

KINS Governors' Newsletter to all Parents and Carers

Number 3



Winter 2023

Welcome to the first Governors newsletter of this school year. September seems a long way back now and the school is currently preparing for a variety of events to take place in school over the coming weeks, not least of all being the school plays that each year group is practising for.

We welcomed a number of new staff in September and October- Kitchen staff, Teaching Assistants and Teachers as well as a new intake of children into the Nursery and the main school. The Governors often visit classes and it is a real pleasure to see each class working hard. We have very pleasant and polite youngsters at KINS who are always eager to let us know what they are learning.

Attendance

I would like to emphasise the importance of full school attendance. Miss Holmes sent out the "A is for Attendance" newsletter and this contains some essential information for parents. Thank you to the many parents who let school know promptly the reason that their child might not be in school on a particular day, usually due to illness. However each day's absence is a missed opportunity for children to access an excellent education opportunity- and 5 days absence is at least 20 lessons missed.

On the plus side, a huge WELL DONE to all of the children who have achieved over 95% attendance so far this year and 40 full attendance certificates were given out to children before half term.

An important part of being ready for school each day is for children to sleep well but in an assembly recently 80% of pupils said they used their Tablets at bedtime; many studies show that children who do **not** use media devices at night are found to have a much better sleep quality.

Consultations.

Throughout the year staff welcome feedback and the latest consultation regarding Relationships, Sex and Health Education (RSE) is on the school website for completion now. Parent feedback in the summer EYFS consultation led to changes in transition arrangements for the move of Reception children into Year 1 so please let us know your thoughts.

Just to update parents about the [zebra crossing outside the school.](#)

In September 2022 a meeting was held onsite and the provision of Buff anti-skid surfacing was discussed along with other possible remedies to slow the traffic and make drivers more aware of the schools at either side of the crossing site. Unfortunately there has not been enough funding in the Highways budgets for this to be completed. Our latest communication suggests that its provision has made it on to the bid list for 2024-2025. Watch this space!

However can I ask parents and carers to ensure that children are not standing at the crossing on either side before you are ready accompany them across. (Drivers sometimes stop to let children cross but no one does – so the driver begins to move off and then pedestrians begin to cross too. (And no one is sure who moved first!))

Sandra Fraser, Chair of Governors

At the Governors meetings we discuss

- *the strategic direction of the school through agreeing its aims and values;*
- *holding school leaders to account for the educational performance of pupils and staff;*
- *ensuring that the finances available to the school are used to best*

Parent Governor

If you would like to be on the Governing Body please do get in touch. You can contact Miss Holmes in school or myself, Sandra Fraser via email to sfraser@killamarsh-inf.derbyshire.sch.uk