



February 2024

# The Kymbrook Key

*Hello everyone*

*It's been a busy and productive start to the new year. We have welcomed a new member of staff - Lisa Stone is the admin assistant who will be working in our school office on Thursdays and Fridays. Kate Lyons will continue to be the voice on the end of the phone/email Monday to Wednesday. Kathy Augustine is continuing her phased return to work and is gradually extending her hours. You may not yet have seen her around on the playground, but she is working her way back, which we are all thrilled about.*

*Please take time to look through and make a note of relevant dates in the calendar towards the end of this newsletter. There are a lot of sporting events in the coming months- some are for whole classes and some are opportunities for us to send one team to an event. More information about all of these will follow.*

Mrs Smith

## **WORLD BOOK DAY- Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March**

We would like to celebrate World Book Day in a few different ways this year.

**BIG READ:** We would love to invite any of our parents, carers and grandparents/families to join us at 9am to read a favourite children's book to a small group of children. If you are able to spare half an hour, please let the office or Mrs Smith know.

**BOOK SWAP:** We did this last year and it was very successful. Children are invited to bring a book (or two or more!) from home which they no longer read. We will collect all the books and lay them out on tables in the hall. All children will visit the book swap and can choose a new-to-them book to take home. Every child will take part, whether they have donated a book or not.

**DRESSING UP:** It has been a couple of years since we last dressed up for World Book Day. We are always very aware that for every child and family who love dressing up, there is another one who really dislikes it! This year, we are leaving it up to the children to choose if they would like to come dressed as a book character. Any children who do wish to, will be able to tell us about their outfit as part of our big read event. Normal school uniform please for children who are not dressing up.

**BOOK VOUCHER:** As always, your child will bring home a WBD voucher. These can either be exchanged for one of the special WBD books or used as £1 towards another book.

## **RED NOSE DAY – Friday 15<sup>th</sup> March**

For Red Nose Day this year, we would like to invite the children to wear non-uniform. If they have something red, then brilliant, if not anything will do. A donation of £1 for this will go towards Comic Relief. In addition, we would like to organise a BIG CRUNCH for RND. At break time, we will be selling pots of fruits/vegetables for 50p. Any contributions to this would be wonderful please – a couple of apples or bananas, some blueberries, grapes, a cucumber etc. If the food needs chopping, we can do this as we make the mixed pots. Thank you in advance.

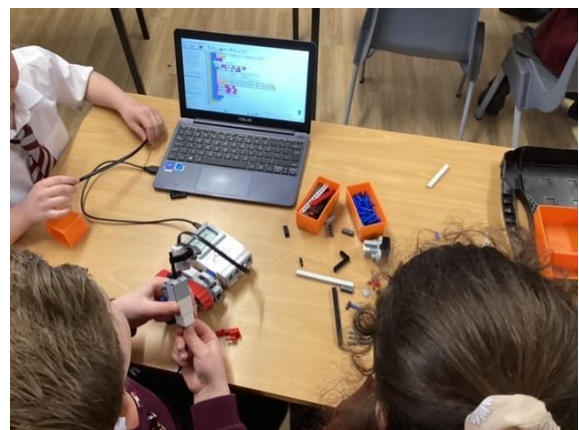


## SAFER INTERNET DAY

Tuesday this week was Safer Internet Day. This annual event gives us the perfect opportunity to highlight and strengthen the work we do all year round to increase our pupils' knowledge about living in the digital world. Every class, from Y1, studies online safety as part of their computing curriculum and being safe and responsible online is something which is frequently mentioned, especially with our older children. Many of our older children have their own phones or other internet enabled devices and learning how to navigate these, being a responsible digital citizen is something they need a lot of support with as they grow. The internet is a wonderful tool, but our children need to learn from and be supported by us at home and school. I have had several conversations with some of our pupils in the last few weeks about Whatsapp messages and groups. I am sure you will agree these can be a minefield to navigate! The children have assured me that their parents are monitoring their phones, so that is excellent. This resource is very useful for ideas about how to talk to your child about being online. <https://saferinternet.org.uk/guide-and-resource/parents-and-carers>

## ROBOTICS

We have recently had another of our termly robotics workshops. We have been having these for several years now and the children are really showing how their knowledge and skills have developed, particularly the older children. They use the Lego Mindstorm robots, which first of all they have to build in order to fulfil a particular brief and secondly they have to program the coding in order to make the robot perform as they wish. Even though it is challenging, the children are completely at ease with the robots and they rise to the challenge brilliantly. It's pretty impressive stuff to watch! All pupils from Year 1 upwards get this experience each term. I was particularly pleased to learn that one of our former pupils was chosen to represent Sharnbrook Academy at a robotics competition recently and they credited the experience they had been given here as giving them a brilliant start in robotics, as well as sparking an interest they may not have otherwise had.



## Upcoming Dates for Your Diary

Date	Event
<b>Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> February</b>	'Break the rules' day – A Friends fundraising event. Children in Y3-6, please remember it is PE that day.
<b>Friday 16<sup>th</sup> February</b>	Break up for half term
<b>Monday 26<sup>th</sup> February</b>	Back to school after half term
<b>Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> February</b>	Year 5 and 6 visit to the Fitzwilliam Museum in Cambridge as part of their Ancient Egypt topic
<b>Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March</b>	World Book Day
<b>Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> March</b>	Year 3/4 Multi-sports event at Lincroft School in the morning
<b>Friday 15<sup>th</sup> March</b>	Red Nose Day
<b>Monday 18<sup>th</sup> March</b>	Year 1/2 Multi-sports event at Sharnbrook Academy in the afternoon
<b>Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> March and Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> March</b>	Parent/ teacher consultation evenings
<b>Monday 25<sup>th</sup> March</b>	Sing On Concert for our Y3/4 children at the Corn Exchange in Bedford. Children will rehearse in the afternoon and the concert is at 6pm. Tickets for families to attend have already been released. Further details about the day to follow.
<b>Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March</b>	Break up for the Easter Holidays
	<b>SUMMER TERM</b>
<b>Monday 15<sup>th</sup> April</b>	INSET day for staff
<b>Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> April</b>	Children back to school for the summer term
<b>Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> April</b>	Year 5/6 Multi-sports event at Sharnbrook in the afternoon
<b>Monday 29<sup>th</sup> April</b>	Quadkids event at the Bedford International Athletics Stadium. We are able to send one team of Y3/4 children, 4 boys and 4 girls.
<b>Monday 6<sup>th</sup> May</b>	May Day Bank Holiday
<b>Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> May</b>	Year 3/4 Multi-sports event at Harrold School in the morning
<b>w/b 13<sup>th</sup> May</b>	SATs week for our Year 6 pupils
<b>Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> May</b>	Year 5/6 Multi-sports event at Lincroft in the morning
<b>Friday 24<sup>th</sup> May</b>	Break up for May half term
<b>Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> June</b>	Back to school
<b>Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> June</b>	Boys dynamo cricket competition at Bedford Modern School – one team of eight Y5/6 boys
<b>Friday 7<sup>th</sup> June</b>	Girls dynamo cricket competition at Bedford Modern School – one team of eight Y5/6 girls
<b>Monday 10<sup>th</sup> June</b>	Quadkids event at the Bedford International Athletics Stadium. We are able to send one team of Y5/6 children, 4 boys and 4 girls.
<b>Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> June</b>	Year 1/2 Multi-sports event at Riseley Primary in the afternoon
<b>Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> June</b>	Year 5/6 Girls football event at Biddenham School in the afternoon- one team of 10
<b>Friday 28<sup>th</sup> June</b>	Sports day – a morning of activities for the children. Parents and families welcome to join us in the afternoon.
<b>Friday 19<sup>th</sup> July</b>	Break up for the summer holidays

### Safeguarding reminders

At Kymbrook and Thurleigh Primary Schools we take safeguarding very seriously, so to ensure the safety of every child in our care, we would like to remind you of the following:

- Please notify the school on 01234 376266 as early as possible if your child will not be in.
- If you are not going to be the person picking up your child from school, please remember to let us know in advance, unless this is a normal arrangement we are already aware of.
- Please remember to leave the front of the school clear at all times. The village hall car park is available for parking.

If you see or hear anything that concerns you whilst at school please talk to the class teachers or contact the Designated Safeguarding Leads. Designated Safeguarding Leads for the Kymbrook and Thurleigh Federation – Mrs Kathy Augustine, Mrs Rachel Smith and Mr George Cole (based at Thurleigh). Mrs Sheri Morgan and Mr Jon Burton (Thurleigh) are the Deputy DSLs. Mr Richard Finch is our Governor with responsibility for Safeguarding.

**Remember: safeguarding is everyone's business.**