



# KENSINGTON JUNIOR ACADEMY

## Newsletter

### KENSINGTON IN THE COMMUNITY

Our pupils have had a busy and exciting time in March! A huge congratulations to our Year 5 and 6 boys' football team for winning the ESSP tournament at Kirk Hallam Academy—what a fantastic achievement! Year 4 pupils had an inspiring visit to the Think Tank, exploring interactive science exhibits, and they also impressed us with their Halfway Violin Concert, showcasing the amazing progress they've made. Year 5 enjoyed a brilliant trip to the Yorkshire Wildlife Park, learning about incredible animals and conservation. Pupils have also been visiting Ilkeston Library, fostering a love of reading beyond the classroom. We got active for Comic Relief, with pupils taking part in 40 minutes of movement—we'll share the total raised once all donations are counted. World Book Day was a fantastic celebration of reading, with everyone dressing up as their favourite book characters.



## KEY DATES THIS YEAR

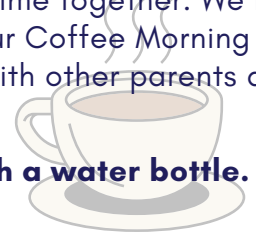
<b>Wednesday 26th and Thursday 27th March</b>	Spring Term Exhibition
<b>Friday 4th April</b>	Last day of Spring 2 term
<b>Tuesday 22nd April</b>	First day of Summer 1 term
<b>Thursday 24th April</b>	Year 4 - Families at the Table
<b>Thursday 8th May</b>	School photographs - year groups
<b>Friday 16th May</b>	KJA Film Night
<b>Wednesday 21st May</b>	World Culture Day
<b>Friday 23rd May</b>	Last day of Summer 1 term
<b>Monday 2nd June</b>	First day of Summer 2 term
<b>Saturday 14th June</b>	University of Nottingham - Family Discovery Day
<b>Thursday 19th June</b>	The Secret Garden Theatre Production in School
<b>Friday 27th June</b>	INSET Day - School closed to children
<b>Wednesday 2nd July and Thursday 3rd July</b>	Sports Days
<b>Friday 4th July - 3.15pm to 6.30pm</b>	Summer Fair
<b>Wednesday 9th July</b>	Y2 Transition Day (Various Y6 transitions days this week - please check with your allocated secondary school for details)
<b>Wednesday 16th July</b>	KJA Talent Show
<b>Thursday 24th July</b>	Last day of Summer 2 term

Every Thursday - Y4 Violin Lessons.  
Every Thursday - Y5 Swimming Lessons - please remember swimming kit.

**PE Days:**  
Monday - Year 5, Tuesday - Year 6  
Thursday - Year 4, Friday - Year 3  
PE kit should consist of a plain t-shirt and joggers or shorts.  
Football kits are not allowed.

## Reading Morning and Coffee Morning - Every Wednesday!

Come and join us every Wednesday morning from 8:45 AM to share a book with your child in class. It's a wonderful way to start the day, foster a love of reading, and spend quality time together. We look forward to seeing you there! Don't forget—after reading morning, we run our Coffee Morning - hosted by Mrs Bailey! Come along, enjoy a cuppa and a chat, and connect with other parents and staff in a relaxed setting. We'd love to see you there!



**Water bottle reminder - please ensure that your child comes to school with a water bottle. We only have a limited amount of plastic cups available.**

### Dinner Money Reminder

Please ensure that all outstanding dinner money balances are cleared by the end of term. Any unpaid amounts will be referred to our finance department.

School dinners should be paid in advance. If payment is not received, we may need to contact you to provide a packed lunch for your child. Unfortunately, we can only offer a sandwich for pupils who have not paid for their meals.

Thank you for your cooperation.

### Attendance Matters - Every Day Counts!

Regular school attendance is essential for your child's success, wellbeing, and development. Research shows that children with strong attendance achieve better results, so let's work together to keep attendance high!

We are moving to tracking attendance in terms of days lost rather than percentages, making it clearer for families to see the impact of missed school days.



Kensington Junior Academy

## WHY EVERY DAY COUNTS

Success at school starts with **attendance**

There are 175 non school days a year - that's 175 days to spend on family time, appointments, holidays, shopping and everything else.

There are 190 school days each year.

0-9 days of missed learning	10-18 days of missed learning	19+ days of missed learning
<b>Good</b>	<b>Worrying</b>	<b>Serious Concern</b>
Best chance of success and gets your child off to a flying start!	Less chance of success and makes it harder to progress.	It's just not fair on your child - and could lead to court action.



Instead of a rewards-based system, we are introducing a recognition approach, with postcards home, certificates, positive phone calls, and our new mascot, Kip the Kensington Kangaroo, reminding pupils that "Every Day Counts!"

Please avoid collecting your child early unless absolutely necessary. Wherever possible, schedule dentist or GP appointments outside school hours. Early departures disrupt learning for the whole class, as office staff have to interrupt lessons. Welfare Checks - In line with our attendance and safeguarding policies, if your child has been absent for three days, our attendance team may visit you at home to offer support, even if you have already informed us of the absence.

Thank you for your support in building a strong attendance culture at Kensington Junior Academy!

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