

The new school year is whizzing by so apologies for not issuing a newsletter sooner.

Kingsdown would like to welcome all of our new children: Sofia, Tommy and Isla in Penguins, Zakk in Ducklings, Harrison in Hedgehogs, Autumm and Lillie in Elephants, Joseph in Monkeys, Kenzie in Fish and James in Kangaroos. Everyone has settled in really well.

Kingsdown would also like to welcome our new staff: to our teaching staff – Sharon and David, to our SSA team – Keeley, Dawn, Rebecca, Kerry and Megan; as our new assistant caretaker – Phil and to our kitchen team - Beverley.

On the 1st September, Kingsdown School became part of a Multi Academy Trust: SEN Trust Southend with the three other special schools in Southend-on-Sea. We envisage that the four schools working together will benefit the education of children and young people with special educational needs in Southend-on-Sea.

Thank you so much for sending back your questionnaire responses. We had an extremely positive response which was great. The results can be viewed on our website.

Thank you too for sending in snack money – your contributions are greatly appreciated.

Congratulations to Tzar who won the Jack Petchey Award this term for his excellent progress in maths and increased self-confidence.

Please do not forget to come along to our Cake and Play event for Children in Need on Friday 17th November – separate letters have already been sent out.



Now that the colder weather is here, please can you make sure you send in a coat for your child. Please make sure you put your child's name on their coat.

The new link corridor is finally finished and is now in use.

London Palladium

Several of our children performed at the London Palladium with the Music Man Project on Sunday 15th October. The evening was extremely successful and enjoyable. Thank you to all of the staff who went along to help and support our children throughout the day.



Leigh Lions Peace Poster Competition

Congratulations to Chelsea, Chloe and Megan who were all awarded certificates and prizes for taking in the annual Leigh Lions Peace poster competition.



Please take a look at our new Kingsdown School website. Thanks to Linda for all her hard work in updating the website. <http://www.kingsdownschool.org>

Forest Schools

Our new garden is now open and is being used for various exciting activities including den building, building bug houses, and for planting and growing.



Pudsey

Pudsey Bear came to visit Kingsdown last week. How lucky were we?!



Southend Schools Festival of Remembrance

All of the classes have made poppies which will be on display at Southend Cliff Gardens, Western Esplanade as part of the Southend Schools Festival of Remembrance. The display is open to the public over Remembrance weekend so please go along and take a look if you can.



Family Room

We are well on our way to having our new family room. The PTA have kindly agreed to pay for some soft furnishings to make the room more welcoming. We hope that the family room will be up and running by Christmas.

School Closure Information

In the event of school closure due to bad weather or for any other reason we will communicate as soon as possible in the following ways:

- a message posted on the Kingsdown School app

On the following websites:

- www.bbc.co.uk/essex
- www.heartessex.co.uk
- www.southend.gov.uk

On the following Radio Stations:

- BBC Essex 103.5FM
- Heart Essex 96.3, 97.5 & 102.6FM
- Southend Radio 105.1FM

Santa's Grotto

We are making a Santa's Grotto in the Sensory Studio for the last two weeks of term. **However, we really need your help please.** If you have any unwanted decorations especially the pre-lit type we would be really grateful. Ideally we are looking for the acrylic type that light up. Thank you



PTA

Christmas Hamper Raffles - The PTA are putting together Christmas Hampers for raffle prizes. Each year staff and parents donate goods to go into the hampers which are then raffled to raise money for Kingsdown School.

We are asking for your help towards our hampers with donations of chocolates, biscuits, wine, jars, and anything suitable to go into a hamper.

Please send your donations to school by Friday 8th December for the attention of Karen Langley.

Dates for the Diary

Thursday	09 November	Parents' Evening
Friday	10 November	Remembrance Day 11am
Tuesday	14 November	Hairdresser in school
Thursday	16 November	Hairdresser in school
Friday	17 November	BBC Children in Need - Cake & Play
Wednesday	22 November	Eye Clinic
Monday	27 November	Full Governing Body Meeting 3.45 p.m.
Wednesday	29 November	Eye Clinic
Friday	01 December	Decorating the Christmas Tree
Wednesday	06 December	Christingle at St Laurence Church 9am
Monday	11 December	Rehearsal for Christmas Concert 10am
Tuesday	12 December	Christmas Concert 10am
Wednesday	13 December	Christmas Concert 10am
Friday	15 December	Christmas Jumper Day
Friday	15 December	Pupils' Christmas Dinner
Monday	18 December	Father Christmas visiting the Grotto
Tuesday	19 December	Christmas Disco
Wednesday	20 December	Father Christmas visiting the Grotto

21 December - 2 January Christmas Holiday

Spring Term - Wednesday 3 January - Thursday 29 March

Wednesday	03 January	Training Day
Wednesday	10 January	HPV 1 Year 8 Girls
Monday	05 February	Full Governing Body Meeting 3.45 p.m.

12 - 16 February Half Term Holiday

Thursday	08 March	Parents' Evening
Monday	26 March	Full Governing Body Meeting 3.45 p.m.

30 March - 13 April Easter Holiday