

SCHOOL NEWS

PTA Summer Family Evening | Online Maths Homework | The Kingsway School

Sports Day

Our sports day will be taking place on Wednesday next week (24th June) at the following times:

KS2 (Yrs 3, 4, 5 and 6) **9.30am** start

EYFS and KS1 (Nursery am & pm, reception, Yrs 1 and 2) **1.45pm** start

Please take note of the following points to ensure both sports days go as smoothly as possible:

- Please provide an extra drink for your child/ren
- If we are lucky enough to have a sunny spell of weather, ensure your child comes to school with suncream applied and a sun hat/cap
- Children in Year 1 and upwards to come to school in sports kit, wearing team colours if possible:
Birch: **BLUE** Holly: **RED** Oak: **YELLOW** Chestnut: **GREEN**
- In order to maintain as much security as possible for the children using the playground at playtimes, we are asking all parents coming to watch sports day to enter school using the pedestrian gate by the school car park - the other gate will remain locked.
- Photos: as ever, taking photos is fine, but we ask you not to put any photos with other children in on any social media. We have some children for whom this can have serious consequences. Thank you for respecting this request.
- If we are unlucky enough to have rain, the event will be postponed to the following Wednesday. We will send out a text to inform you and place an urgent message on the website home page - please don't phone the office, if you haven't heard anything sports day is still ON!!



PTA Summer Family Evening

Thanks again to all those who came to the PTA evening last Friday. It was a very special community event and lots of fun was had by all. I am delighted to inform you that the evening raised £1600 in total which is an absolutely fantastic amount. At the next PTA meeting we will discuss what the current PTA funds will be spent on and keep you informed. Congratulations to Dominic Clark who had the winning programme ticket (No 78) and won the family hamper. Well done also to Hannah Duncan who correctly identified the name of the dog!! (It was called 'Winston'!)

Lunchtime discipline

We are trialling a new approach to discipline at lunchtimes. We are striving to keep the excellent level of behaviour observed in the classrooms, equally as good out on the playground. Therefore, the MDAs (Mid-day Assistants) will now be operating a yellow/red card system. The yellow card will be used as a warning that behaviour is not appropriate. If it continues the red card will be used and the child will be sent into school to spend the rest of the lunchtime with a member of the senior leadership team. If this proves to be successful we will add it into our behaviour policy which can be found on the website.

Online Maths Homework

A while ago the Parent Council fed back to us that the timer used on the Active Learn online maths homework was causing many frustrations with children working hard to complete tasks. The timer was adding unnecessary pressure and demotivating pupils. One of our Maths leaders, Mrs Wilson, spoke directly with the company and we have just been informed that changes are in the pipeline. We have been told that the timer will be removed for bronze and silver tasks, but will still be in place for gold tasks to add that extra level of challenge. We hope these changes take place soon and that it makes a difference to the maths homework. Please remember that anyone finding it difficult to access the homework on line can use the ICT suite for the first 20 minutes of every lunchtime.



Our links with The Kingsway School continue to go from strength to strength. The Year 3 and 4 are currently working with the Design and Technology staff on practical projects and thoroughly enjoying their learning. An open evening is being held at The Kingsway School for Year 4 and 5 pupils and their families on Thursday 9th July 5 - 7.30pm. You will be able to see musical, artistic, sporting, and dramatic performances, as well as presentations from a wide range of other subjects too. Refreshments will be available and there will be opportunity for you to talk to current staff and students about The Kingsway experience. I strongly recommend you attend if you can so you can form your own opinion about the school and what it has to offer.

Kind regards,

Cathy Beddows and the Etchells staff

