



Newsletter – 21st October 2022

Dear parents,

Conkers

It has seemed a very long half term. Autumn days are well and truly upon us, so I thought I would start with a random, non-school related, autumnal conker ramble.

Do you remember when a beefy, glossy conker was something very precious indeed? In my day they were as good as it got; groups of children would go out, find a local horse chestnut tree, then literally batter it to within an inch of its life with sticks until it dropped its conkers.

In assembly this week only a very few children had ever heard of the game of conkers. We also had a discussion around the various methods of preparation (aka cheating) that we used to give our conkers an edge over the competition; baking and pickling were mentioned, but Mr Wyke's suggested use of the airing cupboard was a new one to me, and 40 years too late to be of any use. Mr Stevens apparently used a painted stone which was, of course, blatant cheating.

Now however, conkers are just left lying around to slowly turn to mulch. It is odd how something of great value to one generation can have so little value not long afterwards.

Trading cards

On the subject of outwardly valueless things having perceived value by some, we also talked about collectible cards in assembly this week. The enduring appeal of Pokémon is one of the truly great mysteries of the cosmos.

We have already told the children that trading/exchanging/swapping of cards is not allowed on the school grounds. Some children are being fleeced by their canny peers while other cards have gone missing or become damaged when dropped. This is causing an increasing amount of work for the teachers in trying to fathom out rightful ownership and console upset children, and it is clear that trading is still going on. Some of these cards seem to be worth a lot of money which increases the angst. After half term, please do not send your child in to school with trading cards.

With the World Cup coming up I imagine those collectible stickers will also soon make an appearance and the same rule will apply to them – we understand the frustration and desire to share and swap as there is always a card or sticker that turns up in almost every pack, while others are impossible to find. However, children can obviously show them off and trade when not at school.

Less well known are the recently released 19th Century Romanticism trading cards (with bubblegum in every pack) which look like being the new rage in schools – apparently every pack frustratingly includes a Jane Austen.

I made up the last bit, so please don't try googling/buying them.



Sports Leaders

We have been fortunate enough to have a wonderful team of Sports Leaders who have been helping the children to be active at playtime. The Year 6 team have given the whole school the opportunity to learn some French Skipping techniques, ball games and running fun challenges to participate in their playtime. They have been very active with the whole school, especially getting the infant children to learn new exciting games in their lunchtime. Well done to the Sports Leaders who have made a fabulous start to their role.

Mrs Naismith

Well done Reception!

Well done to the children in reception. They have completed their first half term at school. They have all enjoyed exploring the school environment, both within their classrooms, the outside area and around the wider school grounds. They have also attended their first collective worship and despite suffering from lots of coughs and colds, they have made it through by having lots of fun. They all deserve a restful half term break.

Mrs Coward



Ideas for PE at home

We have been given free access for PE activities at home. Below is the link and it's a free area with lots of physical activities and ideas to do as a family.

Get Set 4 PE Active Families area for free and the link

is: <https://www.getset4pe.co.uk/ResourceBank/ResourceCategory/1002>

Mrs Naismith

Safer internet

Please take a look at the attached poster. All classes have been learning about staying safe online this term.

Vacancy in the school kitchen

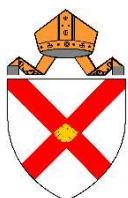
Nourish are looking for a new member of staff to work at the school. If you are interested please contact Teresa – her email address is: teresa@nourishcc.co.uk and her number is: 07796025222.

School meals taster session for parents

Just a reminder that you are welcome to come to the infant hall from 2:30pm on Thursday 10th November to meet the Nourish team and sample the school meals.

Secondary school applications

If you have a child in Year 6 remember the deadline to apply for a place at secondary school is 31st October. Applications are made online via the KCC website.



Dates for the diary

Here are some dates for the term ahead. Please look at the calendar on the website as well.

24 th October:	Half term break
31 st October:	INSET day – school closed for staff training
3 rd November:	Flu vaccinations
8 th November:	Parent consultations
9 th November:	PTA AGM (infant hall 9am)
10 th November:	Parent consultations Nourish school meal taster session for parents (2:30pm)
23 rd November:	Sharing learning (8:45am to 9:15am)
28 th November:	Sharing learning - (2:45am to 3:15pm)
30 th November:	International story sharing (see above)
5 th December:	Christmas performances this week Pre-loved uniform sale

Have a lovely half term and thanks to you all, as always.

John Tutt

