

# KESTRELS' FIELD PRIMARY



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## What a wonderful term!

As I sit here writing this, I have been reflecting on what a wonderful term it has been here at Kestrels'. Early on in the term I was fortunate enough to meet some of you at parent forums to hear your ideas and then seek wider opinion at parent's evening and on parental questionnaires. It was clear from the responses that there were four areas of school life, you felt could be improved. These were:

### **1. School offers a good range of community events**

*We introduced the Diwali event, Christmas Fair, put more on offer at parents evening, Christmas Crafts afternoon, Christmas carol afternoon and a new style learning drop in.*

### **2. The school environment is rich and exciting**

*The infant school has been cleared ready for some exciting displays in the Spring Term.*

### **3. Staff explain how I can help my child at home and provide appropriate homework**

*We introduced homework award. This, alongside our new behaviour policy starting in January, shows how much we value homework. Some of the homework we have seen has been phenomenal.*

### **4. I value the school clubs and think there is an exciting range for children**

*This has been reviewed and the cashless system discussed in this newsletter should help with this. More exciting clubs to be announced in the Summer Term.*

I joined a team who share my desire to work closely with parents and the community and I would like to thank you all for your continued support. Our community Diwali party was an important event to bring the whole community together and to unite around one fantastic school. It showed the huge potential we had when we join together. The buzz was tangible.

Finally, I would like to thank the wonderful children at KFP, who make me smile every single day. Their attitude, spark and desire to 'be the best they can be' is wonderful!

Have a happy, safe and restful Christmas. Enjoy the family time together and I'll see you for another wonderful term starting on **Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> January.**

**Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year ☺**



## As the term draws to a close we wave good bye to ..

"It has been a lovely experience but now I am off to explore different dreams. A huge thank you to all the amazing parents who have always been patient and polite! Once again thanks to you all" – From Mrs Atkins

**Mrs Atkins**  
**Office Manager**

**Mrs Gorman**  
**Admin Assistant**

Mrs Gorman is also leaving us to pursue her career. We wish her well and thank her for the hard work she has given to Kestrels' Field.

**Mrs Naylor**  
**Year 2 Teacher**

Mrs Naylor returned to Kestrels' temporarily. Thank you for being part of the year 2 team. The children have really enjoyed learning with you.

**Mrs French**  
**Year 2 Teacher**

After 9 years teaching at Kestrels', we say farewell to Mrs French who will be taking up a teaching post closer to where she lives. Thank you for your hard work and all the best.

Thank you for your patience whilst we restructure and re-employ admin staff for the offices. Job adverts will be live from next Friday. The adverts will be on our school websites.

Thank you to Mrs Pickering who will be moving into Year 2 to take over from Mrs Naylor and Mrs French. Year 1 will become 3 classes of 28 from January. A separate letter has been sent about this to Mrs Pickering's class.

## Christmas Countdown!

	<b>18</b> <b>Tesco Christmas Carol singing for the community</b> <b>Defibrillator throughout the day</b>	<b>19</b> <b>Christmas Lunch</b> Sitting 1- 12:15pm Sitting 2 – 1:15pm <b>PM – Santa visit to infants</b>	<b>20</b> <b>Non- uniform day</b> <b>AM - Santa visit to Juniors</b>
<b>51</b>	8:45am – KS1 Vicar Assembly 9:30am – KS2 Vicar Assembly	<b>Nursery Carols</b> <b>2:15-2:45</b>	Assembly- infants 8.45 Assembly – juniors 1.15pm <b>Community Carols by Candlelight in classrooms</b> <b>Infant 2-2.30</b> (take your child with you after the performance if you wish) <b>Junior 2.45-3.15</b>

### Parent Governor elections

The deadline for your parent governor nominations is **TUESDAY**. Please return your form ticking 2 names. The 2 chosen parents will be announced on Twitter on **Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup>**.

### Crossing Patroller

We are pleased to inform you that we have a new crossing patroller for Kestrels lane 😊



## An introduction from Mr D Hansen – Deputy Headteacher

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself as Deputy Headteacher at Kestrels' Field from January 2018. I am really excited to be joining the school team and I am very much looking forward to meeting all of you and seeing the children's learning in action.

I have been a teacher and senior leader in three schools in Bedfordshire and have taught across the primary age range. I am passionate about helping children to develop their independent learning skills in order to be fully prepared for life in the 21<sup>st</sup> century and be the best they can be.

I went to the University of Leicester from 2004-07 and I have many fond memories of the city and the surrounding areas. I would like to meet as many of you as possible in order to understand how we can better improve as a school in order to create better outcomes for children. Please do not hesitate to contact me or arrange an appointment via the school office if you have any questions or queries.

I'm looking forward to seeing you all soon. ☺

We are really proud to have achieved the Silver Award for Eco-Schools. Well done to the Eco Warriors, Mrs Bhavsar for leading it and to all of the children and staff for being more eco aware. Huge achievement.



Miss Charles and Mrs Goulding are launching a **PTA** in the Spring term. If you would like to join them, please attend an initial meeting at 3.45 at the infant site on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> January. If you are interested, but this time is inconvenient, please email [agoulding@kestrelsf.Leicester.sch.uk](mailto:agoulding@kestrelsf.Leicester.sch.uk)

### Science update- Mrs Hill

We have had a very busy science club with the year 5s and 6s this term. We have been learning all about how to survive in space and exploring what we would need on a rocket to go to Mars. To do this, the children have been creating their own rockets, looking at how to blast the rockets into space and finally, creating cross-sections showing what the inside of the rocket would look like!



### My new favourite App:

Recently, we have downloaded and started to use the App ChatterPix Kids. It is a free App and is great fun. The children take a photo, use a photo they have previously taken or use an image from the internet. They then add a mouth and sound to create a talking picture. It is great for any ages - my Year 6 class love it! We have used in our English lessons to make our characters come alive! Did you see our examples on Twitter last week? Why not download it and have a go at home?  
Mrs Irons





## Upcoming Spring Term dates - 2018

	Assembly	Events
<b>Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> January</b>	School Opens to children	
<b>Friday 19<sup>th</sup> Jan</b>	<b>Class 19/9-</b> Martin Luther King Assembly	
<b>Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> &amp; Weds 7<sup>th</sup> Feb</b>	PARENTS EVENING	
<b>Monday 12<sup>th</sup> Feb</b>	HALF TERM	
<b>Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> Feb</b>	<b>Class 4/18-</b> Chinese new year Assembly	
<b>Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> March</b>	<b>Class 3/14-</b> world book day (THURS) Assembly	All children can dress up for <b>WORLD BOOK DAY</b>
<b>Friday 9<sup>th</sup> March</b>		Afternoon for Mums and Grandmas - crafts
<b>Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> March</b>	<b>Class 2/13-</b> world poetry day Assembly	Easter egg hunt for the children in the afternoon.
<b>Monday 26<sup>th</sup> March – Friday 6<sup>th</sup> April</b>	Easter Holidays	

## Academic year 2018/19 dates

As you may know there has been some controversy around the school term dates for **2018-19**. Leicester City Council and Leicestershire could not agree on the October half term date. We understand the devastating effect that this has on consistency, childcare and opportunities to get away as a family. Our staff are also facing difficulties around this. If you see any future petitions around this (we will tweet links) please make sure that you sign. It won't help for this time, but might for the future. With this in mind I am sharing with you Kestrels' opening dates for 2018-19. These will also be on the website.

**AUTUMN 1** Weds 29<sup>TH</sup> August- Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> October

**HALF TERM FOR CHILDREN** Friday 19<sup>th</sup> October – Friday 26<sup>th</sup> October

**AUTUMN 2** Monday 29<sup>th</sup> October- Friday 21<sup>st</sup> December

**CHRISTMAS BREAK FOR CHILDREN** Monday 24<sup>th</sup> December – Monday 7<sup>th</sup> January

**SPRING 1** Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> January- Friday 15<sup>th</sup> February

**HALF TERM HOLIDAY** Monday 18<sup>th</sup> February- Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> February

**SPRING 2** Monday 25<sup>th</sup> February – Friday 12<sup>th</sup> April

**EASTER HOLIDAY** Monday 15<sup>th</sup> April – Friday 26<sup>th</sup> April

**SUMMER 1-** Monday 29<sup>th</sup> April – Friday 24<sup>th</sup> May

**HALF TERM** Monday 27<sup>th</sup> May – Friday 31<sup>st</sup> May

**SUMMER 2 –** Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> June – Friday 12<sup>th</sup> July

**SUMMER HOLIDAY-** Monday 15<sup>th</sup> July -