

School Newsletter

1st December 2017

Headteacher News

The school has been transformed this week into a winter wonderland and it is definitely beginning to look a lot like Christmas!

The PTA members and volunteers have been working exceptionally hard all week in preparation for tomorrow's Christmas Fayre. Please come and support us, it will truly be a special day and we look forward to seeing as many of you there as possible. Doors open at 11; we are delighted to have the Mayor of High Wycombe opening the event.

The PTA would like to inform you that they will be accepting old £1 coins tomorrow, so if you have any hiding down the back of the sofa please bring them.

Academy Conversion

As you will be aware the school is currently in the process of converting to become an Academy. Whilst Great Kingshill CE Combined School will retain its own identity, name and school logo - it will also become an academy within the MAT (Multi Academy Trust.) The name of the MAT has been approved by the cabinet office and will be **Kings Education Trust**. All schools joining the Trust in the future will be an academy of the Kings Education Trust.

The earliest date of conversion could be January 1st 2018 but this is not yet definite. We look forward to sharing this news with you early next term.



**Kings
Education
Trust**

Miss Garlick

Is your child due to start school September 2018?

This week we have received notification from Bucks CC that the numbers of parents applying for their school places for September 2018 is lower than they would expect it to be. If

your child turns 4 before 31st August 2018 then you need to apply for a school place.

You can do this by visiting the Bucks online portal.

<https://www.buckscc.gov.uk/apply-for-a-school-place>

The big vote!

Last week the children took part in a big vote, to decide which charity Year 4 would like to support as part of their GoGivers Project. Here is a report from the children on their experiences:

The big vote was set up to help us decide which charity to support. The hall was set up as a polling station. Each of the children in Year 4 had to take on a key role. Some were giving out the ballot papers, others were stood next to the ballot box.

I was given the role of handing out the ballot papers and it was nice to see faces which I haven't seen in a while. It is better to have a democratic vote rather than the teachers saying.

The choice for the school was cancer research, animal welfare and endangered animals. I think the rest of the school enjoyed the experience and my brother definitely did. It was good that the children were all respectful about it being quiet and that it was supposed to be a secret.

Every child had a job to do and it was interesting to see how many people are needed to make a vote happen.

I think it was a great and fair experience and it helps us to understand how these things can happen.

It was the best!

Lewis James 4HK

Christmas Train

The children in Reception and Pre-School had the opportunity to test drive the train in preparation for Saturday's Christmas Fayre. They all had a ride around the playground. The children would like to say thank you to Corrie!

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Absence

If your child is not well or absent for another reason, it is vital that you inform us as soon as possible. Please either email the office or leave a message clearly stating the name of your child, their class and the reason they are absent. We are required to check attendance by law, so if children are absent and we have not been informed of this we will send you a text message, followed by another if you have not replied. If they are still absent then we may have to raise concerns for their welfare. A message can be left on the absence line or an email can be sent, please do not give messages to siblings to pass on – the school needs to be informed by a parent or guardian.

Judo

Well done to Ronnie Berry who has been selected to trial for England at Judo.

Primary Science Quality Mark – **GOLD**

Last Friday Mr Hoddell and Ms Clarke were invited to attend a national celebration event in recognition of their achievement of gaining PSQM Gold for the school.

Over the past 12 months Mr Hoddell and Ms Clarke have worked in partnership with the Bucks Learning Trust and other local schools to develop our provision for science. It is a fantastic achievement to be awarded the highest award and we would like to thank Mr Hoddell and Ms Clarke for all their hard work.



Peer Mentors

This week we started our training to become Peer Mentors. We wrote our Job Description and thought about how we can help everyone at school to have a happy day. We will be starting our new role in January and you will recognise us as we will be wearing our Yellow Playground Buddy Bibs. We will be in the Key Stage 1 playground every day, in Reception and Pre-School. We will be meeting children at the gate in the mornings and at break times we will be making sure everyone has fun.

Ibrahim and Jack

Easy fundraising for school

Easy fundraising – it's easy and it's FREE, helping our school raise money every time we shop online, use it for everyday online shopping, remember to use it while doing your Xmas shopping

easyfundraising **easyfundraising**
.org.uk easyfundraising.org.uk
is the UK's leading good cause shopping site. It's a great way for PTAs to raise valuable money when their supporters shop online with over 2,700 retailers, such as Amazon, M&S and John Lewis. It's completely free to use and there really is no catch. PTA UK members can register for FREE at pta.uk.easyfundraising.org.uk

CHRISTMAS SHOPPING COULD WIN YOUR PTA AN EXTRA £1,000! (only 39 days until Christmas)

November is the busiest month of the year for online shopping, with Christmas shopping under way and It's easy – parents, family and staff can all collect **FREE donations** for your school as they shop online. Now we're challenging you to raise as much as possible over the next two months. The PTA that raises the most with Easyfundraising between now and December 15th will win a £1,000 bonus donation, courtesy of Viking! In addition, five extra spot prizes of £50 will be awarded for best newcomer, recruiter, supporter, spender and Viking shopper.

<http://pta-updates.org.uk/14X9-58T1I-34JS8C3934/cr.aspx>

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All Aged Service St Michael's 10:45

This Sunday some of our year 6 pupils will be reading in church, it is the first Sunday of Advent and will be a lovely service. All families are invited to join us.

Nativity Ticket Clarification

Just so that everyone is clear, each family will be allocated 1 ticket per family per performance. The ticket will admit 1 person!

Attendance

Our overall school attendance to the end of this week is 96.77%

Well done to our attendance champions this week – 1LS with attendance of 99.1%!

House Points

Many congratulations to Stuart house for earning the highest amount of house point this week.

Tudor	York	Windsor	Stuart
256	327	243	353

Messy Church

The last Messy Church of the term will be on Thursday 7th December, at Cryers Hill Methodist Church, just after pick up until 4.30. There will be snacks, singing and crafts, focused on the Christmas story. All welcome!

Attachments

Pre-School Letter

Future Dates all new dates are shown in RED

December

2nd PTA Christmas Fayre

3rd Participate in the All age service at St Michaels

12th KS1 Nativity (Afternoon)
13th KS2 Music Concert
14th Early Years Nativity (Morning)
14th Christmas Lunch and Christmas Jumper day
14th KS1 Nativity 6:30pm
15th Early Years Nativity (Afternoon)
18th Christmas Church Service
18th Key Stage 1 and Early Years Christingle
19th End of Term 1:30pm

January

3rd Inset Day

30th Year R Interschool – Winter Olympics

February

12th HALF TERM

21st Year 3-6 Interschool Cross Country

March

2nd World Book Day Dress Up

6th Year 4 Interschool Football

12th Parents Evening 3:30- 5:30

14th Parents Evening 5:00 – 8:00

16th School Disco

19th Year 6 Isle of Wight

28th Easter Church Service KS2

29th End of term 1:30pm

April

6th Inset Day

25th Year 3 Interschool – Tennis

30th Class Photos

May

23rd Year 2 Interschool – Games

28th – HALF TERM

June

27th Year 6 Interschool – Games

29th School Disco

July

3rd Secondary Transfer Day / Move up day

5th Bucks School Games

6th INSET DAY

9th Sports Day KS2 AM / KS1 PM Picnic Lunch for all

11th Reserve Sports Day

13th Reports out to parents

24th July End of Term 1:30pm