

Kents Hill School

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Newsletter 5

2017/18

9th October 2017

For more information and news, please visit:

www.kentshillschool.org.uk

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It has been a very busy (and cake filled) week in school. It was fantastic to see so many families join their children in school to enjoy a drink and a cake (or two!). A huge thank you to all of those parents who donated cakes and/or bought cakes during our Macmillan Coffee Morning Events. Thanks to your generosity we have managed to raise a total of **£545** (so far!) for Macmillan Cancer Research. A big thank you as well to all of the school staff and volunteers who prepared, served and cleaned up after the cakes were all eaten. Well done!



Macmillan Cancer Support is a very worthy cause. There are now 2.5 million people in the UK living with cancer. By 2030, it will be 4 million people, and Macmillan has set out to support them all. One in three of us will get cancer, and it will be one of the toughest things we'll ever have to face. Macmillan's goal is to make sure no one faces cancer alone. They provide medical, emotional, practical and financial support, as well as campaigning for better cancer care. And because cancer affects more than just those facing it, they're there for friends and family too. The Kents Hill School Community is proud to offer their support.

Simon Bolger

Message from the Chair of Governors

The governors would like to congratulate the staff and children on the fantastic start we have had to a new school year. Whilst ending on a high with our 'Good' outcome for Ofsted, it was lovely to see such positive attitudes from all starting a new year. Some of the changes that are being made in the school are exciting and we look forward to supporting you all in another fantastic year at Kents Hill.

Lisa Alexander, on behalf of all the Governors

Macmillan Sweepstake

We asked families to estimate the height, in centimetres, of the cake tower. For a £2 donation the closest estimate would win half the sweepstake. There were 21 entries which means we raised £21 for Macmillan and a £21 jackpot to the winner.

The results are in! The cake was 94cm tall. The winner is **Elijah in Nursery** – who correctly estimated the height of the cake to be 94cm. Well done!



Stars of the Week

Last week's 'Stars of the Week' were **Ted** and **Amal** in Year 2, and **Lena** and **Gaudre** in Year 1. Well done to these children for putting a brilliant effort into all of their learning.

Reading at home

The children's reading record books are designed to track the progress they make with their reading. Every time you hear your child read – please take a few moments to indicate this in their reading record. It helps the class teachers to understand how regularly children are reading – and which children can be identified as requiring some extra reading time in school. Did you know, research shows children who read aloud every day acquire new language and vocabulary up to ten times faster than children who read aloud only once a week?



We have a small and dedicated group of people who work hard over the year to raise valuable funds for the school to pay for new resources and facilities. This year's Annual General Meeting will be held on **Tuesday 10th October at 7.30pm** at school. If you are interested in joining this fantastic group then please come along and join in!

School Uniform – A Reminder

A reminder that our school dress policy is as follows:

- Royal blue sweatshirt, pullover or cardigan
- White, royal blue or pale blue polo shirt
- Black or grey trousers or skirt
- Black shoes (*not trainers*)

Children should not be wearing coloured trainers or hooded tops. It is also important that children have a coat with them in school every day – even if they are dropped off by car in the morning they still go outside for play times!

All items of clothing must have children's names clearly written on.

Safeguarding Children

Child Protection and the safeguarding of children are central to our duty as a school. All of the staff are trained in spotting the signs of abuse/neglect and what to do if they suspect that something is wrong. Kents Hill School staff are also trained in FGM and anti-radicalisation. All staff are all fully vetted (*including enhanced DBS checks*) and the school has a clear Whistleblowing Policy.

However, there could be occasions when **you** might have a child protection concern (*suspecting abuse – physical / emotional / sexual – or neglect*) regarding another child. Perhaps something you witness outside of school that makes you feel uncomfortable or worried for a child. What should you do? Who should you tell?

Well, the key thing is to share your concern with someone. Mr Bolger (*Head of School*) is the designated safeguarding lead, and is supported in his role by Mrs Edwards (*Executive Head*), Mrs Pace (*Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator*) and Mrs Castle (*School Business Manager*).

Information about safeguarding is available on request and there is a detailed policy on the school website regarding child protection.

Keeping our children safe is everyone's business.

Harvest Festival

This year our **Harvest Festival will be on Friday 20th October at Christ the King Church at 2pm**. For this event we would like children to donate items of food. These will be displayed during the event. At the end of the event our display of food will be donated to St. Mary's Food Cupboard.

We ask that children donate non-perishable foods (tins, bottles, packages, jars). They can be sent in any time from Monday 16th October.

Dates for your diary...

Monday 16 th October	Individual school photos
Wednesday 18 th October	Reception, Y1 and Y2 Parent consultation meetings 3pm – 6pm
Thursday 19 th October	Reception, Y1 and Y2 Parent consultation meetings 3pm – 6pm
Friday 20 th October	Harvest Festival 2pm
Wednesday 8 th November	Open Day
Wednesday 15 th November	Open Day
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
Monday 11 th December	Nursery Christmas Performance
Tuesday 12 th December	Year 1 and 2 Christingle Service
Friday 15 th December	Save the Children Christmas Jumper Day
Friday 15 th December	3.00pm School Closes for Christmas Holiday

More information will follow about a number of these dates.
