

# Weekly Newsletter

**12<sup>th</sup> May 2023**

## This week @ Kensington

### Diary Dates & Events

#### Monday, 15<sup>th</sup> May

- Year 6 Zoom to Parents regarding FPH (7:00 – 8:00pm )

#### Wednesday, 17<sup>th</sup> May

- Y1I @ Transport Museum

#### Friday, 19<sup>th</sup> May

- New Reception in-school home visit—9:00 – 9:45am

#### Monday, 22<sup>nd</sup> May &

#### Tuesday, 23<sup>rd</sup> May

- Reception Home Visits—8:45am – 3:45pm

#### Wednesday, 24<sup>th</sup> May

- Y1E + Y1C @ Transport Museum

#### Thursday, 25<sup>th</sup> May & Friday, 26<sup>th</sup> May

- Year 3 Residential @ RPS & NBS

#### Year 4 Residential Trip to Chigwell Row

- 14<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> June 2023

### Attendance

**Whole school attendance:**

**96.5 %**

Dear Parents and Carers.

I hope you are all keeping well. Your children had a wonderful time at the Coronation Party this week and well done to Y6 for their positive attitude to the SATs.

I wanted to let you know that, following an intensive recruitment process, Mr Leeks will be formally taking up the role of Head of School from Monday 5<sup>th</sup> June. I will be remaining as the Executive Head. I will work closely with Mr Leeks and support his development and the strategic direction of the school. The rest of my time will be spent supporting The Tapscott Learning Trust in a variety of roles as well as continuing our work with our external partners, including chairing the Well Schools Board and my National Leader of Education work, supporting other schools. Mr Leeks will be in charge of the day-to-day running of the school. I know you will give him your full support as you have me and we are very excited to work together to continue developing the school as, 'a place everyone loves to be'. As always, if you have any questions, please come and speak to either myself, Mr Leeks, or another member of the team.

As you know, we are currently raising money for a major redevelopment of our playgrounds. There will be lots of fundraising events coming up and I wanted to ask for your support. On Monday 19<sup>th</sup> June I will be running an Ultra Marathon to raise money and I would love you to sponsor me! You can donate here: [https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/benlevinson50krun?utm\\_term=QwyV9r4ma](https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/benlevinson50krun?utm_term=QwyV9r4ma) or I'll be running round the playground with a bucket on Monday morning. See you there!

Mr Ben Levinson OBE  
Executive Head Teacher  
Kensington Primary School

## Learners of the Week

Saathvik YRF	Maysa Y2S	and	Shazad Y6P
Daniel YRH	All of Y2P	Ammara Amatul Y4G	All of Y6S
Cameron YRR	Manzar Y3B	Roxane Y4R	Saba Y6E
Bertrand Y1C	TanusriY3L	Hafsa Y4Y	
Zakariyya Lamba Y1I	Anthony Y3K	Ali Y5G	
Joel Y1E	Hanan Nassir,	Zakariya Y5M	
Zyran Y2G	Farheen Abdullah,	Laila Y5S	

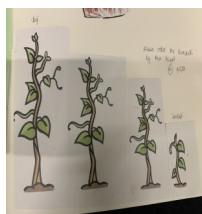
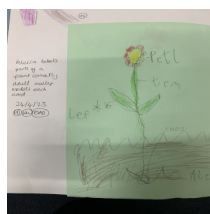


## Star Learners this Week are:

### STAR LEARNER OF THE WEEK EYFS & Year 1

The Star learner is Aleisa in YRH.

Aleisa joined us last term and has settled in really well. She has made friends and she has really enjoyed our topic of let's grow and in particular the story 'Jack and the Beanstalk'. Please have a look at her work



### STAR LEARNER OF THE WEEK Year 2-3

The Star learner is Tanusri in Y3L

Tanusri is the star learner for the amazing art work she has produced. Taking time to improve upon her drawing, using her knowledge of shadow and light.



### STAR LEARNER OF THE WEEK Year 4 - 6

The Star learner is Hafsa in Y4Y

Hafsa is always a star learner in Y4Y. She tries her hardest in every lesson and continually works hard to improve her work too. Her story plan this week has shown what a great imagination she has. Keep up all the hard work!



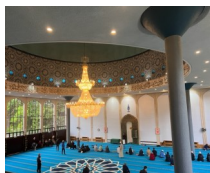
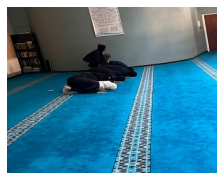
## TTLT Parent Survey

Please support us by completing the TTLT Parent Survey. ( please see link below). This has been designed to be a very short survey this year but the answers will help us in a variety of ways. As always your feedback is very important and we thank you for your continued support.

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/2ZD39YB>

## Year 5

In their culture lessons, children have been learning about Islam. As part of their learning they visited Regents Park Mosque where they had an opportunity to see how Muslims pray and learn a little bit more about Islam.



## Kensington Coronation Party

The crown competition winners are:

Yahya - AM

Amanda - PM

Rares - Y1C



## School attendance - A reminder to parents



**The Tapscott Learning Trust**  
Working together,  
achieving for all



### Absenteeism, Persistent Absenteeism and the issuing of fines / Court Orders

Dear Parents

Several parents have approached the school to question the school's position on absenteeism. In particular queries have been raised around recent letters issued to parents informing them of their child's attendance percentage, that they are required to attend meetings to discuss possible actions, including the issuing of fines or Court Orders.

It is the Department of Education/Ofsted that dictate attendance below **96% is poor and that below 90% is 'persistent absenteeism'**. The reasons for this have been made clear before; good attendance is vital for the success of pupils and their wellbeing. Our own school data, as well as that issued nationally, makes clear that poor attendance results in poorer outcomes for children.

### The Law

Children must attend school under the **Education Act 1996: section 444**. Poor attendance at school can result in one or more of the following:

- a Parenting Order
- an Education Supervision Order
- a School Attendance Order

a fine (sometimes known as a 'penalty notice')

Parents should understand that attendance is a concern for many children at our school – **These impacts on outcomes for children individually and the school as a whole.**

Schools also have a safeguarding duty, under **Section 175 Education Act 2002**, to investigate any unexplained absences

We will actively seek to enforce the necessary legal actions to address absence affairs where improvements are not seen and /or parents do not engage with or recognise the legitimate concern.

### They are only children; does it really matter?

The fact is that **children who attend school for less than 96% of the time underperform significantly**, this can also have a huge impact on their personal, social and emotional development as well as their academic progress. It is important that we equip children with the best possible skills in order for them to enjoy school and have the want and desire to achieve.

### But my child has been ill?

We fully understand that children become unwell however if these become reoccurring absences then the school will need to speak with you and seek alternative support from outside agencies. This could include a school nurse. Usually, children will display sickness late in the evening and early morning, this could be due to tiredness and not wanting to come in. Continue to get your child up and ready and monitor this for a short while. Some children will feel better once they are up and about. It is always good to question – 'Does my child need to be off school for the whole day' and if the absence is necessary. We are not medical practitioners and cannot make decisions on behalf of health professionals, or indeed parents – the choice is yours.

Your child's percentage will lower with both authorised and unauthorised absences. It is important to note that if your child has frequented unauthorised absences and you fail to engage with the school then you can face a penalty notice/fine.

### I cannot afford a fine, how will I pay the school?

Firstly, fines are not issued by, or paid to the school – despite what you may have read on social media or in popular press. The courts issue fines and the revenue is taken by them. If you cannot pay a fine, this is a matter for the courts and is dealt with in line with any other unpaid debts to the Crown. The school has no say in this.

### I will not pay the fine, what can they do to me?

Simply put, the fine increases to up to £2500. If you continue not to pay, you can get up to a 3-month prison sentence.

### I did not realise this and I have received a letter regarding my child's absence. What can I do?

Kensington Primary School is here to help you when and where we can.

- The first step is to attend the meetings you are invited to and to work with the school. This will be your chance to seek support if there are underlying reasons for the absences.
- Recognise that there is an issue, and do all you can to reverse any absence trends. This may be easier said than done, but it cannot be ignored for your child's sake. It is never too late.

Act promptly if you receive notices, attendance letters and/or court notices. They will not go away.

I wish to end by stating that it is my duty as Head Teacher to address poor attendance and the duty of my Governing Body to hold me accountable for it. The vast majority of parents at Kensington Primary School ensure their children attend in line with the expectation and I am grateful for this, as are my staff. I cannot however ignore that attendance in our school, for many children, is below that expected. It is a stark fact that whilst we are driving up standards across the school, many are missing out on and suffering as a result. This has a negative impact on the children and the wider school.

We have always had a firm stance on attendance matters and will continue to do so.

We fully ask for your support and co-operation with this.

## BREAKFAST CLUB

We provide a daily Breakfast Club, currently at a cost of **£1 per day**. Children are able to attend **daily from 7.30am**, and are provided with a variety of healthy breakfast options as well as indoor and outdoor activities. The latest admission to the Breakfast Club is 8.20am.



### 6 O' Clock Club @ Kensington Primary School

Only £15

#### Good News for all parents

- ▶ We started our 6 O'clock club to provide a safe and educational service from 3.15pm to 6.00pm every day.
- ▶ To encourage out-of-school activities that complement the service already provided by Kensington Primary School.
- ▶ Sport, art, board games and free play. Homework time is also provided.
- ▶ We offer literacy and numeracy activities that support and consolidate your child's learning from their year group
- ▶ Snacks and drinks will be provided at no extra cost.
- ▶ All the staff are from Kensington Primary school and are skilled and enthusiastic.

#### Interested?

Want to SIGN UP?

Contact the OFFICE for more information and to collect a contract

Places are subject to availability

Fees payable in advance either weekly, monthly or termly on School Money App

HURRY UP  
Places are  
limited



## THE FAMILY CYCLE CLUB @ KENSINGTON

Playground is open for all every Tuesday after school !!

Parents, toddlers, children are welcome to practice cycling with your own bikes in our playground every Tuesday from 3:30pm to 4:15pm.

**Please note: We are accepting donated bikes please**

**Dr Bike is available every 1st Tuesday of the Month (1st come 1st service basis please)**



## UNIFORM SALE:

Please purchase uniform [online](#), as the office is only accepting **ONLINE PAYMENTS**.

Please go to <https://eduspot.co.uk/> and under the SIGN IN button choose 'schoolmoney parent login'.

## Stay Warm in Newham

The Renewal Programme have launched their Stay Warm in Newham project and have opened their first warm bank on Tuesday 24th January.

Newham residents are encouraged to attend our warm bank sessions to access energy-related advice/services and activities, to help reduce energy cost. We also provide a welcoming space for residents to enjoy tea and coffee with some company.

Our warm bank runs three days a week on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Fridays from 11:00am- 1:00pm at **The Renewal Programme, 395 High Street North E12 6PG**.

You will have the opportunity to engage with our energy experts, Groundwork's Green Doctors, who will be there every Tuesday to offer advice to residents on how to reduce energy cost while keeping their home warm. They also provide in-depth referrals via telephone calls or home visits (subject to eligibility).

We are also providing hot meals every Wednesdays from 11:30am- 1:00pm and will be starting cooking classes very soon!

To find out more and/or to register your interest for the project, please visit our website: <https://www.renewalprogramme.org.uk/stay-warm-in-newham/>

For any questions, please email the project lead:

[kadiza.yasmin@renewalprogramme.org.uk](mailto:kadiza.yasmin@renewalprogramme.org.uk) OR [info@renewalprogramme.org.uk](mailto:info@renewalprogramme.org.uk)



**Struggling with rising energy costs?**  
Join our **warm bank sessions** and access the services below:

- Energy related support and advice from Groundwork's Green Doctors every Tuesday
- Referrals for in-depth energy support via telephone or home visits (subject to eligibility)
- Hot meals every Wednesday
- Cooking classes coming soon!
- Join us for a tea and coffee and good company!

**We are recruiting Volunteer Community Energy Advisors!**

Please register your interest with reception or on our website.

**Tuesdays, Wednesday & Fridays**  
11:00 am - 1:00 pm

**395 High St North**  
**E12 6PG**

[info@renewalprogramme.org.uk](mailto:info@renewalprogramme.org.uk)

0208 471 6954



GREEN DOCTOR



**Community Hot Meals**

at the Renewal Programme

Every Wednesday from 29th March

## Struggling with your energy bills?



**Call the Green Doctors**

**0300 365 3005**

Our Green Doctors can help you:

- Save money on your energy bills
- Install energy saving devices
- Tackle energy or water debt
- Priority Services Register

The call is free

**THE SERVICE IS FREE**

Green Doctors are part of Groundwork London, a charity that helps people save money, stay warm, and use less energy.

Find out more at  
[london.greendocors.org.uk](http://london.greendocors.org.uk)



GREEN DOCTOR

## The money you deserve



If you're eligible for the Warm Homes Discount but not claiming it, you are missing out on £140.

And if you're getting into debt over your energy bills, there may be grants that can support you.

We'll check what support you are eligible for and help you to apply for the money you deserve.

## Energy saving tips

- Use energy efficient lightbulbs
- Turn the thermostat down by 1°C
- Only boil as much water as needed in the kettle
- Turn appliances and chargers off at the plug



## The service we provide



We can offer energy efficiency advice, provide support to apply for:

- Warm Homes Discount
- WaterSure, Water Plus
- Priority Services Register, and connect you to other sources of help.

Our free energy consultations are available to anyone on a low income, or over 65 years old, or with a long term health condition or disability, or with children under 5.

Groundwork London is a registered charity No. 1121105

To book your free advice session or for more information: 0300 365 3005

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