

Kingham Primary School

Headteacher: Ms. Bretta Townend-Jowitt



During term time, this monthly newsletter will be sent out near the end of each month via ParentMail. The content differs from the weekly bulletins, offering more in-depth coverage and celebrations of events within school and our community.

Welcome to our September Newsletter by Ms Bretta Townend-Jowitt

Welcome to the first edition of our school newsletter for the academic year 2018-2019. The staff hope you all had an enjoyable summer break.

We welcome our new nursery and reception children and their families and those who have joined us in other classes across school. We also welcome a number of new staff to the school: Mrs Gallimore and Mrs West in the school office; Ms Rose, Miss Constantinou and Miss Alleman as teachers and Miss Pinfold, Mrs Villamor and Mrs Dowling in the nursery.

School assemblies this month have included: Turning over a new leaf, Andy Seed author visit; introducing the athlete visit and the Chinese Moon Festival.

I would like to take this opportunity to say a thank you to the outgoing committee of our KPSA team who work hard to raise valuable funds – most of which this year, will be put towards creating our school library. Karen Murgatroyd and Vicki Jarvis stepped down as co-chairs at the AGM earlier in September – they have worked tirelessly on many events over the last two years. Rosie Shannon has been voted our new chair for the academic year 2018-2019 and has lots of amazing ideas to take our events and fundraising forward.

Hopefully, you will have noticed we have added new playground equipment over the summer holidays in order to extend the space for pupils to be active during break and lunchtime. This equipment and play lawn has been purchased by utilising the PE and Sport's premium funding. Further areas are planned over the next academic year, with plans and quotes currently under investigation, including adding play lawn to replace the grass.

We currently have grant applications in process from the Ernest Cook Trust and another for Tesco Bags for Help to increase the funds for our school library. Furniture plans and quotes are currently underway and we shall soon be able to purchase a computer and software system to enable pupils to borrow books to take home.

The parent questionnaire will shortly be sent out via school diaries and book bags and I urge you to complete – it is your opportunity to put forward your thoughts, opinions and views. The deadline is Friday 12th October.

Bretta Townend-Jowitt

Nursery Class by Miss Jenkinson



What do you get when you cross spectacular grounds, dedicated and inspirational staff, lots of toys and games and happy children? A wonderful new Nursery Class of course.

Since the start of the year the youngest children in the school have been very busy...from learning about bodies and bones, painting faces and homes, talking about their families, making friends, baking

yummy treats, going for walks, spending time outside and even a spot of gymnastics. No wonder the children and grown-ups are tired, but we can't wait to see what the next few weeks of term will bring us with all things autumn.



Andy Seed author visit by Mrs Mahony

Children from year 2 to year 6 enjoyed an exciting, fun and informative presentation about the writing process from conception of the original idea to the final product. Andy shared his experiences and frustrations during the writing of his latest book (initially entitled 'The Origin of the Faeces'), 'The Clue is in the Poo'! In fact, the majority of us agreed with his choice of book cover ... not the one selected for final publication. The children were eager participants in the 'Poo' quiz which was highly entertaining.

We are pleased that Andy has kindly donated a selection of his books for our new library.

Just a note for worried parents - the book is crammed with interesting information about identifying animals from tracks, feathers and markings. Ideal knowledge for budding naturalists and the environmentally aware!

Year 6 trip to the Black Country Living Museum by Mrs Mahony

As part of our topic on WW1, we visited Black Country Living Museum in Dudley to see how the war affected those who lived and survived on the Home Front.

It was hard for most of us to understand how daily life was possible without the comforts we take for granted: indoor bathrooms and toilets, food, money and even life at school.

We investigated an amazing variety of shops too and quizzed the shopkeepers - did you know that

arsenic was used in the making of green sweets, that children were used to clean the inside of the baking ovens or that the Spanish Flu epidemic 1918/19 killed more people worldwide than in the war?

There were no cars to dodge but we did have a ride on a tram (Joe loved that!).

Our schoolroom experience was an eye-opener – learning by rote, writing on slates, a whole school being taught in one room at the same time which would have been a very loud experience.

Much of what was taught is similar to today but the punishment meted out for bad behaviour was quite brutal! We watched in horror as Miss Smith was caned for not listening to the teacher and for not following instructions!

A fascinating day out! This was a wonderful opportunity for the children to experience a different time period at first hand and thus inform the term's wider studies.

A big 'thank you' to Mrs Wilson who accompanied us.



Year 5 trip by Ava, Rebecca and Sophie

As part of our World War II topic, we went to the STEAM Museum in Swindon. Everyone dressed in 1940's style, even the teachers!

Our tour guide Roy, who was a child during the war, took us to each workshop. The first activity was about how the trains were used during the war. After that, we experienced a real World War II train the Caerphilly Castle, we sat on top of the water tanks where the coal would have been. It was a bit of a tight squeeze and very high up, here we learnt about what happened during air raids.



Afterwards, we were able to ask Roy and Peter about their life experiences during the war. My favourite one was *'when the bomb went off my neighbour's potatoes were blown out of his allotment, people got their ladders and started getting them out of the gutters.'*

After a rationed lunch, we were evacuated, we said goodbye to our parents and set off on our journey. We tried to get a fine lady, a station master and a vicar to billet us.

During the last session there was an air raid attack by Hitler and the Jerrys. We rushed into a shelter, where our ARW counted us in, it was devastating and felt as if we were going to be a direct hit.

What an amazing experience we had of WWII.