

## **King Edwin Primary and Nursery School**

### **Autumn 2021 Newsletter from the Governors**

A very warm welcome back to school to our KingEdwinners, and we want to welcome those new pupils who start with us this year. A welcome also to our new members of staff as we continue to build our winning team and KEPS. It has been some time since we issued a newsletter from the governors at KEPS. However, we have been very aware that there was a constant cascade of mail and updates via your emails, social media sources, etc over the past 16 months, and there was no wish to add to that list. We hope that all parents have had the opportunity for some happy and restful time with their children over the August break, despite there being ongoing obstacles to the more traditional holidays. Now, as we start a new academic year, it is time to look forward with hope and optimism, and to do whatever we can to recover from the Covid pandemic. Of course, it is not over yet, and so we apologise to parents and carers for the ongoing school access restrictions. These are essential if we are to stay on our guard and protect our children and families from the unfortunate risks that are still around us, and for that reason we ask you all to be patient. There are some new initiatives coming this term to keep you all abreast of what is happening in school, and you will see some of these quite soon now. We cannot overstate the huge task that lies ahead of us if we are to ensure our children catch up on lost time out of school. All of us have an important part to play in that as we move forward this year with a committed and determined team. Our parents and families have been outstanding in their support for the school and our staff during the past year or so, and we are asking you to continue that support this coming year, because your help is absolutely essential. Every day lost has to be made up somehow, and so we would encourage you all to ensure that the children lose no more valuable time in school. Every day is precious. The Headteacher and his staff have great optimism, ambition and commitment for the year ahead and we are sure that together we can do our very best to get all of our pupils back to where they deserve to be.

The Summer break during August, was still a busy time for getting new work completed in and around KEPS. A lot of work has been done to refresh the playground area and to provide some fun outside activities and the Multi-Use Games Area (MUGA pitch) is nearly finished. When completed this will provide some really good space for outside games once the weather moves towards the winter. Inside the school there have been lots of changes. Major work has been completed on the Hall, as well as some other improvements elsewhere. Of course, there is always more to be done, but the progress and improvement in the school estate over the last three years has been outstanding. It is the hope of everyone at KEPS that it won't be long now before you will all get a chance to stroll around the school and see those changes for yourselves.

Ordinarily at this time of the year we would provide you with a governor update on the overall progress over the past year, but regrettably most of the formal testing had to be put on hold. We are very hopeful that we can start getting back to normal now – whatever that will mean in the future. Once the national progress and development schedule gets back on the rails we will ensure that you get that data, and of course, all staff will give parents their individual updates as we continue with Parents' Evenings.

Once again, the Governing Body at KEPS want to say a huge 'Thank you' to our Headteacher and all staff for their dedication and commitment over the last year, especially with the extra work and management related to the remote and blended learning programmes for those children studying at home. Our best wishes to you all. Stay safe.