



KILLIGREW NEWS

1st December 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

Well, Christmas preparations are certainly well under way at Killigrew! The choir performed beautifully at the Abbey on Wednesday morning as part of the St Albans Schools' Christmas Service and the whole school then had a winter art afternoon to produce some fabulous winter landscapes, using a variety of media.

The school is full of children preparing for their concerts and plays and the PTA has been very busy preparing for the Winter Wonderland. I look forward to seeing you there tomorrow between 12:00-3:00pm. Don't forget to book your Christmas concert/play tickets-they are 'selling out' very quickly!

Kindest regards,

T. Mylotte
Head teacher

Attendance

What a great week for Toucans last week-well done. Pelicans, Parakeets, Cardinals and Nightingales-great improvement! So many classes are just under 97%-nearly there.

| Class | Attendance | Trend |
|--------------|------------|-------|
| Firecrests | 94.2% | |
| Skylarks | 91.4% | |
| Goldfinches | 96.1% | |
| Nightingales | 96.9% | ↑ |
| Cardinals | 97.3% | ↑ |
| Parakeets | 97.3% | ↑ |
| Bluejays | 95.1% | |
| Puffins | 96.7% | |
| Kingfishers | 96.6% | |
| Macaws | 95.2% | |
| Pelicans | 97.5% | ↑ |
| Toucans | 100.0% | |
| Eagles | 96.1% | |
| Peacocks | 95.0% | |

Communication

The school office strives to reply promptly to all incoming messages that require a response. So that everyone can be assured that an email has actually been received, all incoming emails receive an auto reply.

It may be helpful to know that if you advise of a reason for lateness, change of pick-up arrangement, notice of a medical appointment or attendance at a sports fixture, these will be actioned without reply. So too will requests to pass information to a member of staff i.e. something for a teacher.

For all other matters and where you request a reply, we will respond within 2 working days.

We will continue to handle your important correspondence requests as quickly as we can; if you feel it is taking too long, then please get in touch by phone or a further email if easier.

Children in Conflict Appeal

Although we have not addressed the war in Israel and Gaza with the children, we are aware that there are families who are directly and indirectly affected by this. If you would like support about how to talk to your child to try and understand recent events and cope with the impact, you may find the following link useful.

<https://www.unicef.org/parenting/how-talk-your-children-about-conflict-and-war>

Please find attached a letter from the St. Albans Primary Headteachers' Consortium if you would like to donate towards the Children in Conflict Appeal as part of the collective St. Albans primary school group. Any donations can be made via our School Gateway.

Positive Mental Health & Wellbeing

We thought it would be useful to share all the ways in which we promote positive mental and emotional health at Killigrew. You are already familiar with 'Feel Good Week' but this is just a small part of our commitment to ensure that every child at Killigrew is happy and safe. If you would like any more information about this, Miss Walsh will be happy to talk to you.

Whole Class/Access for all

Brain Buddies- this is a whole class workshop delivered by our Educational Mental Health Practitioner (EMHP). It is a 6-week course and focuses on 'big' emotions and how to deal with them. The workshops are adapted based on what the class would most benefit from.

We have several clubs available to support children's wellbeing - mindfulness club, sports clubs, cross stitch club, board games, art club, music clubs and chess club (available to certain year groups at different times)

Playleaders- our talented Y6s organise personal and team challenges on all playgrounds. These might be skipping, jumping, dribbling, speed stacking or table tennis challenges.

PSHE Jigsaw- this is the scheme that we use to support our PSHE curriculum. Each lesson is split into different areas and focuses on pupils emotions and mindfulness in each lesson (through 'calm me time' and 'talk time').

Each class has a weekly PSHE assembly where the teacher talks to the children about their emotions and other important themes like anti-bullying week and the Killigrew learning powers. Extra-curricular activities (in and outside school) are celebrated in our weekly celebration assemblies.

We take part in national days and weeks that celebrate and promote positive wellbeing. Every February, we take part in Feel Good Week which has a theme. Our

lessons focus on this theme for the week, and we come together as a whole school. We have just promoted Anti-Bullying Week which centred around noticing and celebrating positive behaviours. We also have a Sports Week where we provide more unusual sporting experiences e.g. Roundnet. We focus on our sport values such as team work, respect, determination and self-belief.

External visitors come in to talk to our children and they take part in different activities. Last term, we had the 'School of Kindness Day'.

Over the last few years, we have also focussed on 5-ways-to-wellbeing. These activities have been a part of our early morning activities, themed weeks, assemblies, Google Classroom activities and within our clubs.

We provide our older children with the opportunity to access a 'drop in' session where they can talk about anything that is troubling them. This is a one-to-one slot with Miss Walsh (Mental Health Lead Teacher) and/or Loraine Brown (EMHP).

Small group special support – the Hub

If children need emotional or wellbeing support, Mrs Unsworth (Deputy Mental Health and Wellbeing Lead) runs a very successful and engaging social and emotion skills group called The Hub. Children spend a half term in the Hub, focusing on managing their emotions, working with their peers, talking about their feelings and learning how to self-regulate more efficiently.

Additional small groups in school

Before school and at break/lunch times, Miss Walsh and Mrs Unsworth offer 'talk time'. They also check in on specific children who might need additional support.

Class teachers also offer talk time in small groups or as a one-to-one session under the guidance of Miss Walsh.

Parent Workshops

We offer emotional support workshops with Miss Walsh and our SENCO. Last term, we had a great workshop explaining

how to support anxious children. We arranged this because some parents indicated that this would be very useful for them when supporting their child at home.

Specialist Referrals

We offer one-to-one support to parents to help them support their child's behaviour at home. This is facilitated by our EMHP and is an 8-week course.

We are in the process of setting up a parent/carer support group. Our EMHP will run this, and it will be a supportive group aimed at helping parents/carers support their child at home. It will particularly support the parents of children with a special educational need linked to self-regulation.

We refer children to NESSIE (an organisation that offers very focussed emotional support) following an assessment by our SENCO.

The Write Stuff

You may have heard your child talk about **The Write Stuff** when telling you about their English lesson. They may also talk about 'lenses' and the way these help them to write. Mrs Digweed has produced a wonderful talking PowerPoint telling you all about these lenses. This will be uploaded to Google Classroom today. It would be great if you could help your child use these lenses when completing their English homework. If you have any questions at all, please ask your class teacher and they will be happy to explain more.

PTA News

Y3 Cake Sale

Thank you for your support on Monday - Y3's cake sale raised £185 for the school.

Winter Wonderland

We look forward to seeing you at the Christmas Fayre this Saturday. Santa will be welcoming visitors to his grotto, a pizza van will provide lunch, and we have Christmas market stalls as well as games and crafts for the children to enjoy. Please bring lots of small change to participate as much as possible and join us between 12pm-3pm. The Fayre will be open early (11.30am – 12pm) for children with SEN who prefer to avoid crowded spaces.

Christmas Trees

Don't forget you can raise money for the school just by buying your Christmas tree through www.christmastreeeasy.co.uk (make sure you select 'Killigrew' when you order!).

Is my child too ill for school?

<https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>

Free School Meals

If your circumstances have changed, you may be interested in the following information regarding free school meals for your child.

[Free school meals](#)

Match Report: Killigrew vs Manderville

On Tuesday Killigrew played their first home game of the season hoping to maintain their 100% winning record. After some early Manderville pressure, Killigrew settled into the game and created their ~~first~~ first chance with Evan hitting the post. Soon after that, Evan cut in and scored 1-0! Next, Killigrew put some more pressure on the Manderville defence with Finn popping up ~~with~~ ^{with} at least two quick goals at the back post 3-0! Next, there was some great passing from Sammy which led up to a calm finish from Finlay to put Killigrew 4-0 up. Boom! In the second half, Micheal B came on and caused problems for the opposition players, creating some good chances for Killigrew. As Manderville attempted a long ball, Theo intercepted it and within a blink of an eye the ball was in the back of the net. Yesss! 5-0! After the goal Kayden did some good dribbling, but his shot just went wide. Then Manderville had a corner, and with a bit of a mix up at the near post they had a goal back. Big shout out to Leo who made a brilliant debut performance in goal.

Final Score Killigrew 5-1 Manderville.
Man of the match - Evan.

Feedback Form

Please add any positive comments, concerns or suggestions:

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=UKgBZMCcg0yzyPnqbCwRs9svUSsaXKhrJlIeIKv0S9UNURUFM2MTYzODILUEk5MVNMOVpCN0lWQy4u>

Name:

Child's Class:

Dates-Academic Year 2023-24

| AUTUMN TERM 2023 | |
|-----------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Date | Event |
| Saturday 2 nd December 12-3:00pm | PTA Winter Wonderland |
| Monday 4 th December | Read with your child 8:40am |
| Tuesday 5 th December 9:00am | LKS2 Christmas concert (parents welcome) |
| Tuesday 5 th December 2:00pm | UKS2 Christmas concert (parents welcome) |
| Wednesday 6 th December 9:00am | UKS2 Christmas concert (parents welcome) |
| Wednesday 6 th December 2:00pm | LKS2 Christmas concert (parents welcome) |
| Friday 8 th December 3.20pm-3.45pm | Book Look (parents welcome) |
| Tuesday 12 th December 9:15am | EY Christmas Play (parents welcome) |
| Wednesday 13 th December 9:15am | EY Christmas Play (parents welcome) |
| Wednesday 13 th December 2:15pm | KS1 Christmas Play (parents welcome) |
| Thursday 14 th December 9:15am | KS1 Christmas Play (parents welcome) |
| Friday 15 th December | Mr Mitchell's music concert (pm) Christmas jumper day (wear a Christmas or winter jumper) |
| Monday 18 th December 1:30pm | Infant Christmas parties Y4 brass concert |
| Tuesday 19 th December | Junior Christmas parties Christmas dinner |
| Wednesday 20 th December | Last day of term -school finishes at 2:15pm/2:20pm Non-uniform day for winning house (KS2) |
| SPRING TERM 2024 | |

| Date | Event |
|-----------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Thursday 4 th January | Spring term begins |
| Monday 8 th January | Read with your child 8:40am |
| Thursday 11 th January | Y1 trip |
| Friday 12 th January | Bluejays assembly (parents and grandparents welcome) |
| Friday 19 th January | KS2 Speech Cup final |
| Monday 22 nd January | PTA Year 6 Bake Sale |
| Friday 26 th January | Parakeets assembly (parents and grandparents welcome) |
| Wednesday 24 th January | School Nurse visiting Y6 (TLM health questionnaire) |
| Friday 2 nd February | NSPCC number day Goldfinches assembly (parents and grandparents welcome) |
| Monday 5 th February | Read with your child 8:40am School nurse visiting YR-health checks |
| Monday 5 th -11 th February | Feel Good Week |
| Tuesday 6 th February | Safer Internet Day |
| Friday 9 th February 3.20pm-3.45pm | Book Look (parents welcome) Firecrests assembly (parents and grandparents welcome) |
| Wednesday 14 th February | Parents evening 3:30pm-6:30pm |
| Thursday 15 th February | Parents evening 3:30pm-6:30pm |
| Monday 19 th -Friday 23 rd February | Half term-school closed |
| Friday 1 st March | Secondary School allocation day |
| Thursday 7 th March | World Book Day (Dressing up) |
| Friday 8 th March | Eagles assembly (parents and grandparents welcome) |
| Monday 11 th March | PTA Year 2 Bake Sale |
| 8 th -17 th March | British Science Week |
| Friday 15 th March | Red Nose Day Pelicans assembly (parents and grandparents welcome) |
| Friday 22 nd March | Mr Mitchell's music concert (pm) |
| 25 th -27 th March (evening)TBC | Alban Arena Concert-choir & musicians |
| Thursday 28 th March | Easter hat parade (children to bring a decorated hat to school) Non-uniform day for winning house (KS2) Last day of term-school finishes at 2:15pm/2:20pm |
| SUMMER TERM 2024 | |
| Date | Event |
| Monday 15 th April | Summer term begins |
| Friday 19 th April 3.20pm-3.45pm | Book Look (parents welcome) |
| Wednesday 24 th April | School nurse visiting YR (health checks) |
| Friday 26 th April | Kingfishers assembly (parents and grandparents welcome) |
| Monday 29 th April | PTA YR Bake Sale |
| May TBC | Walk to School Week |
| Friday 3 rd May | Puffins assembly (parents and grandparents welcome) |
| Monday 6 th May | Bank holiday-school closed |
| Friday 10 th May | Cardinals assembly (parents and grandparents welcome) |
| 13 th -16 th May | KS2 SATs week |

| | |
|---------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Friday 17 th May | National Numeracy Day |
| Friday 24 th May | KS2 sports day (parents and grandparents welcome) |
| Monday 27 th -Friday 31 st May | Half term-school closed |
| Monday 3 rd June | INSET day |
| Monday 3 rd -Friday 14 th June | Y4 multiplication table checks |
| Friday 7 th June 3.20pm-3.45pm | Book Look (parents welcome) Nightingales assembly (parents and grandparents welcome) |
| w.b. 10 th June | Y1 phonics screening check week |
| Monday 10 th June | PTA Year 4 Bake Sale |
| Friday 14 th June | Skylarks assembly (parents and grandparents welcome) |
| Wednesday 26 th June | School photographer-class photos |
| 24 th June-5 th July TBC | National Fieldwork fortnight |
| Monday 8 th July | PTA Year 5 Bake Sale |
| Tuesday 9 th July 9:00am | Y6 play (parents and grandparents welcome) |
| Wednesday 10 th July 9:00am | Y6 play (parents and grandparents welcome) |
| Thursday 11 th July | Transition day-meet the new teacher |
| Friday 12 th July 9:00am | Infant sports Day Mr Mitchell's music assembly (pm) Annual school report sent home |
| Friday 19 th July 9:00am | Y6 leavers' assembly (parents and grandparents welcome) End of term for children-school finishes at 2:15pm/2:20pm Non-uniform day for winning house (KS2) |
| Monday 22 nd & Tuesday 23 rd July | INSET days-school closed |