

**CHARLTON KINGS INFANTS' SCHOOL
LYEFIELD ROAD EAST
CHARLTON KINGS**

Letter: 09/16-17

8th September 2017

Dear parents and carers,

Welcome back to a new school year. I hope that you and your families have had a relaxing and enjoyable summer break and that the batteries are re-charged ready for another exciting school year. We are so pleased that our previous Year 2 children have settled well into junior school life and are excited to welcome our new Reception children and their families to our wonderful school. Since I took on the post as your Head teacher in January, I have welcomed the opportunity for us to meet regularly, either out on the playground in the mornings or after school and during planned events. In our strive to ensure that CKIS is an outstanding learning environment for all, I continue to welcome your views on what is going well and your thoughts on what we could do even better. We have a number of planned events during the next term when we can meet together, the first being at our MacMillan coffee morning on Friday 29th September (more details to follow shortly). Please do ensure that you look at our school website regularly as all planned events are detailed on our school calendar. I will also continue to publish a regular newsletter which will be emailed to all and available on our website once a month.

Staff news:

We are delighted to welcome back Mrs Koller and Mrs Tyler from their maternity leave. Mrs Kear remains on maternity leave at present. We welcome Mrs De Cuy to Violet class as an additional member of staff. Here's how our school is set up for the new school year:

Team:	Lead practitioner:	Key person and Assistants:
Kindergarten	Mrs Howie	Mrs Mason, Mrs Cuciurean, Mrs Tacey, Mrs Russell, Mrs Cowell, Mrs Fulvio-Mason, Mrs Coombe
	Class teacher:	Teaching Assistants:
Reception	Mrs Parsons (Red class) Miss Maclachlan (Yellow class) Miss Muskett (Blue class)	Miss Bubb Mrs Rowe Mrs Roberts
Year 1	Mrs Jones and Mrs Fox (Green class) Mrs Tyler / Mr Bracey (Purple class) Miss Weyman (Orange class)	Mrs Nevin, Mrs Herbert, Mrs Fulvio Mason/Mrs Scrivin (part time) Mrs Ralph Mrs Driscoll, Mrs Angrave/Mrs Wiggins (part time)
Year 2	Mr Owens (Magenta class) Mrs Koller / Mrs Morgan (Indigo class) Mrs Hunt / Mrs Tayler (Violet class)	Mrs Pritchard Mrs Jeffree and Mrs Simpkin Mrs Tayler/ Mrs Miller (part time) Mrs De Cuy

Attendance:

- Thank you for ensuring that your child arrives to school on time and lines-up promptly at 8.50am with their friends and teacher. This ensures that your child is settled and ready for their key early morning learning activities.
- Please inform the school office on the first morning of any absence. If we haven't heard anything from you by playtime, as is our practice, we will contact you.
- Regular attendance at school is vital to support your child's emotional well-being and learning. Please can I therefore remind you that requests for absence from school will only be granted in **exceptional circumstances**. It will not be granted for odd days attached to weekends or for special birthday treats. Any requests for absence should therefore be made in writing to myself outlining the exceptional circumstances surrounding the request.

Free school meals:

As all children within the school are entitled to universal free school meals (UFSM), we are aware that some children may be missing out on additional funding despite their eligibility for free school meals. Families who are in receipt of one or more of the following are entitled to free school meals, and by registering, unlock vital funding that the school can use to support their child:

- Income support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under part V1 of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on, paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit

Applying for Free School Meals – Parents/carers can register for free school meals by completing a short online form using the web address: <http://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/education-and-learning/school-transport-and-free-school-meals/apply-for-free-school-meals/>

Key developments over the summer holidays and planned developments this term:**Class and Kids Club move:**

Orange class has moved from the old school building into the 'Studio' to ensure that all Year 1 children are in the same area within the school and have access to a rich indoor and outdoor learning environment. During the summer we had new windows, a door and new paving laid to ensure children are able to access the classroom safely. Our 'Kids Club' (before and after school club) has therefore moved into the old school building and the previous orange class base. They will access both the class base, the library area and a secure outdoor space. Please do bear with us as we settle into our new environments and face the inevitable teething problems that any change brings.

New outdoor play space for Kindergarten:

Our Reception and Year 1 children are now accessing the outdoor learning environment throughout the day. Our wonderful PFA have funded new outdoor equipment and resources for all year groups and we look forward to using these to support and enhance children's learning and development. We have therefore arranged for a new purpose built area to be developed for our Kindergarten children and look forward to work starting on this at the beginning of October.

New school management system:

We have purchased a new school management system which will enhance our day to day organisational and assessment systems. In order to reduce paperwork and as an 'Eco school', we continue to use 'Teachers2parents' text service and email as our key form of communication with you. Please can I remind you to ensure that the contact details that we hold for you are up to date so that we are able to maintain our effective communication with you. If you experience any difficulties, please do not hesitate to contact the school office.

School lunches:

The children are enjoying selecting their lunch from the servery and are enjoying trying new choices. I have enjoyed hearing comments such as 'I've never had this before, it's yummy!' Please bear with us as we embed this new approach and encourage our children to make choices and perhaps try something new for the first time.

We look forward to an exciting and successful school year ahead.

Best wishes

Mrs Katie James

Head teacher