



Twitter: @KenderSchool or @SBM

Class Twitter: eg @KendVahl

Web-site: kender.lewisham.sch.uk

Friday 15th January 2018, spring term, issue 1.

From the Headteacher

Happy New Year

From everyone at Kender we extend the warmest of wishes for the New Year ahead. I hope you all managed to have a restful and relaxing break over the last two weeks. Thank you too for all the cards and gifts given at the end of last term. These are always unexpected but very much appreciated, thank you.

Back to school

We are delighted that so many children have returned to school for the two days of this week. To a greater extent we are bound by the Local Authority when we set dates for our school terms and we know when there are broken weeks at the start or end of a term attendance rates drop. However, it is important for children to be in school everyday of the school year as there is clear link between attendance at school and the progress children make.

Below are the attendance figures for this week and as you can see all classes are below where they were before the Christmas break. Well done to Reception classes for being over 96%.

Attendance: This week: 90.0% - needs to be much better please!!

Rec: 96.2% Yr1: 87.4% Yr2: 80.1% Yr3: 85.5% Yr4: 93.2% Yr5: 93.5% Yr6: 91.8%

Absence during term time

Please see this extract from our Attendance Policy:

The (Government) regulations make it clear that parents do not have any right or entitlement to take a child out of school for the purposes of a term time holiday. If parents take their child on holiday during term time this will be counted as unauthorised absence – this is an illegal absence.

Term time absence will only be authorised in exceptional circumstances. Each request will be dealt with on a case by case basis.

Events in January...

Wednesday 10th January: Open Morning, for parents new to Reception, 9.15am

Saturday 13th January: school football teams play on Blackheath

Saturday 27th January: school football teams play on Blackheath

Wednesday 31st January: SSAT Peer Review Day

Newsletter...

This term we will continue to send home a newsletter on the first Friday of each month. We will use the website as much as possible for dates and news items. There is an App for smart phones called **School News**. If you download this app - just search for the App within your App store - news from Kender School website will be sent straight to your phone. We'd like as many mums and dads to try using this app to gauge how effective it is as a means of sending updates on essential news.

In addition, the office team will send essential updates via text message. When you meet your child's new class teacher we will ask you to update your contact details. It is essential that we have your accurate contact details.

Questions, questions, questions...

One central theme of our staff development for this term is questioning. We are encouraging children to ask more and more questions and in turn we are asking them many more too. There are lots of different types of questions and there is a wealth of information via the internet about how the effective use of questions can stimulate learning. We'll send more information to you as the term progresses.

In the meantime, please help us to help them by trying to ask each other lots of different questions during your conversations and family time.

Growth

This is our whole school value for the term and is linked to ideas around having a Growth Mindset. We have asked children to think of areas of personal growth for themselves over the coming weeks. Perhaps you could share your thoughts and ideas with each other too. Mums and dads we'd like to see you with Growth Mindsets too!

I wish you all a good weekend.

Best wishes,

Keith Barr

(Headteacher)