

KEEVIL CoFE ACADEMY NEWSLETTER

Up-coming Dates:

23rd Sept – Flu Assembly for parents (2.30pm)
24th Sept – Year 3 Trip to Brokerswood
25th Sept – Stay & Learn (Spring, Summer & Autumn)
25th Sept – Phonics session for parents of Reception children (9am)
26th Sept – Mrs Hermon at Bulkington Bus Stop
1st Oct – Harvest Festival (1.30pm)
7th – 11th Oct – Autumn Class Residential Trip to Pencelli

In our Good Learning Book this week:

Winter: All the new reception children for such a positive start and the Year 1's for being such great snack monitors!

Spring: Evelyn, Oskar, Sonny-Bill, Rhys, William, Lily, Elsie, Gabriel, Eli, Martha & Seren for full marks in spellings. Tyler, Rhys, Isla G, Gabriel, Lucy, Evelyn, Sonny Bill, Oskar, Eli, Toby, William, Elsie, Harry, Seren & Martha for passing their 99 clubs.

Summer: Toby B & Farrell for setting a good example. Archie P for overcoming a tricky start to the week. Maddison for trying her hardest in all her work.

Autumn: Grace, Oscar, Isobel, Jessica & Jack for being excellent role models and setting a great example.

Message from the Head

By this point it already feels like the summer holiday is a distant dream, and all the children have been in their new classes for a long time! I have been very impressed this year by how all the children have started to rise to the challenge that their new year group brings them. Particularly all the new children who have joined us, who already feel like part of the family.

Last year we spent much time and energy talking with you about the importance of good attendance for children's education and outcomes. How research has shown that every 10% drop in attendance results in a grade less in GCSE achievement. And how good attendance is particularly key during the primary phase of education where children are constructing the foundations of their knowledge and understanding in all subject areas. Holes left at this point can result in long lasting negative impact. This was in part, in response to our school attendance being poor in 2017-18, but mostly from our desire for the best for all of our children. We also implemented a far more rigorous system for monitoring and responding to dips in a child's attendance. In addition we mentioned that if our attendance figures did not improve in 2018-19 we would be forced to start referring families to the local authority to consider issuing fines, particularly for holidays taken in term time. I am very pleased to let you know that our overall attendance figure for last year was 96.3% - national average is 96% and the previous year ours had been 94.8% - so this is a great improvement. Many many thanks for all your efforts supporting us on this. Please remember that the benefits are all for the children. We will continue monitoring and responding to attendance issues this year, and will look to refine our systems for this to make them a little less blunt. But please, keep up the good work and let's see if we can do even better this year!

Harvest Festival

Please remember that our Harvest Festival takes place on Tuesday 1st October at 1:30pm in St Leonard's Church. Refreshments will kindly be served by the Church from 1pm. The service will also include the blessing of all our new children. During the service there is the opportunity for all children to make a gift of food, that we donate to the Storehouse Food Bank in Trowbridge. We are keen to be able to support their work with disadvantaged and struggling families in our local area, and appreciate your generosity in this. They welcome all long-life food stuffs (packets and tins) and other household items such as laundry products and toiletries. Please think about things that you enjoy and use in your home and would be the same for other families when you are choosing what to give.

Art Competition

Our first inter-House competition is underway! All entries, on the theme of Autumn, need to be handed in by Monday 14th October. You may express your creativity in any medium that you choose. There are house points to be won for all entries and 1st, 2nd and 3rd place winners in KS1 and KS2 will earn 50, 30 and 20 points respectively for their House. This could make all the difference in whether your house wins this term's competition and earns our first reward treat!

PE Kit

Your child needs a full PE kit in school every day. If you wish to wash this mid-term, please could you take it home on a Friday afternoon and make sure it is back in school on Monday morning. Thank you very much.

Second Hand Uniform

Several parents have been having discussions recently about second hand uniform and how it would be good to re-use uniform that children have grown out of, to be more sustainable as a school and prevent perfectly good items of school uniform being thrown away. We are therefore going to trial advertising items of school uniform on the 'Keevil Church of England Academy Parents' Facebook page and also by having a stall at Parents Evening in October. We would suggest giving a small donation per item; all money will go to FOKS and therefore ultimately benefit all of our children. If you have any unwanted uniform, that is in good, re-usable condition, please bring it into the school office.



Stay and Play and YR Phonics Information Session – Wednesday 25th September 8:45-9:30am

Next Wednesday morning there will be Stay and Play sessions in Spring, Summer and Autumn Classes. There is no Stay and Play in Winter Class but YR parents are invited to an information session about phonics instead.

Flu Vaccination Information Session – Monday 23rd September 2:30pm

On Monday there will be an information session in the school hall led by Nicky Golding a Senior Immunisation Nurse, regarding the up-coming Flu Vaccinations. You have received an online link which you must follow in order to opt your child in or out of the immunisation.

Inter-house ART Competition



Earn house points for your house this term by entering the art competition.

Theme: AUTUMN

The only rules are to bring your entry to Miss Mortimer by 14th October with your name, class and house clearly labelled.

KS1 1st Place = 50 house points

KS1 2nd Place = 30 house points

KS1 3rd Place = 20 house points

KS2 1st Place = 50 house points

KS2 2nd Place = 30 house points

KS2 3rd Place = 20 house points

Plus 5 house points for everyone who takes part.

