



Kents Hill Junior School



Be Ready ~ Be Respectful ~ Be Safe
Successful ~ Creative ~ Kind
For Today ~ For Tomorrow ~ For the Future



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Dear Parents/Carers, Newsletter

Term: Autumn | Date: Friday 20th December 2024

What an incredible autumn term it's been, filled with fantastic memories and festive fun!

We've wrapped up the term in true holiday spirit. This week, we were thrilled to welcome Santa, along with Dasher and Blitzen, to our school! The children loved learning fascinating facts about reindeer and hearing all about the training adventures of Dasher and Blitzen at the Reindeer Academy.

Everyone had a blast participating in Santa's workshop and some lucky children even enjoyed a Christmas story or two read by Santa himself!

Our classrooms have been bursting with creativity as we made plenty of festive crafts—many of which we're sure have made it home and taken pride of place.

To top it all off, it's been wonderful to see so many of you at our end-of-term singing festivities. Your enthusiasm and support have been truly appreciated and have made the season even more special for the children and staff alike.

Wishing you all a joyful holiday season filled with love and laughter. We can't wait to welcome everyone back on **Tuesday, 7th January** for another fantastic term ahead.

Miss Parkes

Be Ready

Be Respectful

PTA Santa's Workshops

Thank you to the PTA for arranging such fun workshops for the children, they all had a great time. Check out our social media pages for pictures from the workshops.

Christmas Singing Assemblies

All of pupils performed brilliantly at their Christmas concerts this week. We hope you enjoyed their songs! Thank you all for coming.

School Clubs

A letter detailing all of the clubs was sent out to all parents and carers yesterday. These will start week commencing 13th January 2025. Letters for the Deans before school clubs were sent home with your child today.

Our paid Breakfast and After School club facility will run from the first day back after the Christmas break, Tuesday 7th January 2025.



Spring Term Diary

A copy of the Spring Term diary was sent out yesterday. Please note that Monday 6th January and is a Non-Pupil Day. Spring Term Commences on Tuesday 7th January 2025.

Essex Libraries Winter Reading Challenge

This year, the theme is dragons, and children will complete a range of fun, interactive, literacy-boosting activities to earn stickers! Plus, they can enter the big prize draw for some amazing prizes. Children can sign up in any Essex Library, any time between Thursday 2 January 2025 and Saturday 22 February 2025. More information can be found on the Essex Libraries website: <https://libraries.essex.gov.uk/news/winter-reading-challenge>



Considerate parking

Please may we ask that all of our parents and carers park considerately around the local area. We have been contacted by some local residents who have mentioned that their driveways have been blocked or cars have been parked in dangerous locations making it unsafe for people to cross safely. Thank you for your understanding.

Why not try our new WOW, Walk to School Challenge.....

There are 8 badges to be earned from December 2024 – July 2025. Each badge has been designed by a pupil from across the UK as part of their annual WOW Badge Design Competition. A new badge can be earned every month if pupils' walk/wheel, cycle, scoot or Park and Stride at least once a week.

How the challenge works?

The pupil-led challenge enables children to self-report how they get to school every day. If they travel actively (walk/wheel, cycle, scoot or Park and Stride) at least three times a week for a month, they get rewarded with a WOW badge. It's that simple!



Be Safe

Online Safety

Are you planning on giving your child a new games console, mobile phone, tablet, or computer game this Christmas? Or do you have friends or family who are?

Visit www.essex.police.uk/sortyoursettings for practical things you can do to help make your child's new device safer when they are online.

INFORMATION

Year 2- 3 admissions for September 2025

Please be informed that the junior school admission round opened on Monday 4th November 2024. The statutory national closing date for applications is 15th January 2025. Parents of current Year 2 children in the infant school need to make a formal application to the Council via the website: www.essex.gov.uk/admissions.

PTA – Easy Fundraising

Would you like to raise money for your child's school with nothing more than the click of a button?

Here is how you can:

- Log on to www.easyfundraising.org.uk
- Choose a cause 'The Friends of Kents Hill Junior School'.
- Enter a few basic details about yourself to set up an account.
- Search your retailer and you will be taken to their website where you can shop as normal.

The school then receives a percentage commission on your shop at no additional cost to you.

With Christmas approaching, and many of us buying on the internet, this is an ideal time to set up an account for yourself.

But remember Easy fundraising is not just for Christmas you can raise extra funds for the school all year round, just by remembering to go through www.easyfundraising.org.uk



WEEKLY ATTENDANCE

KHJS TARGET	97%
3LJ	96%
4JC	95%
6CA	95%
4RH	94%
3AB	94%
5EM	92%
6NA	92%
5CC	92%
3LP	91%
4RE	91%
6LT	90%
5MR	89%

Moments Matter, Attendance Counts



The following pupils have received the most points in their class this week for being Ready, Respectful and Safe and being Successful, Creative and Kind.

3LJ	Leia P	5CC	Ella H
3LP	Harper A	5MR	Dolly C
3AB	Brooklyn G	5EM	Diya M
4RH	Renee M	6LT	Ruby S
4JC	Anika R	6NA	Sophie L
4RE	Ruby T	6CA	Jacob

SOCIAL MEDIA

Our Social Media accounts can be found on the following links:



<https://www.facebook.com/Kents-Hill-Junior-School->



<https://www.instagram.com/kentshilljuniorschool/>



<https://twitter.com/KentsHillJnr>



<https://youtube.com/@KHJS-mm4gd>

[#KentsHillDifference](https://www.instagram.com/kentshilljuniorschool/)

KEY DATES

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Non Pupil Day	Monday 6th Jan	All day
First day back after Christmas holidays	Tuesday 7th Jan	All day
Deanes Clubs start this week	W/C 13th Jan	8—8:45am
Staff run after school clubs start this week	W/C 13th Jan	3:20—4:20pm
SEND Drop-in session <i>Invite to follow</i>	Tuesday 14th Jan	PM
Year 4-6 My Futures Programme "Special Delivery"	Tuesday 14th Jan	PM
Closing date for Year 2-3 applications	Wednesday 15th Jan	All day
Year 3 My Futures Programme "Special Delivery"	Thursday 16th Jan	PM
Young Voices Choir Event @ O2	Tuesday 21st Jan	All day
Dance Festival	Wednesday 22nd Jan	AM

DINNER MENU

The school menu for after the Christmas break will be from the Autumn/Winter menu and will be week 1 (week commencing 06.01.2025).

A copy of the menu can be found on our website: <https://www.kentshilljuniorschool.co.uk/lunch-menu/>

School dinners cost **£2.60** per child per day and payment should be made via the SchoolGateway app.



At Kents Hill Junior School we are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, we expect all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

Designated Safeguarding Lead – Miss J Parkes

Academy Trust (Registered in England) – Company Number 7804282.

Reg. address: Kents Hill Junior School, Kents Hill Road, Benfleet, Essex, SS7 5PS