

Kender Newsletter



kenderschool

Tuesday 16th December 2025



Wednesday 17th
December,
Nursery Christmas
Morning



Wednesday 17th
December,
Christmas Lunch



Thursday 18th December,
School closes at 2.30pm

Friday 19th December,
INSET Day#3 for staff;
school closed to children



Monday 5th January
2026, school reopens for
children.



Wednesday 7th & 14th
January 2026, our last
Open Mornings before
the closing date.
9.15 am.

Dear Mums, Dads and Carers,

We have made it!!! Last week of a very long term. Thank you all so much for your continuing support. I have written to staff as I do each year at this time. I have thanked them for all their hard work and enthusiasm for supporting all the children. As part of my letter I have stated; *'now is time for rest. We will return in 2026 even stronger and even more determined to keep delivering excellence for the children and families at Kender.'*

I do hope you can rest and enjoy some family time at this festive time of the year.

Below is a summary of some of the work undertaken this term, and what might lie ahead.

Thank you to everyone who joined us for the **Winter Fair**. This is the first fair since 2017 and from all the feedback it will be back next year. Huge thanks and appreciation to all the parents and staff who made it possible. And, it raised...see the end of this newsletter...

The **Carol Concerts** we're lovely. Again, thank you for your support by attending and enjoying the children's performances.

I am delighted to inform you that we have submitted a **bid for up to £150k** for the expansion of our Nursery provision. Ms Luxmoore and the Nursery team have worked really hard in putting together this bid which could see us accommodate 2yrOlds from September 2026. Let's hope we get chosen...

We are making a few adjustments to the teaching team from January this year. We have emailed all parents separately with some further background information. In essence this is the summary:

- Ms Jeffery will move from Year Three to join the team in Reception.
- Ms Allali will become the new teacher for Year three Tsang class.
- Ms Duck will move to the Year five as a regular additional HLTA supporting the class teacher.
- Extra capacity s being added to the SEND support team to further assist key individuals to make progress with their learning.

This term is the first term of our new system for the **payment for trips**. I promised I'd set out a summary at the end of each term to assess how effective this change has been. Below is a total of how much has been spent so far and how much has been collected from each year group.

Since September we have paid £4500 on costs for trips. At the same time we have collected £4621 from parents, which is money that will need to cover costs over the next two terms too. Money collected from Year groups ranges from £442 to £829; parents please keep helping us to deliver our programmes for personal development by making the contributions: £50 per child or two payments of £25.

There remain many payments outstanding so please, if you know you have not made your contributions there is still time next term. The costs are just for a single term. These will increase as we move through the spring term. Further costs will include swimming for Year five, which will be about the same cost as already paid for Year Four.

PTO...

Term Dates: 2025/26
Autumn Term

INSET day: Monday 1st
September

School re-opens: Tuesday
2nd September

INSET day: Monday 22nd
September

Autumn Half-term
Monday 27th October to
Friday 31st October.
School re-opens
Monday 3rd November

**School closes early to
children for Christmas
break, Thursday 18th
December, at 2.30pm.**

INSET day: Friday 19th
December

Spring Term

School re-opens for
children on Monday 5th
January 2026

Half-term
Monday 16th February to
Friday 20th February,

School re-opens for
children on Monday 23rd
February 2026

**School closes, 2.30pm on
Friday 27th March.**

Summer Term
School re-opens for
children on Monday 13th
April 2026

Half-term
Monday 25th May to
Friday 29th May

School re-opens to
children Monday 1st June
2026

**School closes to children
for the summer break,
Friday 17th July, at
2.30pm.**

INSET day: Monday 20th
July

INSET day: x1 still to
allocate

Autumn Term 2026

School re-opens to
children Thursday 3rd
September 2026

PE

The days we have P.E. can sometimes vary so please ensure your child has their P.E. kit on a Monday and takes it home on a Friday.

Reading

Please read at home every day. Your child should bring their reading record and book into school every day. We will change books once a week. We also have daily whole Class focused Guided lessons Reading.

Homework

As well as reading, homework is assigned each week on Fridays and should be returned to school by Wednesday the following week.

A key piece of work this academic year is the review and updating of our **Teaching & Learning policy**. Teachers and School Leaders have already made a start at looking at essential components and have planned a series of actions in the spring term. We will be seeking your help too. Early in the spring term we will send you a Teaching & Learning Survey to help assess your thoughts and knowledge about how this affects your child or children, please look out for this survey and complete it as best you can.

I am delighted with the quality of teaching this term. We have an excellent team of teachers at Kender, supported exceptionally well by our equally capable support staff team. We are confident that the review of our policy will provide a dynamic insight to help your understanding how we deliver the best learning.

When we return in January, we will have two further Open Mornings for Reception 2026: Wednesday 7th January and Wednesday 14th January; both at 09.15. Please alert neighbours and friends, there is an Instagram post serving as a helpful reminder. Do try and follow us on Instagram.

In the meantime, I will wish you all a very happy Christmas and the best of wishes for a peaceful and prosperous 2026.

Mr.Barr (Headteacher)



If you have any concerns please contact the school office.

Phone number: 020 76394654

Fok/PTA: £3000 raised at the Winter Fair. Wow!!!

KENDER BIKE BUS!

In the summer term a group of parents will be starting a Kender Bike Bus on Fridays, starting from Friday 17th April 2026.

A bike bus is a group of parents/carers and kids who meet at an agreed location at 8.20am on Fridays to bike to school together, giving us the chance to enjoy riding together and gain confidence cycling on the road. This is an accessible ride suitable for all children from Reception age (provided they can ride a bike without stabilisers).

Kids need to be accompanied by an adult, which means we'll all need our own bikes – if you are interested but you or your child doesn't have a bike yet, get in touch with Lewisham Cyclists who have second hand bikes to sell cheaply. You can contact them on lewishamcyclists@gmail.com or www.lewishamcyclists.org.uk. Kender also has some kids' bikes they might be able to loan out for the bike bus.

To be added to the Bike Bus WhatsApp broadcast channel and find out the starting point each week, message Mary on 07584 671182 or join via link <https://chat.whatsapp.com/>