



# Kenilworth Nursery School

## October/November 2019 newsletter



### **Nursery School Parent Consultations**

We're delighted with the way children have settled in and will now be undertaking parent consultations on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> (Red and Green Groups) and Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> (Blue and Orange groups) November. These are a chance for you to be updated on your child's progress in Nursery School so far, and ask any questions you may have. You can nominate your chosen slot by filling in the relevant grids which are up on the parent noticeboard in the main reception. Slots are 10 minutes long and we thank you in advance for helping Colour Group Leaders in keeping to time. If there are any worries or concerns that require a more in depth discussion then a separate parent/Colour Group Leader meeting can be arranged separately from the parent consultations.

### **Big thank you for voluntary contributions to our School Fund**

We'd like to extend our sincere thanks on behalf of the Nursery School, our staff and Governors, to all of you who have kindly made voluntary contributions to us. Your donations so far have enabled us to buy the time of our artist in residence for 8 days of over the academic year. These days will take place during November and March, and will directly impact children's creative learning process. Without your support this would not be possible, so thank you for making a difference at a time when Maintained Nursery School budgets are under huge funding pressures that result in real term cuts.

### **Maintained Nursery Schools (MNS) funding update**

We are delighted that the Department of Education have again recognised the importance and value of Maintained Nursery Schools nationally, committing to continuing the supplementary funding they provide for us until summer 2021, by which time a full funding decision should be made. Nick Gibb wrote a ministerial statement "I can confirm today that supplementary funding for Maintained Nursery Schools (MNS) will continue, at its current rate, for the whole of the 2020-21 financial year. I can also confirm that the government remains committed to funding for MNS in the longer term; and that any reform to the way they are funded in future will be accompanied with funding protections." October 2019

This funding recognises that Maintained Nursery Schools (MNS) are unique in their offer, structure and value, and supports us to be able to fulfil all of our school duties and requirements. Most importantly, allowing us to retain our educational provision with qualified Headteachers and Teachers with full QTS who have specialised in educating this age group leading the work in our schools.

We now have over 100 MPs working in an 'all party parliamentary group' (APPG) alongside the national group Early Education and the Nursery Headteachers, supporting the work on future funding for MNS. We are delighted that despite the uncertainty of the times that we continue to be recognised and valued for our excellence and vital contribution to early childhood education.

### **School photos**

These will be taking place on Tuesday 19 November 9 - 11.30am in our Family Play Room off the main reception. Children who are not in school on that day are welcome to attend at 9am, but will need to be accompanied by a parent/carer whilst on site in order to maintain our staff to children ratios. Photos will be available to purchase shortly after, in time for family Christmas presents!

### Emergency school closures

With winter approaching, in the event of snow, burst pipes, broken heating systems and any unforeseen circumstances, school will be closed. To sign up for FREE school closure text alerts to your mobile phone go to <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/education-learning/emergency-school-closures-1>. You can register an account via this link and add up to three different schools. Please note that despite us having not been a Children's Centre for over 4 years, we are still named on this service as 'Kenilworth Children's Centre and Nursery School'.

### Attendance and collections

We would be grateful if you could support your child to build to their full sessions now as quickly as possible in agreement with their Colour Group Leaders, so that they can access all of the different opportunities for learning.

### IMPORTANT DIARY DATES 2019/20 (new dates listed in red; Nursery closures listed in yellow)

#### Autumn term dates: Tuesday 3 September - Friday 20 December 2019

Teacher Training Day - Friday 25 October (no Nursery School or Nurture Nursery for children)

Autumn half term: Monday 28 October - Friday 1 November 2019

Individual child photos for Nursery School - Tuesday 19 November 9 - 11.30am

PACT Day (Parent & Child Time) - Friday 20 December: 9 - 11am accompanied attendance for Nursery School children

#### Spring term dates: Monday 6 January - Friday 3 April 2020

School closed for new intake home visits - Monday 6 January (no Nursery School or Nurture Nursery for children)

Open Day for Prospective Parents - Friday 7 February (Nursery open as usual for all children)

Teacher Training Day - Friday 14 February (no Nursery School or Nurture Nursery for children)

Spring half term: Monday 17 - Friday 21 February 2020

Colour group photos for Nursery School - Tuesday 10 March 2020 9.30 - 11.30am

PACT Day (Parent & Child Time) - Friday 3 April 2020: 9 - 11am accompanied attendance for Nursery School children

#### Summer term dates: Monday 20 April - Friday 17 July 2020

Bank holiday: FRIDAY 8 May 2020 (no Nursery School or Nurture Nursery for children)

Summer half term: Monday 25 - Friday 29 May 2020

Teacher Training Day - Friday 19 June (no Nursery School or Nurture Nursery for children)

Open Day for new 2020 cohort of children - Wednesday 8 July (no Nursery School or Nurture Nursery for children)

Nursery School Sponsored Sports Day - Thursday 9 July 2020

Leavers Farewell Picnic on last day of term - Friday 17 July 2020