



# KING EDWIN NEWS

Thursday 21st July 2021

King Edwin Primary School  
www.kingedwin.notts.sch.uk  
Fourth Avenue, Mansfield NG21 9NS  
01623 822111  
office@kingedwin.notts.sch.uk  
Headteacher - Mr A Callaghan-Wetton  
@kingedwinsch #kingedWINNERS



Parents and friends of King Edwin Primary School,

Another academic year has come to an end and what a year it has been! You could say perhaps we have experienced even more challenges than the previous year....who am I kidding...we've definitely faced many more challenges!

I honestly thought that we had ridden the isolation wave and safely managed to avoid major disruption until the recent cases in the last few weeks of term. Unfortunately for our children and just like 1.5 million other children across the UK last week, the pandemic managed to add further challenges and frustration to our lives. Having said this, as ever, our KingEdwinners are so resilient and they jumped straight back on to our online live sessions for quite a comprehensive offering. Chromebooks really help and the use of technology is now a real strength of our school.

A huge 'thank you' has to go to the KEPS staff for their incredible dedication and commitment throughout this extraordinarily challenging last 18 months. As the Headteacher, I feel extremely privileged to lead such a strong group, working with and alongside them all; thank you. You all deserve a wonderful summer break now!

Thank you too, for being such a supportive group of parents in the face of many adversities. A special mention has to go to our Foundation parents who handed over their 3 and 4 year olds way back in September 2020, having never set foot inside of our school - thank you for trusting us, for working with us and for never ever complaining despite missing all of your children's 'firsts'. We hope to welcome you into school in the not-so-distant future, so you can begin to build upon some of those special memories. We can't wait to see you all.

To our Year 1 parents, we're conscious you did not get a much better deal either - thank you for staying so positive through it all. You should be incredibly proud of your children, they have managed so well!

To our phenomenal Year 6 children, we are so sorry that your last year at primary school has been spent without involving your parents - it is not how we wanted it to end. You have all achieved so much and have established a solid foundation in preparation for secondary school. You have made great progress despite the pandemic. I never managed to see you in a whole school assembly, sat on the infamous 'Year 6 benches'...perhaps you can come back to do this in September, if you still want to? We are so proud of you. Now, go and be the true KingEdwinners you all are!

To all of our other KingEdwinner children, their families and indeed the entire community, thank you for making this year significantly easier than it could have been - by sticking to the covid rules, by not moaning when numerous activities fell by the wayside and by engaging so effectively through lock-down & bubble closures. You have all been brilliant. Children, parents, grandparents and extended family members...you have all played your special part!

I will never forget the day I had to address the staff regarding what to expect as everything unfolded back in 2020...it was an awful experience. Personally, I know that I haven't managed to get everything quite right throughout the pandemic. In truth though, I've always had the best interests of our children at heart and every decision made was for them. We've all learned along the way and everyone has simply managed the best we could.

I am reassured that we have managed to at least keep many of the most important people in our school community happy...the children. This is exemplified by one of our little KingEdwinners and their review of our schools performance..."Mr CW, I think you and the school have done not too badly really... well done...keep it up!"

We are in a great place moving forwards in to 2021/22. We have still managed to improve our school building, our whole provision and staffing structure. In fact, the school looks great when you consider the new hall, Foundation unit, MUGA pitch, Trim Trail, playground markings and community room....and we have 8 extra adults with us in September, which is a really positive development for our children.

Team KEPS, it is easy to look back and dwell on the past but that's not the KingEdwinner way. We prefer to look to the future and think of all the great opportunities ahead of us. The staff were so excited about their new classes this week and it was a really positive transition day, even despite some groups isolating. We all feel that the next academic year will be a great one for our school and for our KingEdwinners moving into Year 7.

I sincerely hope that you all enjoy the summer break and create some amazing family memories together. Thank you all once again for your continued support and commitment to the children this year. Stay safe, take care and we look forward to seeing you all again in September.

Andy Callaghan-Wetton & the KEPS Team



## Message from Mrs Harvey and Mrs Farrow

'My amazing time at KEPS will be coming to an end on Friday because I am emigrating to Australia with my family. Since 2010 I have had the most amazing experiences teaching many wonderful KEPS pupils. I have many special memories to treasure and would like to say a big thank you to all children and their families who I have had the pleasure to work with throughout this time. I would like to wish all KEPS children & their families all the best for the future. Thank you & Good bye - Miss Farrow

It is with a very sad heart that my wonderful time working at KEPS comes to an end this year. An exciting offer to teach more in my other school near home was too good an opportunity to pass up and so I made the difficult decision to say 'au revoir'! I have loved teaching all the amazing children over the last 5 years - they are all superstars and have especially made our French lessons together so much fun - I hope parents you've enjoyed listening to our French songs at home too! KEPS is a unique school and will always have a special place in my heart and I wish all the KEPS families and children lots of warm wishes. Thank you for everything and 'bonne chance' in all you do!  
Madame Harvey x



When it rains, it pours...  
but soon,  
**the sun  
shines again.**

Stay positive.  
Better days are on their way.

### What to expect in September 2021

At KEPS, we haven't done too badly in predicting what is likely to happen in the future. Having said this, the unpredictability that lies ahead of us is simply unimaginable and so we prefer to take a more positive perspective or outlook.

We sincerely hope that all normal functions of our school life will return and our KingEdwinners will experience little or no interruption nor further negative impact as a consequence of the pandemic.

We will obviously write to all families prior to the start of term in September and ensure you are all aware of any arrangements in place that will help us to get off to the best start in the Autumn.

Please be aware that, as was the case in January, we will need to react very quickly in the face of national guidance and announcements. However, we do not anticipate any national lock-down or restrictive measures to be in place across UK schools.

Staying positive, we have a huge plan of action ready for 2021/22 and we can't wait to give our KingEdwinners the education they so truly deserve. It's going to be an awesome year at KEPS and we are so excited.

## Uniform Exchange

On **Monday & Tuesday 26th and 27th July** we will be holding our first 'school uniform exchange' day to support our families in reducing uniform costs and to promote the idea of a more sustainable future. The economic and ecological cost of buying new uniform every year is high and many parents have responded positively to the suggestion of holding such an activity.

On these last two days of term (**Monday 26th and Tuesday 27th July**) children will be able to wear non school uniform if they so wish to. Parents are encouraged to bring any old uniform in plastic bags, clearly labelled in order to be exchanged for other uniform of a larger size.

Children will place the bags outside of their current classroom at the end of the day. We must ask parents not to rummage through the bags ...it will be a case of collecting what is required from outside the classroom and leaving accordingly. Hopefully this will see uniform recycled and reduce the costs somewhat for the next financial year.

Clearly not all uniform will be recycled but we sincerely hope that families take up this opportunity and that we can make it a regular event every summer.

New uniform can be ordered from our provider too. Many of these garments have embroidered logos on them. <https://myclothing.com/King-Edwin-Primary-and-Nursery-School/7951.school>

We must emphasise that all clothes should be clean and prewashed. No underwear should be included in the bags. Each bag needs a clear label identifying the age group and size of clothes within it. No shoes are to be shared either (although feel free to arrange exchanges on our social media pages if you wish to do so).