03rd July 2020

Weekly Newsletter

Dates & Events for the Diary

To: 
School is closed until further notice except children of key workers, Year 6, Year 1, Reception & Nursery

Timings for all the children are: 8.45am to 3.15pm
Except for Nursery

School finishes 1pm on Friday, 17th July.
No Nursery PM.
Children return to school Monday, 7th September 2020.

ONLINE P.E sessions

Joe Wicks is teaching a live P.E session every morning at 9AM. It will be on his YouTube channel and website. A great way of keeping the children busy and active!
https://www.thebodycoach.com/blog/pe-with-joe-1254.html

This week @ Kensington

I hope that you are all keeping well.

Thank you to everyone who has taken the time to respond to TTLT’s parent survey. If you haven’t had a chance then please take a moment to share your thoughts: https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/2020/CloE

I am sure you will have seen some of the discussions about September after yesterday’s announcements. As previously, we intend to open to all children from Monday 7th September. I know that some of you will be delighted about this, some of you will be cautious, and others will be extremely anxious. I am not a doctor. However, I would not be opening the school unless I felt the risks were acceptable. There is risk in everything that we do. All of the advice we have received from Public Health Newham and others who have far greater expertise than me suggest that there is a very low risk to children in particular but also to parents, families, and staff, of children returning to school.

Of course, September is a long way away still and we will continue to monitor the situation over the summer. If it were to change significantly then we would adapt our plans accordingly. For now, we are planning what we can do to reduce any risks associated with coronavirus. Every school will be different in regard to what it can do and how it chooses to balance the risks of coronavirus with the other risks children face: academic, communication, socialisation, isolation, physical and emotional health etc. There is a lot of guidance to work through and a lot to consider. As you know, it is only two weeks until the summer holidays. As soon as we have some further details to share with you, we will. As always, if you have specific thoughts, questions, or concerns, please do let us know.

Having seen some of the initial feedback from the surveys you have completed, it is clear that there are mixed feelings regarding how we have supported your children and yourselves during this time. As always, we will reflect on this and consider how we can use the feedback to further improve the support we provide in future. As I have said throughout, if you do have queries or concerns at any time, please do not hesitate to get in touch. Whilst there is always room for improvement, I would like to assure you that, throughout, we have carefully considered what we are doing and why and endeavoured to make the best decisions in line with our overall vision and ethos as a school.

As a father of two young children myself, I am aware of the challenges so many of you have faced and dealt with over the past months. Equally, there will be many challenges you have faced that I cannot imagine. I am sure this has been and continues to be exceptionally hard. As well as everything that we are doing to consider how we bring your children back and support them from September, we are also considering what else we can do to support you in any way that we can. We have launched the Kensington Food Bank as a first step in this. We will formally launch it in September but do get in touch if you need our support. We promise to be discrete and to support you in the way that you want to be supported. We are also reviewing our home learning offer and how we can further improve this. A first step will be to create short instructional videos that you can use to support you in everything from teaching phonics, to key maths concepts, to developing clear routines, and helping your child understand how to manage their behaviour effectively.

Watch this space! Again, if there is anything else you can think of that you might need and we may be able to help you with, please do let us know and we will do everything in our power to help.

Mr Ben Levinson
Head Teacher

No After school clubs or 6 O’ clock club or Breakfast club until further notice
Year 6's Socially Distanced Shakespeare Festival
To be or not to be ... a famous play-write or actor? That is the question on our pupils' minds this week! Studying the complexities of Shakespeare's Hamlet has been a welcome challenge and distraction for our kids. We have been acting out the play to help us understand the old fashioned language, the fast-paced plot and to empathise with the characters. This then inspired our very best writing ever - and we decided to make it extra special to send to our secondary school teachers next September so that they can see how talented and creative we are! The next two weeks will be full of acting, singing and prop making! We hope to film our socially distanced play and put it on the school website by the end of this term for all to see. If any year 6 children would like to be involved in the production, then they can join us at school for the next 2 weeks - just please call the office a day before to let them know. Thanks!

Follow us on Twitter and Facebook
We are now sharing latest news, stories from all the schools in the Trust on a central Facebook TTLT page and the @LearnTapscott Twitter feed continues to showcase some of the lovely events, activities and achievements from across the Trust.
It would be great to build up a greater following on these platforms. The Facebook Page is The Tapscott Learning Trust. The Twitter feed directed at parents is @LearnTapscott.
If you don’t already follow and use either of these then please do.

School Uniform (Reception-Year 6)
Please note that it is not compulsory to have uniform with the school logo on and children can wear plain clothing as follows:

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<tr>
<th>Winter</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>Black, navy or grey jogging bottoms</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>White t-shirt or polo shirt</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Navy sweatshirt, cardigan or fleece</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Summer</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Black, navy or grey jogging bottoms or shorts</td>
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<tr>
<td>White t-shirt or polo shirt</td>
<td>![Image]</td>
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<tr>
<td>Black, navy or grey jogging bottoms or shorts</td>
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<tr>
<td>White t-shirt or polo shirt</td>
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<tr>
<td>Black, grey or navy pinafores or skirts</td>
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<tr>
<td>Blue gingham dresses</td>
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Head scarves will need to be the stitched type in blue or white colour. Pinned headscarves are not allowed to be worn due to health and safety.
All of the above items can be purchased from any high street retailer.
Dear parents,

It is important to download the Study bugs app as this will be the form of communication between school and parents from now on.

Due to the recent uncertain changes, we are trying to reach all parents by sending messages through Study bugs.

Please follow the link to download the app: [https://studybugs.com/about/parents](https://studybugs.com/about/parents)

Kensington Primary School’s Top 3 reasons to use Studybugs:

1. It’s integrated with our systems so we know right away if your child is unaccounted for
2. It’s quick and easy to register and use and automatically reminds you to keep us posted.
3. You’ll be helping the NHS and other public health organisations improve children’s health. ([https://studybugs.com/about/schools](https://studybugs.com/about/schools))

For more information or support with downloading the app please speak to the office staff.

**TIPS for PARENTING**

Celebrate your family!

As summer holiday is approaching and we are uncertain about what places will be open and what activities children can do.

Try and focus on the positives. Celebrate the fact that you have this summer to spend together and create wonderful memories. Here are some ideas for you to try as a family.

- Create an enchanted garden around a tree trunk in the garden or plant pot in the house. Use fairy lights, flowers or anything magical you can find
- Organize toys or clothes into 'keep, ditch or share' (a good way to teach children to give in charity)
- Create a scrapbook of memories. You can include childhood photos, drawings, special items.
- Have a restaurant night at home, you can create a menu, decorate the table and take turns to serve the food
- Art attack afternoons. You can all draw/paint an item and then have your own art displayed at home.
- Have a dance off or your own mini concert
- Family quiz nights

Your own mini sports afternoons with obstacle course, challenges and mini prizes

Plan this together as a family, what activities or projects would everyone like to do and put the dates in the calendar. It gives you all something to look forward to and makes it feel more special.

End of Year reports will be sent out in the coming weeks via Study Bugs or email. If you haven’t yet signed up to Study Bugs please do so using the following link [https://www.kensington.newham.sch.uk/page/?title=Follow+Kensington&pid=116](https://www.kensington.newham.sch.uk/page/?title=Follow+Kensington&pid=116)

You will also be contacted via Study Bugs or email with important information about classes for next academic year. Please make sure you are aware of who your child’s new class teacher is and where to line up on Monday the 7th of September. All information will be sent before the 10th of July.

Summer learning guidance will be available on the school’s website by the 17th of July.

All Year 6 children must send back any resources that belong to the school including all reading books and unused study guides.

All Year 6 children have a Year Book Picture as a gift from the school – please come to the office to collect these.

All Year 6 children to check J2E regularly for important transition updates and access to ‘Goodbye Vlogs’.