



# Charlton Kings Infants' School

Lyefield Road East, Charlton Kings, Cheltenham, GL53 8AY

Telephone: (01242) 514483



Head teacher: Katie James BA (Hons) QTS

13<sup>th</sup> September 2024

Dear Families,

We hope that you have all had a lovely Summer break, managing to reset and re-charge your batteries! We have now welcomed all children into Kindergarten and school and have been delighted to see everyone so settled and happy. Staff will continue to be available to support children and families each day to ensure that everyone enters and exits kindergarten/school safely and to answer any questions/queries that you may have.

It has been lovely to see our older children demonstrating their emerging leadership skills within the school as playtime buddies, lunchtime monitors, litter collectors and Eco recyclers! During the next few weeks, all children (Kindergarten – Year 2) will be invited to vote for two class representatives for our Eco School Council. I will be leading our Eco school meetings and we will be gaining the children's thoughts and ideas regarding our Eco priorities this year which are Transport, Biodiversity and Litter/Waste.

### Termly theme: Community and Belonging:

This term our school theme is that of 'Community and Belonging' and we are thinking about the importance of belonging to our home and school families alongside considering the importance of belonging within our local and national communities.

### Child Protection/Safeguarding – protecting your child on-line:

We have had a number of children talking about watching movies and playing on-line games during their free time. Please can I remind all parents that it is vital that home adults know and supervise their children's access when using online games or watching videos. We have been shocked to hear that some children are watching/using games that are not appropriate for their age and stage of development. National Crime Agency CEOP provide some useful guidance for families regarding how they can ensure they protect their child/ren on-line; <https://www.ceopeducation.co.uk/>

### We need your help:

We believe that our rich broad and balanced curriculum, alongside the wealth of planned enrichment activities that we provide are invaluable in supporting our children's health, well-being and learning. We are so grateful for the ongoing support from all within our school family, including staff, parents and the local community. We would love to invite more visitors into kindergarten/the school to share their expertise and jobs, particularly those related to our [CKIS Curriculum](#). We are therefore very interested to hear from family members who might be available to come in to share their jobs or expertise with us or could arrange for us to visit their workplace (transport permitting). If you would be interested in coming into school to talk with our children about a hobby, skill or job that you have or could arrange a visit to your place of work, we would love to hear from you. Please do email our School Business Manager, Mrs Durant; [sbm@ckis.org.uk](mailto:sbm@ckis.org.uk) if you can offer any support. She will then put you in contact with our year group or subject leads.





# Charlton Kings Infants' School

Lyefield Road East, Charlton Kings, Cheltenham, GL53 8AY

Telephone: (01242) 514483



Head teacher: Katie James BA (Hons) QTS

We continue to face financial challenges that impact upon our ability to maintain our kindergarten and school environments and provide the enriching extra-curricular activities that we would like to provide. We have a wonderful group of parents who regularly come and support us with maintaining our outdoor learning environments and this group is organised by one of our Dads. Please do email our School Business Manager, Mrs Durant; [sbm@ckis.org.uk](mailto:sbm@ckis.org.uk) if you can offer any support.

## Annual Contribution from families:

The enrichment activities that we plan and deliver through our school curriculum, can only be maintained by asking for a voluntary donation from families on an annual basis. The donations will support a range of enrichment visits, visitors and activities planned to enhance our curriculum for every child during the year. For all children, these include:

- Regular forest school sessions
- [Life Education visit](#)
- Access to resources from the 'Wilson museum' lending library
- Enrichment/themed weeks and events
- Jungle animal interaction sessions/visitors in Kindergarten and YR and whole class music lessons in Y1 and Y2
- Class trips and visits in the local community
- Cooking and technology

We continue to recognise the additional financial pressures upon many families, but do ask that ALL families support the kindergarten and school by donating £40 per child if your child is in Kindergarten or £50 per child if your child is in YR-Y2. Last year, only 46% of families paid the full requested contribution. This resulted in us having to amend/change plans and seek to fund from school funds. This year we are facing a £65,000 deficit in our school budget and as you can imagine, this is not sustainable. Some families may be in a position to give more than the amount suggested. If this is the case, we thank you for your kindness as this will help us to ensure that together as a school 'community', we are supporting every child.

Payments to school for donations should be made by bank transfer using the following details:

Charlton Kings Infants' School  
Sort code: 30-91-87

Account no: 51478968  
Ref: Your child's full name

Any families with children who are in care/have been in care, are from a service family or are in receipt of income support who are entitled to [Pupil Premium](#) will have their contribution met by the school.

## School Uniform:

Our school uniform is compulsory for all pupils in school (YR-Y2) and plays a significant role in helping children feel a sense of belonging within the school community, fostering an environment of equality and inclusion. We have a large stock of second hand items in school and actively encourage families to make good use of these for a minimal charge or free for families in financial need. In addition, many items of our uniform can be purchased at local supermarkets and do not need to have the school logo on. Please





# Charlton Kings Infants' School

Lyefield Road East, Charlton Kings, Cheltenham, GL53 8AY

Telephone: (01242) 514483



Head teacher: Katie James BA (Hons) QTS

can we remind all families to ensure they check our website, <https://www.ckis.org.uk/uniform> regarding our school uniform requirements. Please can we remind all families that only stud earrings should be worn in kindergarten/school (for safety reasons) and that long hair should be tied back with any hair adornments being plain or school coloured (eg clips/headbands).

## Bags:

We do not have much space in our corridors and therefore ask that children do not bring large bags into school (unless they are going to gym/jujitsu clubs after school). Children only need to bring a **named** book bag, water bottle and snack (in a reusable container – NOT GLASS) on a daily basis. We ask that you do not attach keyrings and toys to these bags as they then do not fit in the children's drawers/boxes.

## Parking:

Please do not block entrance/exits to the school, our neighbours driveways or the local roads when parking. We have had a number of near misses or families blocking roads during the last week when dropping off/collecting their child/ren.

## Birthdays:

We understand you may wish to celebrate your child's birthday in school – please can we ask that rather than sending in sweets or cakes to the class, you select a book from your child's classes wish list (these can be found on the year group pages on our website), to kindly purchase for the class to enjoy instead.

## Dietary requirements:

If your child has a food allergy/intolerance or a specific dietary requirement and you have not completed a Dietary/Allergy Form already, please make sure to do this as soon as possible, returning the form to Mrs Evans on the School Reception. Forms can be found [here](#). Please can we also remind you that we are a **nut free school** and this includes nut spreads such as peanut butter and Nutella.

## Dates and events this term:

These can be found on our school website and on our end of term newsletters.

As always, please do not hesitate to contact myself or members of the school team if you have any questions or queries. Thank you for your continued support and encouragement.

Kind regards

Katie James  
Head teacher

