



Friday 6th September

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to the new school year! For many of you, this is your first time at Kingstone, with huge milestones achieved this morning as your children start their journey through 'big school'. With new and familiar faces alike, it is wonderful to get the academic year underway with all our children now in the building and it was great to touch base with some of you at drop off. It has been fantastic to see how smart and happy all the children have been this morning. I have popped in several times, and they have all settled amazingly well! I hope this is the start of many happy years as part of the Kingstone Family.

Please find some additional information below to start the new year.

Uniform

It has been wonderful to see how smartly everyone has started school! Our smart uniform is something that we are proud of - when everyone is in the same uniform, it really helps to unite the children and keep standards high. We are going to be working hard to ensure that this is maintained throughout the year, and really appreciate your support with this. I understand how difficult it can be to source uniform, so do check out our fantastic Eco Rail of pre-loved uniform (via the school office) – we can usually find a match, or keep an eye out for a particular size if there is something you need. We also sell ties, PE t-shirts and hoodies via ParentPay for a very reasonable price. We try really hard to make sure that all the children go home with the right belongings, and really appreciate it if you can name every item to help us with this!

One Page Profiles

At the start of each academic year, each class teacher puts together a One Page Profile to give specific information to support each individual. During this conversation they discuss interests, things they find tricky, and what helps them to be the best learner they can be; this page includes all the information that we need to ensure that each child has their voice heard, and their needs met. As well as the voice of the child, we also like to seek the views of parents and carers to give as a rounded picture of your child; a printed copy of this has been sent home today with your child. If you could return this to Miss Nicholas as soon as possible, the information will be collated to form their final One Page Profile.

Celebration Assembly

Each Friday we hold a Celebration Assembly – they are always a highlight of my week! We love to see parents and carers at these assemblies, and you will be very welcome to join us on any Friday at 9am. We give Reception a little longer to settle into school routines before they start coming to assembly, but we will let you know when they are ready to join in with the rest of the school so that you can come along if you are able. If your child is Star of the Week, I send a secret text out to you the night before

so that you can make special arrangements to be there if you would like to. I look forward to seeing you if you're able to attend over the coming weeks.

Lunches

Just a reminder that all hot school dinners must be booked in advance, by Thursday evening. School meals are free to all Reception (and infant) children, but they still need to be booked so that the correct food can be ordered for each child. If you think you may be entitled to Free School Meals, please follow this link to check: <https://www.herefordshire.gov.uk/schools-education/free-school-meals> It is really worth applying if you think you qualify, as it will ensure you have free school meals throughout primary, along with other benefits. If you need any assistance with any of the above, please contact the school office and we will be happy to help.

Events and Updates

You will receive a calendar of events today, but here are some key dates for your diary:

Infant Phonics Information Evening – this session will give you more information around what to expect with phonics in your child's class this year. We will go through the way we teach phonics, the reasons why it is so important, and resources that you might find useful.

- Wednesday 18th September at 5:30 pm – Parents of children in Reception

McMillian Coffee Morning –this will be held directly after Celebration Assembly on Friday 27th September. Please stay for coffee (or tea!), cake and a chat if you are able. More details about how you can support this will be sent out closer to the time.

Parents' Evenings – this is an opportunity to catch up with Miss Nicholas to get a progress report and look at the work that has taken place so far; a letter about how to book your appointment will go out closer to time. Save the Date:

- Tuesday 8th October – 3:30 – 6:00
- Wednesday 9th October – 3:30-6:00

You will also receive an email today with all the information on for this term in Reception. Please don't hesitate to contact Miss Nicholas, or anyone in the Reception Team, with any questions or additional information required. You can also access regular updates on the Class Blogs on our school website – we add more content really frequently, so do check it out!

I am really looking forward to getting to know you and your children more over the coming year. I love my job as I have the privilege of seeing our children flourish throughout the weeks and months - there is no better feeling than sharing in a child's success. I am really excited about the year ahead – with a brilliant staff team, wonderful children and supportive parents, I know that we will have a successful year together.

I don't underestimate the mix of emotions as your child starts school, nor the amount of information there is to process! We are always happy to help in any way we can, and please don't ever hesitate to contact me via the school office if you would like to discuss anything.

With best wishes,



Elissa Vigus
Headteacher