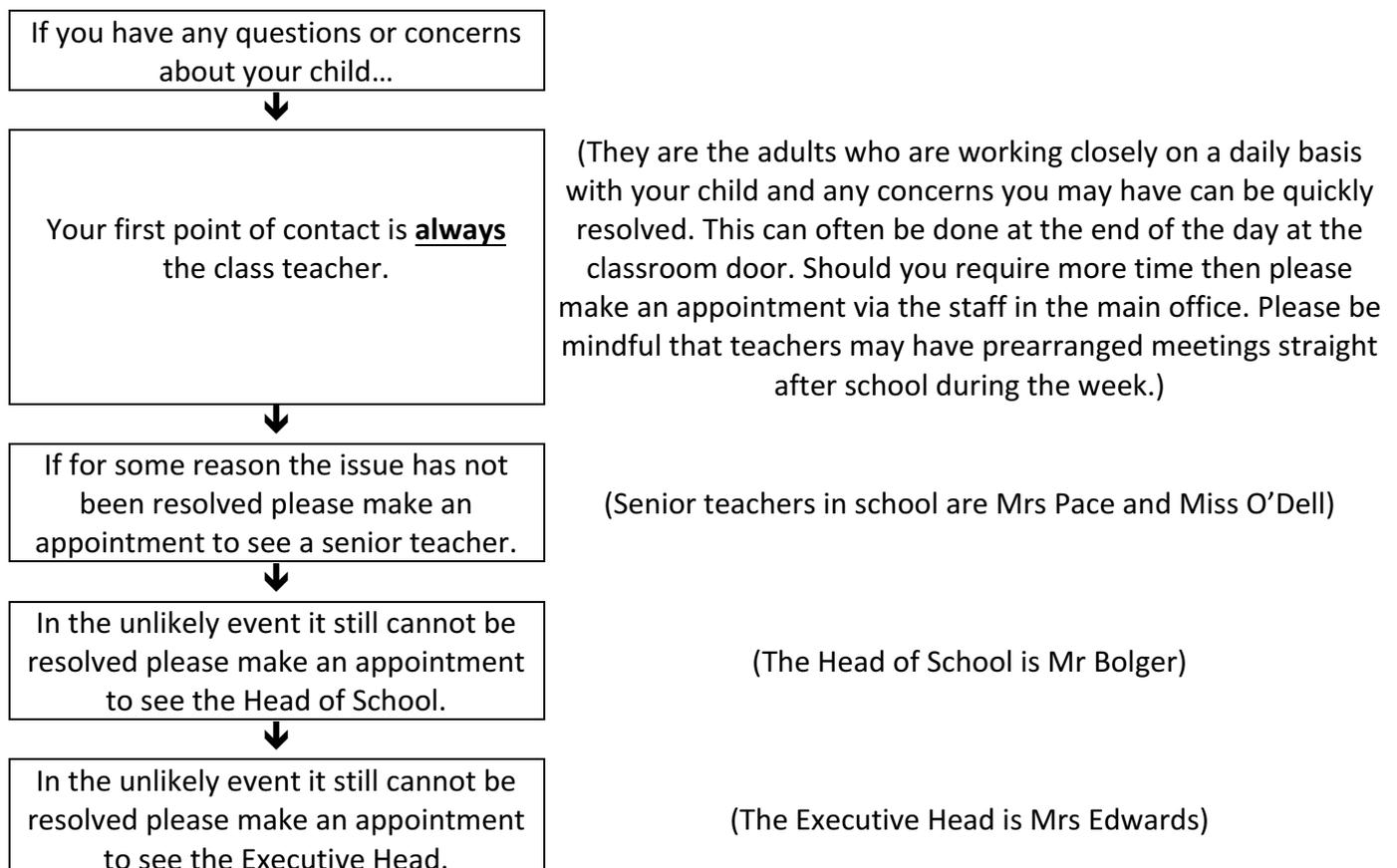
You may not think that being a few minutes late makes any difference – but if your child is 10 minutes late every day – **they will lose almost 7 days of learning time because of lateness.**

I cannot emphasise enough the importance of being on time. When a child arrives late they will have missed the start of their lesson and will be playing 'catch-up' for the remainder of the session.

**An interesting way to think about it is:
What would happen if you were 10 minutes late for work every day?**

Chains of communication

Communication is extremely important to us in helping to support your child. The following protocol ensures that **all parents** follow the same process:



Dates for your diary

Friday 1st December	INSET Day – no children in school
Monday 4 th December	Whole school skipping workshop
Wednesday 6 th December	Reception Morning Christmas Performance
Thursday 7 th December	Reception Afternoon Christmas Performance
Thursday 7 th December	School Council Elections for Spring Term
Friday 8 th December	Father Christmas in school
Tuesday 12 th December	Nursery Christmas Performance (<i>this is an amended date</i>)
Tuesday 12 th December	Year 1 and 2 Christingle Service
Wednesday 13 th December	Dolce Christmas Meal
Friday 15 th December	Save the Children Christmas Jumper Day
Friday 15 th December	3.00pm School Closes for Christmas Holiday
Tuesday 2nd January	INSET Day – no children in school
Wednesday 3 rd January	School reopens at 8.50am

More information will follow about a number of these dates.
