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# Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers,

## ***A Very Happy New Year!***

It is great to be back and to hear about all the wonderful events enjoyed by our children and staff during the Christmas holiday. Thank you to the entire school community for making the lead up to Christmas such a spectacular and joyful time. Whilst we say goodbye to Christmas, we welcome some exciting times ahead for Kennall Vale School.

We welcome Miss Lynham to Class 4 and hope that she will be very happy with us as she fulfils Mrs Goulbourn's maternity leave. We also welcome teaching assistant Miss Bradley to Class 3.



## **Dinner Money**

Please note that this has increased by 5p per meal to £2.25

## ***School Council***

Now that I have completed a term, got to know the school, the children and have a clear understanding of our priorities for the coming year, it is timely that the School Council should re-establish itself and take a leading role in supporting the school, to be the best it can be. Pupils have a powerful voice – they are honest and very often see things that we adults don't see. They are creative in their thinking and are uncluttered by all the bureaucracy we adults worry about – we do need to ensure their voice is heard. The School Council is a powerful vehicle in encouraging pupils to effect change and improvement and will be regarded as a key player in supporting school improvement and charity work. We are going to continue supporting the Children's Hospice South West. The work they do for very sick children and their families is tremendous. It is a local charity and one which the children really seem to feel passionate about. Their fundraising efforts last term should really be applauded. The School Council will coordinate our charity work. I plan to take some members of the council to visit the hospice sometime this year. In addition to this we also sponsor a young pupil in a Kenyan children's home.

I intend to have a meeting with all school council representatives each Tuesday lunchtime for half an hour. Each representative will have his or her own note book and can be approached by pupils from their own class with ideas, concerns etc. These will be recorded and brought to every meeting. An agenda will be set and minutes taken so that there is an accurate record of each meeting and action points arising from those meetings for consideration. I would also like to invite school council representatives to attend the first part of each governors' meeting once a term, to report on any issues arising and progress to date. I would also like the School Council to have its own slot in the school newsletter.



## Competition!

Given that there will be a re-launch of the School Council I think it only fitting that we should have our own Kennall Vale School Council logo that can be used for letters coming from the School Council. I am inviting all pupils to take part in a competition to design a logo suitable for the School Council with a prize for the pupil with the winning design. The closing date will be **Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> January**. The winning design will need to be easy to scan and reproduce on letterheads, agendas etc.



### Reading Records

Don't forget to complete your child's reading record each time you listen to them read. This is an opportunity for you to see how much progress your child is making and for you to comment and celebrate reading achievements at home.

### Texting and Emailing

In addition to emailing we will also be sending texts to your main mobile phone from time to time. This guarantees quality communication and without delay. It also means that we are adopting a more sensitive approach towards the environment.

### The School Website

This will be regularly updated and should include key information about the school. The website replaces the school prospectus in terms of content, however, a hard copy of any or all the information can be made available to you should you wish. If you think of anything additional you would like to see on the site please let us know – we are always seeking to improve communication.

### Key Dates:

Event	Date
Spring Half Term	16-20 <sup>th</sup> Feb 2015
Easter Holiday	30 <sup>th</sup> March-10 <sup>th</sup> April 2015
Bank Holiday	4 <sup>th</sup> May 2015
Year 6 SAT's	11 <sup>th</sup> -14 <sup>th</sup> May 2015
Summer Half Term	25 <sup>th</sup> -29 <sup>th</sup> May 2015
Summer Holiday	22 <sup>nd</sup> July 2015

### School Clubs

There will be a range of clubs for children to attend. Details were sent out yesterday. We hope to start next week.

### Holidays During Term Time

Just a reminder – holidays cannot be authorised. This is part of a joint agreement with the other schools in the Penryn Partnership. Absence from school for exceptional circumstances will always be permitted



Please remember that we want Kennall Vale School to be a happy environment, a school our children enjoy attending. If you ever have any concerns please talk to me. I will always make myself available. We want all our children to be content, eager to learn and making good progress.



And finally.....



Over to the  
children.....

Just before Christmas Ben and George wrote these lovely poems. They came into my office and read them to me. I think they have been beautifully written.

## North, South, East and West

Leafless trees swaying in the wind.  
Still sky floating in pattern.  
Frosted grass crumbling on the sodden ground.  
Autumn leaves resting on the sparkling spring.

Leafless trees swaying in the wind with marks of birds'  
Scratching on the bark.  
Moss growing in the crotched holes.

Still sky floating in pattern with the clouds,  
Searching for sunlight to shine on the world.

Frosted grass crumbling on the sodden ground,  
Water slipping off the smooth stems.  
Roots slothingly reaching out of the ground.

Autumn leaves resting on the sparkling spring,  
Floating through the air like a beautiful butterfly,  
Gliding to the floor gracefully from a forgotten bee.

**By Ben Boddington, Class 3**

Again, I wish you all a very Happy New Year.

Kind regards,

Louise Northern

To the North I see the wonderful  
windows of Class 3,  
Showing the place we love to learn.

To the East I see the soft mossy roof  
on the bike shed,  
It is green like sticky seaweed.

To the South I see tall trees losing  
their scrunchy leaves,  
Rusty brown and dying in the chilly  
wind.

To the West I see the tiger turf,  
Trying to keep quiet,  
Ready for the children to have fun.

**By George Parkinson, Class 3**

