

Kennall Vale School
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Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you to all those who have returned completed questionnaires. I am finding them very informative, encouraging and useful. I will discuss this further in my next newsletter. I shall be entering the signed slips into a draw!

School Nurse Service – a reminder

The School Nurse Service is a team of experienced professionals who can offer confidential advice and care to children, parents or carers. School nurses will support parents and carers in promoting physical and emotional health and can sign post you to the appropriate service should you have any specific concerns for your child. I have included the link to their **guide for parents and carers**. The team will also work closely with school to ensure a consistent and joined up approach in managing any health issues. Please click on the link below for further details. If you would like a referral made to the service you can make a direct referral yourself, or if you prefer, school can do this for you.

<http://www.cornwallfoundationtrust.nhs.uk//DocumentsLibrary/CornwallFoundationTrust/OurServices/ChildrenAndYoungPeople/SchoolNursingPrimarySchoolAgedChildren.pdf>

Class Names – we have a winner.....

Staff and governors met on 1st June to look through all the entrants for our new classroom names. The winner will be announced during our whole school assembly on Friday – sorry to keep you in suspense! It was very difficult; there were so many lovely and original ideas.

Class 3 Assembly

Apologies – **we are postponing Friday's Class 3 assembly** to the following week due to interviews for the class 2 post all day.

Classes for September and Class sizes

Year 1 pupils have always historically been split between two classes due to class numbers. This is always explained during the transition from pre-school and again at parent consultations. The rationale behind deciding the appropriate setting for each pupil is based on a comprehensive and professional knowledge of the child. We take into account the setting that is most suited to the pupil's style of learning. For example some pupils learn better through play and respond better to the provision and resources available in Miss Wright's class; others are ready for a slightly more formal approach alongside Year 2 pupils.

The curriculum is the same for all Year 1 pupils regardless of setting. We adhere strictly to an age related curriculum. The way in which the curriculum is delivered may differ. This is in



recognition that all Early Years children need to learn at their own pace and is dependent upon maturity NOT ability.

Year 2 pupils will move to class 3. **Year 3** pupils remain for a second year in **class 3**. **Year 4** pupils move into **Class 4** and **Year 5** pupils will remain in **Class 4** for their final year. Now you know why we have class names!

Class sizes

We have worked hard to balance class sizes this year. It is unfortunate that, at times, class sizes exceed what we would ideally like. The decision to admit pupils is not controlled by school – decisions are made at county level despite protestations from me and other Headteachers, I am sure! If we are told to admit pupils then we have no choice. The issue is that in small schools year groups often double up – common in rural areas like Cornwall. Whilst we have an admission number – a limit for each year group, this does not take into account the fact that there may be more than one year group in any particular class. I have argued this with Admissions at County Hall but to little effect. Other Headteachers feel equally frustrated with this. What I can assure you is that I will always do my best to balance class sizes as best I can and that staffing will be generous and all pupils will receive the very best education very much tailored to the needs of all our pupils.

Swimming Refunds

These will be issued at the end of term for all cancelled lessons for any parents who paid in advance.

Our KVS Buddies

I have recruited four '**Kennall Vale School Buddies**'. Two from Year 6 and two from Year 5 to be trained up to continue when the Year 6 pupils leave. They, in turn, will train up two new Year 5's for the role. This is largely in response to some very valuable pastoral work Mrs Medlin has been doing. Pupils have the opportunity to place any worries they have in a **worry box** and, interestingly some pupils feel they would like more friends to play with. The buddies have the very important responsibility of looking out for any children without playmates, befriending them and encouraging them to join other children in their games. They can be easily identified by their bright yellow caps embroidered with '**KVS Buddies**' on the front! In addition to this they have a '**buddy bench**' which they have painted bright yellow. Children are encouraged to sit on this if they wish to attract the attention of a buddy or if they want a friend to play with. The new initiative was launched at an assembly before half term. The buddies are already loving their new role and are taking their responsibilities very seriously.



Thank you Tallulah, Beth, Jacob and Bailey for helping make Kennall Vale playground a really pleasant experience for everyone!

Congratulations....

Brilliant manners Emily G in Class 3, Miss Powell asked specifically if you could be the recipient of the **Courtesy Cup**. Oscar T also achieved the courtesy cup for his delightful manners. Well done to Jago, Maya, Charlotte and Joe all of whom dined with me on the Captain's Table – thank you for such lovely manners and charming conversation!

Well done to Ellie, Joe, Ruby and Nancy for running in the Race for Life in aid of cancer on 17th May – they completed 5km!

Excellent news Kennedie and Jayden for their 1st place trophies with the Supreme Stars, they did an amazing job in Holsworthy and worked hard to beat a team that beat them two months ago.



Ponsanooth Village Fayre



Please come and visit Kennall Vale School's **Smoothie Bike on Saturday 11th July at Ponsanooth Village Fayre**. Make your own delicious smoothie and for only £1 – choose your own fruit and vegetables, pedal furiously and not only will you have done a work out, you will also be rewarded with a tasty, healthy and nutritious drink and all at a very competitive price!

School Prospectus

A school prospectus is always given to the parents of the new Reception intake. Everything in the prospectus can be found on our website. I have, however put the updated prospectus on the school website should you wish to see it. Do let me know if you think there is anything we could add to the website.



Dates for your diary

| <i>Event</i> | <i>Date</i> | <i>Class</i> |
|---------------------------------|--|----------------------------------|
| <i>Pasty Walk</i> | <i>Friday 5th June: 6pm</i> | <i>Whole School</i> |
| <i>Class 4 pre camp meeting</i> | <i>Monday 8th June: 2.45pm</i> | <i>Parents of Class 4 pupils</i> |
| <i>Minack Theatre</i> | <i>10th June</i> | <i>Classes 3 and 4</i> |
| <i>School Camp</i> | <i>15th-19th June</i> | <i>Class 4</i> |
| <i>Year 6 Induction Day</i> | <i>Wednesday 24th June</i> | <i>Year 6</i> |
| <i>Sports Day</i> | <i>Wednesday 1st July, 1-3pm</i> <i>Reserve Thursday 2nd July</i> | <i>Whole school</i> |
| <i>Open Evening</i> | <i>Wednesday 8th July</i> | <i>Parents of all pupils</i> |
| <i>Forest School Camp</i> | <i>9th and 10th July</i> | <i>Class 3</i> |
| <i>Ponsanooth Village Fayre</i> | <i>Saturday 11th July: 12 noon-6pm</i> | <i>Voluntary</i> |
| <i>Friends of KVS Fête</i> | <i>Friday 17th July</i> | <i>Whole school community</i> |
| <i>Break up for summer</i> | <i>Tuesday 21st July 2015 at 2pm</i> | |
| <i>Return for September</i> | <i>Monday 7th Sept 2015</i> | |

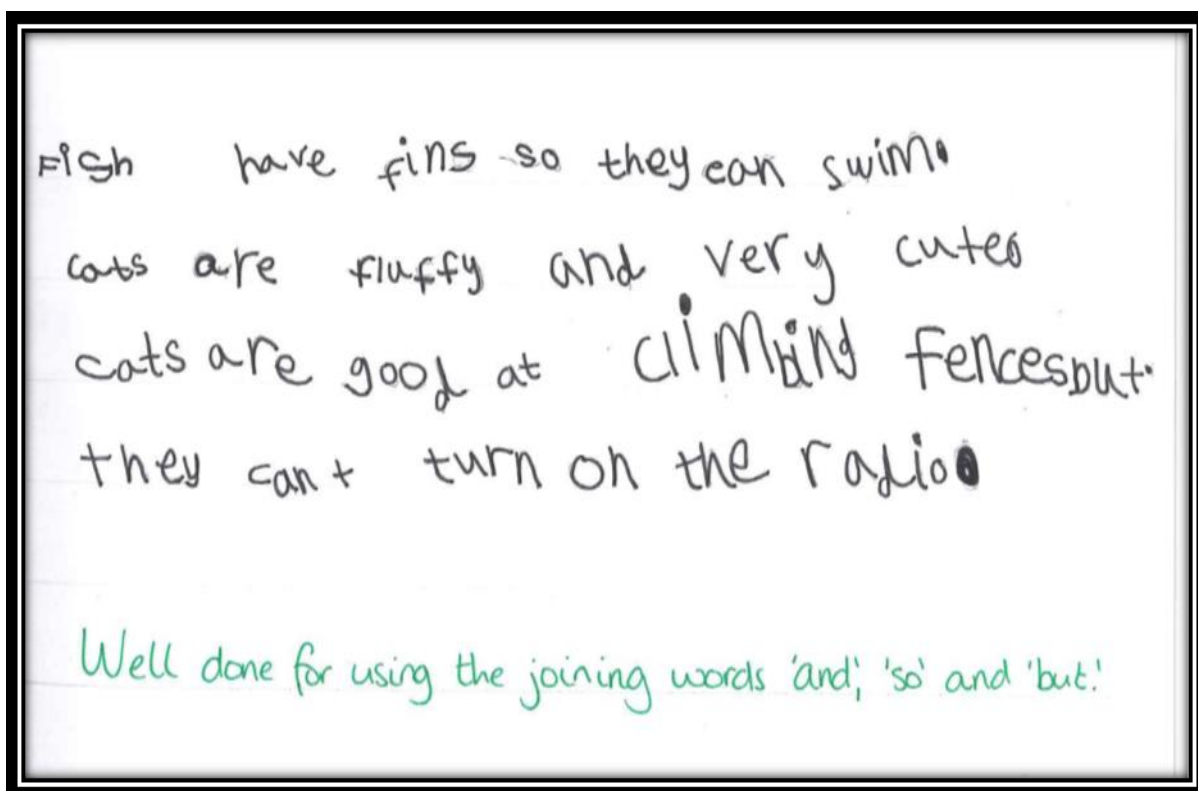


And finally.....



Over to the
children.....

This lovely piece of writing comes from Layla in Miss Wright's class. What a clever girl, Layla.



Kind regards,

Louise Northern

