

NEWSLETTER DECEMBER 2021

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Message from the Headteacher

Ho, ho, ho!

As the term and year draw to a close, I would like to thank you for the support of your children and our wonderful school this year. We have met every challenge with kindness and perseverance; as a team, we have achieved many great successes along the way and take pride in knowing that KPS is a great school.





Our new reception children have settled brilliantly into school: they are happy, developing lasting friendships and making great progress

in their learning too as evident by the end of term assessments we have completed. We have been frustrated not to be able to welcome all the new parents onto the site, but rest assured we have plans for the new year and we will open the doors to you as soon as we possibly can; we miss having you on site and haven't forgotten the way it should be!

At the other end of the school, Year 6 have set the tone for the school: they have been mature, diligent and have shown great kindness and leadership in their play and work. We are proud of the way they are supporting others and paving the way for the future year groups of the school.

SOKS have further enhanced their support of the school through car-boot sales, which have helped bolster finances during this difficult year. Their support has remained innovative and steadfast. At every turn they have found solutions to continue to help the school: to change plans, to find new ways of working and to do all they can to help every child at KPS. I am truly grateful to them.

Finally, I must thank the staff and Governors. I am privileged to work with such a determined, hard-working, caring and intelligent group of people. Without doubt, it is an exceptional team and I am honoured to be the head of this fabulous school.

I wish you all a happy, healthy and festive Christmas and all the best for the coming year.

With love and best wishes

Mr Pajak

All our policies are updated and are on the website.

Diary Dates

January 2022

3rd: Bank Holiday 4th: Inset Day 5th: School re-opens 5th: School tour 2022 at 4pm & 5pm* 6th: School tour 2022 at 4pm & 5pm*

Please be advised that this is only a rough outline of the year ahead. More dates will be added throughout year and some events may be subject to change due to COVID

Term Dates:

Term 1: Thurs 2nd Sept – Fri 22nd Oct, 2021 Term 2: Mon 1st Nov – Fri 17th Dec 2021 Term 3: Tue 4th Jan - Fri 18th Feb 2022 Term 4: Mon 28th Feb – Fri 8th April 2022 Term 5: Mon 25th April – Fri 27th May 2022 Term 6: Mon 6th June – Thurs 21st July 2022

Inset Days:

2nd & 3rd September 2021 1st November 2021 4th January 2022 28 February 2022

SCHOOL TOURS 2022

School tours for prospective parents will be taking place on Wednesday 5th January 2022 - 4pm & 5pm Thursday 6th January 2022 - 4pm & 5pm Tuesday 11th January 2022 - 4pm & 5pm Wednesday 12th January 2022 - 4pm & 5pm If you would like to book a place

> please email the school office admin@kingsway.gloucs.sch.uk

If you are unable to attend these dates please contact us for a time that is suitable.

COVID RESTRICTIONS PERMITTING

UPDATE COVID Information UPDATE

We are dealing with a high number of children currently off school with various illness / symptoms. We also have a lot of children off awaiting PCR test results.

If your child is experiencing any of the following symptoms:

High Temp Cough Loss of taste / smell Sore throat Headache

Please book a PCR test and remain at home. Lateral flow tests can be used in primary aged children but **NOT** when displaying children.

Fully vaccinated contacts of someone with COVID-19 should take rapid lateral flow tests every day for 7 days. If you test positive or develop symptoms, you need to self-isolate for 10 days.

If tested positive for the Omicron version then the whole household must get a PCR test and isolate. https://www.gov.uk/government/news/measures-against-omicron-variant-come-into-effect-30-november-2021

You should follow the guidance on the <u>https://www.gov.uk/</u> <u>coronavirus</u> and on <u>https://www.gov.uk/guidance/covid-19-</u> <u>coronavirus-restrictions-what-you-can-and-cannot-do</u>

Office Reminders/Information

- ParentPay Accounts Please ensure that your child's account is in credit before booking in for breakfast club and school dinners.
- Medication A medication form needs to be completed if medicines need to be administered on the parent/carers behalf. The form can be obtained from the school office or via the school website: <u>https://kingswayprimary.org.uk/school-</u> forms/ - Parental agreement to administer medicine.
- School policies All our policies are updated and are on the website. If you require a paper copy of the information that is contained on our website, it can be requested via the school office and is free of charge.

School Applications Closing date for school applications is 15th January 2022

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Thank you to all our Parents, Carers & Staff for all your support! SOKS CHRISTMAS FUNDRAISERS

Christmas Raffle & Cauliflower Cards artwork project You have helped us

raise £481.00

Money Raised will go towards the savings we have to fund a Calm Cabin for the Playground

FESTIVE GET DOWN!

Hip Hop Days in your local community as part of #HAF2021

Mon 20th Dec, 11:30-3:30 Parry Hall, Tredworth, GL1 4RZ

Tue 21st Dec, 11:30-3:30 Quedgeley Community Centre, GL2 4PG

Dance, graffiti & beatboxing activities Live music & free food

Family friendly - all ages welcome!

Free to attend, but booking via the HAF booking system is essential

For more info, speak to Tyler: yournextmoveynm@outlook.co.uk 07842 591542

loucestershire

Department for Education



Educraft Limited 25-27 Horton Street Halifax HX1 1QE

PRESS RELEASE

Educraft and Gloucestershire County Council invite children and young people to learn exiting new skills in free 3-hour computing workshops at the Museum of Gloucester over the Christmas holidays.

Known as Get Animated! Gloucester, the workshops are part of the Department for Education's £220m HAF programme that aims to deliver free activities and healthy food for children and young people aged between 6 and 16 who receive benefit related free school meals.

WORKSHOP DETAILS:

Get Animated! Gloucester

20-23rd December 2021

Museum of Gloucester, Brunswick Road, Gloucester, GL1 1HP

Tickets can be booked at www.educraft.uk/gloucester

A promo video can be found here: https://youtu.be/G1cEIJNIJhY

- Learn retro computer coding! Design and animate video game graphics using BBC BASIC, the language of the original educational computer, the BBC Micro.
- Play classic video games! Take a break from coding to experience the sounds and thrills
 of a 1980s video games arcade with titles such as Pac Man, Space Invaders & Frogger.
- Enjoy a healthy meal! A nutritious, locally prepared plant-based packed lunch with hot
 soup and an informative and interactive talk about the benefits of a plant-based diet.

This introduction to computer programming will show you how to create, edit and debug a program and understand why the programming principles of coding for a 40-year-old machine are still relevant today.

Starting with a brief background of Acorn Computers and the part they played in computing history, you will find out how they link directly to the modern smartphone.

Then, using graph paper to design and draw out the sprite characters, we will add up the bit patterns for entering into the programs (an automated alternative is available for younger participants) and get hands-on as we try some simple commands to form a BASIC program to animate our designs.

As a reward for participating in the course, everyone will receive a printed certificate before they leave.

Our informative and interactive talk about the health and environmental benefits of eating a plantbased diet is complemented by a delicious packed lunch and a hearty hot soup. Recipe cards and handouts will also be provided.

More information on the Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) Programme can be found on the government's dedicated HAF website:

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/holiday-activities-and-food-programme/holidayactivities-and-food-programme-2021

ABOUT EDUCRAFT:

Educraft are specialists in providing technology-based workshops to schools, museums and events across the UK and abroad. Our goal is to educate and inspire children towards a career in creative computer arts through the use of unusual and obscure tech.

Contact details:

www.educraft.uk hello@educraft.uk facebook.com/educraftuk twitter.com/educraftuk

Thank you ASDA

For the donations of the Christmas Eve Boxes. I am sure the children that received them will enjoy them immensely. It is very much appreciated.

Poppy Appeal

Thank you very much for helping with the Poppy Appeal.

With all your help and donations, together we have managed to raise

<u>£501.85</u>

Your donations will go towards continuing the vital welfare and benevolent work that the Royal British Legion provide.

Thank you.

Kingsway Community Links

Gloucestershire County Council is pleased to introduce the Household Support Fund, to support individuals and families in need over the winter period.

Household Support Fund (HSF)

On 30 September 2021, the Government announced that a new Household Support Fund (HSF) would be made available to Local Authorities to support those most in need during the winter. The Government has provided funding to the council to support people who are struggling to:

- buy food
- pay energy and water bills

cover other essential costs linked to energy, water, and wider essentials (including sanitary products, warmclothing, soap, blankets, boiler service or repair, purchase of equipment including fridges, freezers, and ovens)

Due to the limited amount of funds available and the number of applications that could be received, priority will be given to essential and necessary items for day to day living (food, utilities, toiletries etc.), but other essential types of support will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

The Household Support Fund is available until the 31 March 2022.

Who can receive support?

The Household Support Fund aims to support as many residents as possible, who meet the eligibility criteria and are in need of this help the most.

To apply for the funding an applicant must:

live in Gloucestershire be over 18 years old need immediate or short-term support to meet their/their family's essential needs

Information the applicant will need to provide on their form includes:

how their household has been affected financially what their household needs help with their personal details (name, address, email, or phone number)

Where to submit an application

The application form for the Household Support Fund can be found on the Gloucestershire County Council website here: <u>https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/health-and-social-care/gloucestershire-welfare-support-scheme/local-support-grant-find-out-more-and-apply/</u>

How applicants will know that the application has been received

Once the application has been completed online, a screen will appear which tells the individual that the application has been successfully submitted.

What happens next?

The application will be reviewed by the Housing Support Fund team. If more information is required, we will contact the applicant to provide this before it will be submitted to the HSF Panel for review.

The Panel will look at the request and agree the provision (funding, items or otherwise) that will be provided to the individual or family. In some cases, the Panel may have further questions before they can make a decision on the application, or they may feel the application is outside the remit of the fund and signpost to alternative support

Once a decision has been made, the applicant (and referrer if a form was submitted on behalf of an applicant) will be notified via email of the outcome(s). If the application is successful, the HSF Team will provide details of what will be provided and how this will be supplied.

Thank you for helping us to make sure families and individuals can access the support they need this winter. If you have any queries regarding the Household Support Fund, please email <u>childrensfund@gloucestershire.gov.uk</u>