



# KNAPHILL NEWS

THE KNAPHILL FEDERATION OF SCHOOLS  
Knaphill Lower & Junior Schools - "Together we are Better"

February 2017

## Lower School Edition

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Dear Parents and Carers, Pupils, Staff and Governors,

Welcome to the first edition of 'Knaphill News' our new newsletter which will keep you informed of all school information and curriculum events across the Early Years (Year N and R), Key Stage 1 (Years 1 and 2) and across the Federation. We hope you like the new format! What a wonderful start to the new year it has been. The children have all really enjoyed their new topics and were very proud to share their work with you at Parent's Evening. It was wonderful to see so many of you there, to share in their achievements and find out how you can support their 'next steps' at home. If you haven't already done so, please look at our weekly year group blogs on the website. These inform you of topics and learning covered in class and photographs, websites and activity ideas are also shared to help you support your child's learning at home. Please take a look! We are also pleased to announce our new Federation website page from which parents can access both the Lower and Junior School websites. Please have a look at [www.knaphillfederationofschools.org.uk](http://www.knaphillfederationofschools.org.uk)



Miss Concannon, Head of School (Lower)

### Federation News

Our move to working much more closely across our federation is now well underway. As part of this we will be updating our uniform with the new federation logo and adopting the same uniform in both the Lower and Junior Schools.

We have been in discussion with Valentino Schoolwear who is happy to put our new uniform into production and, as stock runs out on different sizes, they will re-order with the new logo. We hope that the new pupils coming into Reception and Year 3 will be in the new uniform from next September, and that by September 2018 all pupils (except for those in year 6 who may wear either) will be in the new uniform.

The uniform items remain the same as currently, with two exceptions, both in the Lower School. The red polo shirt will be replaced by a white polo shirt, and the red checked summer dress will be replaced by green check. We have also introduced an extra item for Key Stage 2, a tracksuit jacket that can be worn in cold weather for outdoor PE, it can be worn over the PE kit and school jumper to add an extra layer, although this is not compulsory. Here are some photos of the jumper, cardigan and polo shirt with the new logos,



We are also in the process of looking at book bags / PE bags to ensure they are fit for purpose. We will inform you of final decisions on these as soon as we have made them, but parents need not worry about purchasing new bags until the ones they have currently are worn out.

As we are growing closer as schools, we hope that by having the same uniform throughout all the Key Stages, the children will develop more of a sense of belonging to the federation, not just to an individual school. It should also be cheaper for parents who will be able to hand items down to younger siblings more easily.

Mrs Mackintosh, Federation Headteacher

## Nursery

This half term we have had the excitement of introducing new friends into the setting. We are incredibly proud of all of the children who have newly settled with us, and for the high expectations set out by our older children.

This half term we have been focussing our learning around the topic of 'Traditional Tales', particularly 'The Gingerbread Man', 'Jack and the Beanstalk' and 'The Three Billy Goats Gruff'.

We have thoroughly enjoyed sharing stories and re-enacting our favourites.



## Reception

In Reception we have had a fantastic start to the new term. We have been celebrating different cultures and countries through international week and Chinese New Year.

We have wrapped up warm while going outside, and have found ice in our outside area while observing the changing weather and environment.

We have enjoyed discovering what happens to water, chocolate and mud at differing temperatures. The chocolate buttons even made our hands sticky and chocolatey!



The gingerbread man story came to life in Reception when we baked our own gingerbread men and retold the story in different ways.

We have been applying what we have learnt through different ways. We have used (cm) and non-standard units of measure. We have used more and less which involves addition and subtraction doing more of in the new



the numbers that we measured in looked at standard (gingerbread men) we learnt the language links in nicely to which we will be term.

Don't forget to check our blog on the school website, for weekly updates!

## Year 1

This half term in Year 1 has been very creative. We started by learning all about the different features of a Christian Church. We were fortunate enough to visit the local Holy Trinity Church where we went on a scavenger hunt around the church looking for different Christian symbols. Next we focussed on geography where we all looked at the various types of weather. We even had a go at presenting the weather forecast! In Science we used our knowledge of the weather to keep a weather diary and create a pictogram of all the types of weather we had seen over a week.



Later in the half term we began learning about Beethoven, and had the experience of listening to multiple pieces of music of different genres whilst creating a piece of artwork using various media. The pieces of work created were stunning and they are proudly displayed in our topic books.



To celebrate Chinese New Year we were told the story of how each animal came to have a year named after them. We also made Chinese lanterns and decorated our own Chinese dragon, and had a chance to practise some Chinese writing.



This half term has been jammed packed with lots of exciting and creative learning and we cannot wait to see just what amazing things will happen next!

## Year 2

In English the children have read and compared Hansel and Gretel, and Baba Yaga using drama and story maps. They have discussed joining sentences using a range of or, and or but. The children have written their own witch stories using story pegs to plan. They have been introduced to some 'story language' & encouraged to include interesting endings. They have been introduced to writing instructions and explored features of instructions including bossy verbs.

In maths the children have been learning about money and properties of shape. They are able to recognise and use symbols of pounds (£) and pence (p) and combine amounts to make a particular value. They have been solving simple problems in a practical context involving addition and subtraction of money of the same unit, including giving change. They have identified and describe the properties of 2D and 3D shapes and identified lines symmetry in a vertical line. The children have used mathematical vocabulary to describe position, direction and movement. In science the children have been exploring world, local and micro habitats. In topic, they have been learning about Kenya. Please see our year group blogs for weekly updates on your child's learning.



## International Week

We have had an amazing week exploring different countries and cultures. Each class has spent time finding out what countries children come from and countries they have been to. A

highlight of the week was having the opportunity to take part in an African Drumming workshop. It was thoroughly enjoyed by all the children and was an immense pleasure to see such big beaming smiles.



In Nursery the children have been learning about animals which come from Africa through art and stories.

Reception classes have focused on looking at the United Kingdom. The children have had a delicious English Afternoon Tea; created Scottish tartan patterns, had a go at Irish Dancing and created replicas of the Severn Bridge.

Year 1 have been learning about countries in Europe. The children have learnt some French and Spanish; explored the culture of Italy, created their own Roman mosaics; made Italian gelato; designed Greek plates and tried some Greek dancing.

In year 2 the children have learnt about North and South America. They have written fantastic facts about different habitats in South America, studied what a rainforest is and created their own news report about deforestation.

As part of our Travel around the World experience all year groups and staff dressed up in national costumes or colours of flags. Some children brought in fantastic artefacts and information about the country they were representing.

We greatly appreciated the parents who gave their time to share with the children

their personal cultural experiences. It truly has been an incredible week.

Thank you to Mrs Toogood for organising it.



## Reading



It has been yet another busy term for reading at Knaphill Lower School. All the children have been busy enjoying guided and individual reading lessons in class and reading for pleasure both at school and at home. The introduction of BUG CLUB has been extremely successful, with children accessing interactive reading books online. Children can answer about what they have read as they progress through the text. Books are changed half termly and are appropriate to their individual reading abilities. The children's individual logins can be found on the back cover of their Reading Diaries. Please speak to your child's Class Teacher if you would like to find out any more information. We have some extremely exciting activities planned for Book Week this year culminating in an exciting visit from a well-known author! Further information will follow shortly.

On our website you will find some excellent resources to help parents to support reading at home. Follow this link...

<http://www.knaphill-lower.surrey.sch.uk/page/?title=Reading&pid=105>

## Mathematics

This half term Maths learning at Knaphill Lower School has continued to go from strength to strength. In the Nursery, the children have been looking at counting and measuring and measured Jack's beanstalk! In Reception, children have been doing measures and weights and looking at counting on one more and one less. In Key Stage 1 the children are embracing the Mastery curriculum and are enjoying using reasoning and problem solving in their lessons. In January, teaching staff from across the federation welcomed Tom Collins our local Maths Mastery specialist to the Knaphill Federation of Schools. Tom provided training and support to teachers in how to successfully deliver the mastery maths curriculum to children. It has really helped the teachers contextualise problems and explain concepts for the children in their Maths lessons.

The introduction of Mathletics is also proving to be a great success with children across Key Stage 1, with over 50% of pupils already accessing the new online maths program at home. If you haven't already logged on, children's individual logins can be found at the back of their Reading Diaries. Mathletics is a fantastic resource in which tasks are set by their Class Teachers to support their school learning. Each child has been given their own unique login and password, which you can find attached to the back cover of their Reading Diaries. Please encourage your child to get involved by logging onto: [www.mathletics.co.uk](http://www.mathletics.co.uk) ENJOY!

On our website you will find some excellent resources to help parents to understand maths in school and how to support at home. Follow this link...

<http://www.knaphill-lower.surrey.sch.uk/page/?title=Mathematics&pid=81>

## Computing – Safer Internet Day

Children were reminded about staying safe online as they all celebrated **Safer Internet Day** on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> February. Children watched a short film about what is safe to watch online and asking before you watch. This led to discussions about what is safe; being responsible, and what to do if you feel unhappy about something you see on the internet. KS1 children have also produced their own Internet Safety Rules which will be displayed in the LRC and around school. It is very important that we all talk to children about staying safe online. Understanding what children do online and the risks they face will help us to keep them safe.

The following two documents contain useful information for parents and carers:

For the under 5s:

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/globalassets/documents/advice-and-info/online-safety-under-5s.pdf>

For 5 to 11 year olds:

<http://www.nspcc.org.uk/globalassets/documents/advice-and-info/online-safety-primary-school-children.pdf>

Mr Sibley, Computing Co-ordinator



## News from Pupil Parliament

This term Pupil Parliament has got off to a flying start. Our new Spring Term Pupil Parliament representatives have been picked from all Key Stage 1 classes. They are enjoying their new roles and responsibilities and have attended regular Pupil Parliament meetings and are enjoy contributing to the whole school ethos.



We started off the half term by having an introductory meeting where all the new members met one other. Each member explained how they would like to make an impact whilst being a member, and which elements of Pupil Parliament they were most excited about. The half term continued and so did the great work of the Pupil Parliament. We had a meeting to discuss 'How to say sorry' and the Pupil Parliament children helped breakdown the process into simple steps. I will put these on display as a simple reminder to all.

Mrs Merrin, Pupil Parliament Staff Co-ordinator

## Sports News

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### Active Surrey KS1 PE Mark

We are thrilled to have been awarded an Active Surrey Star Mark for our KS1 PE. The Star Mark is an Active Surrey initiative to bring similar county-wide recognition for KS1 schools and more importantly, allow schools to map a path for the development of teaching staff in delivering PE and school sport. This award has been achieved through participating in the Woking Schools Learning Partnership events, extra-curricular and inter house activities. Well done to all involved!

### Curriculum News

A lot has been happening in PE at Knaphill Lower School as follows:

- Intra festival between year groups - end of term multi skills competitive tournament to try and score the quickest times in relay races
- Sport heroes of the month on our PE display
- Positive play training for supervisors to enhance free play physical education - planning to get a track painted etc to adhere to the desires.
- S4K have given specialist dance training to all teachers to build our confidence and ability to teach movement and dance effectively for boys and girls.
- Zumba club and hockey, football and multi skills clubs run after school each week.
- New equipment given by Active Surrey to enjoy e.g. balls of all sizes for different activities (£300 worth!)
- Key stage one children went to St. Hugh of Lincoln School for an inter schools festival - certificates given.

Miss Rashbrook, PE Co-ordinator

## News from the PTA

Thank you to our hardworking PTA team who always organise such excellent events. The next event is the Race Night, planned for Friday 10<sup>th</sup> March at 7.30pm at Knaphill Lower School. Please book your tickets as soon as possible!

The money raised by the PTA is very important to the school. The funding schools now receive from Government has been slashed so the school is relying more and more on parental contributions.

Thank you to the PTA for their contribution towards the refurbishment of the old KLIC – now called The Hive. We are now using this room for meetings, staff training and renting it out to other organisations, thus bringing much needed revenue into the school.





## Website

Please note our website now has loads of information to help parents with their child's learning at home. Please take a few moments to have a look ...

<http://www.knaphill-lower.surrey.sch.uk/page/?title=Curriculum&pid=28>



We are pleased to announce our new Federation website page from which parents can access both the Lower and Junior School websites. Please have a look at [www.knaphillfederationofschools.org.uk](http://www.knaphillfederationofschools.org.uk)

## Diary Pages

### Remaining Term Dates - Academic year 2016/2017



#### Spring Term 2017

Start of Term	Half Term	End of Term
3 January 2017	13 February–17 February 2017	31 March 2017

#### Summer Term 2017

Start of Term	Half Term	End of Term
18 April 2017	29 May–2 June 2017	20 July 2017

On behalf of the staff and governors of the Knaphill Federation of Schools, we hope you all have a relaxing half term.

Thank you for your continued support.

Kind regards

Miss J. Concannon

Head of School

