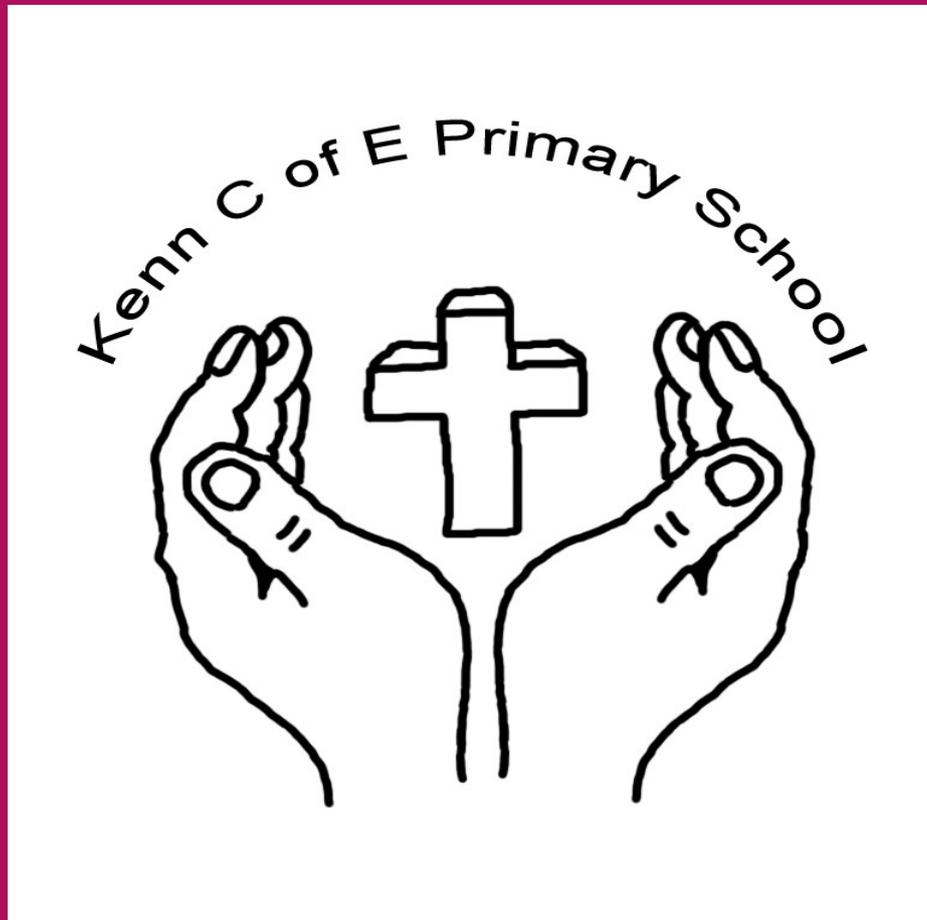


Kenn Church of England Primary School  
Kennford, Exeter, Devon, EX6 7TX  
Tel and Fax: 01392 832347



# Newsletter

Friday 23rd October 2020

## Diary of Events

Dates may be added or amended so please check the website for up to date information:

<http://www.kenn-primary.devon.sch.uk/calendar/>



# Thank you

A big thank you to the Cotton family for providing us with the paint for our spots on the ground that are now keeping everyone safe when dropping off and collecting children. This was greatly appreciated.

Thank you to all families for supporting the school at such a difficult time. We have worked tirelessly to make this term a successful one with many new hoops to jump through and several new hurdles to overcome. Despite all of this, we have pulled together as a strong Kenn staff team, and with your support, we have completed our first half term with happy and healthy children.

We have really appreciated every positive email, call or spoken word as it has helped our staff and their wellbeing to know that they are doing a great job!

We hope that we have provided you with consistent communication throughout this term and offered support to you and your families to deal with the new-normal. Please contact us if there is anything more that we can do to support you.



-**Parent phone calls** are taking place in the first week back. You will have received your time slot by the end of today.

-To take a look at the **Harvest Celebrations** on our website.

-Children should have **coats with hoods**. We will be taking the children outside for break, lunch and PE, even if it is raining.

-**Cars** should not be driving or parking around the school gate area in the morning or after school. Children are walking on to the road to meet their parents at the end of the day so please be aware.

Email: [admin@kennandkenton.devon.sch.uk](mailto:admin@kennandkenton.devon.sch.uk)

# Sustainable school

Forest School sessions with year 3 and 4 have been going very well this term. Both Kenn and Kenton schools are now using the same space at Bickham Farm in Kenn, where we have the benefit of a secure woodland space to develop our camp.

Bickham is an organic farm (growing veg for Rod & Ben's soups) and we have been lucky for the past few weeks; the farmer has allowed us to pick fresh tasty apples direct from the tree as break time snacks.

The children have loved choosing their own fruit, and have discovered different flavours and textures among the different varieties of apples available.

As the apple supply dwindles, I have been thinking about fruit snacks in the woods and at school. What a privilege it's been to have the most locally-sourced, packaging free snack. Zero food miles here!

- One of the aims in our outdoor learning is to foster respect for the natural world and an awareness of living sustainably on the planet. When you pack a healthy fruit snack for your child's breaktime please consider:
- does it need to be wrapped in plastic? Oranges, bananas and apples have their own protective skin!
- can you put fruit into a reusable tub? Raisins, grapes, soft berries etc can be protected in a tub you can wash and use over and over again
- can the fruit be unprocessed, in its natural state? Fruit winders and other packaged snacks often have an excess of sugar, as well as plastic packaging that cannot be recycled

## Behaviour and online safety

In the last newsletter, you will have seen our school improvement priorities. One of these is to focus on the behaviour and safety of our children.

This term, we have noticed a rise in the number of behavioural incidents that have occurred at lunch and break times where children are acting out scenes from online videos and games. We understand that there was more time during Lockdown where children were using the internet, but we wanted to highlight the age appropriateness of games and videos online to all parents.

Please support us with our online safety programme in school, by engaging in as many of the family activities as possible from the following link:

[https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/Support-tools/home-activity-worksheets/?utm\\_source=Thinkuknow&utm\\_campaign=ac5e378742-TUK\\_GLOBAL\\_14\\_10\\_20&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=0\\_0b54505554-ac5e378742-64882489](https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/Support-tools/home-activity-worksheets/?utm_source=Thinkuknow&utm_campaign=ac5e378742-TUK_GLOBAL_14_10_20&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_0b54505554-ac5e378742-64882489)

Please watch the video below to help support your child with their safe use of the internet:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nQ7TYRYoF4M&feature=youtu.be>

Email: [admin@kennandkenton.devon.sch.uk](mailto:admin@kennandkenton.devon.sch.uk)

A polite reminder that we are doing our utmost to ensure that all children stay in year group bubbles at all times throughout the school day. We realise that siblings will cross bubbles when going home together but please support our vulnerable staff, children and parents by keeping to the government rules when outside of the school hours.



### NHS Covid 19 phone app

Schools have been asked to promote the downloading and use of the NHS Covid 19 phone app among parents and staff. The aim of this is to assist the track and trace capacity across the country to slow down the spread of the virus.

Have you downloaded yours yet?



# Covid symptoms

## What to do if your child is unwell with Covid Symptoms

Dear Parents,

Please see this information below, taken directly from the NHS.

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/symptoms/coronavirus-in-children/>

### Symptoms of coronavirus in children

The main symptoms of coronavirus are:

- a high temperature
- a new, continuous cough - this means coughing a lot, for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours
- a loss or change to sense of smell or taste - this means they cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

### What to do if your child has symptoms

If your child has any of the main symptoms of coronavirus:

- Get a test to check if they have coronavirus as soon as possible.
- Stay at home and do not have visitors until you get the test result - only leave your home to have a test. Do not send your children into school until you have received a negative test result.
- Anyone you live with, and anyone in your support bubble, must also stay at home until you get the result.
- Upon receiving a negative result, please send this to school via email for our records.

# Moldova shoe boxes

Dawlish Water Rotary Club is once more undertaking shoebox collections on behalf of Christian Response to Eastern Europe. Covid-19 has caused huge problems as we know in the UK, but in Moldova the problems are made even worse by the poor state of the country and a dry season that has decimated the harvest. In the circumstances, this year's Christmas appeal is probably one of the most important we have ever had. These wonderful shoebox gifts, so carefully put together by you, will continue to make an enormous difference to many children and families in this poorest of countries.

Many thanks,  
Bruce

To adhere to our Covid guidelines we ask that only adults bring the boxes to the office.

Christmas Shoeboxes please leave outside the School Office by 9am Friday 20th November 2020. Please do not bring boxes any earlier as we can not keep them in school.

## A FEW IDEAS FOR CHRISTMAS SHOEBOXES

Age	Girls	Boys
2 to 4	Toothpaste and a toothbrush Shampoo and hair brush Chocolates and biscuits Top, socks and tights Soft toys Colouring books and pencils A dress	Toothpaste and a toothbrush Shampoo and comb Chocolates and biscuits T-shirt, socks and trousers Soft toys Colouring books and pencils Cars
4 to 7	Toothpaste and a toothbrush Shampoo and hair brush Toy and a calculator Chocolate and biscuits A top, socks and tights Notepad and a copybook Felt tip pens and pencils Soap and shower gel Hair clips and slides	Toothpaste and a toothbrush Shampoo and hair brush Chocolate and biscuits T-shirt, socks and sweater Copybook and notepad Paints, felt tip pens and pencils Lego and/or a car Soft toy
7 to 10	Toothpaste and a toothbrush Shampoo and hair brush A game and a calculator Chocolates and biscuits A top, socks and tights Notepad and a copybook Felt tip pens and water colouring paints Soap and hand cream Hair clips and slides A mug or a glass	Toothpaste and a toothbrush Shampoo and hair brush Chocolates and biscuits A T-shirt, socks and hat A copybook and notepad Water coloring paints and felt tip pens A lego, puzzles and a car A soft toy
10 to 12	Toothpaste and a toothbrush Hair brush A purse and a calculator Chocolates and biscuits A top, socks and tights A perfume and deodorant A hand cream and shower gel Hair clips and slides Jewellery	Toothpaste and a toothbrush Shampoo and a hair brush Chocolates and biscuits A T-shirt, socks and gloves Felt tip pens and notepad A lego and a wallet A soft toy and a game A deodorant and shower gel
12 to 15	Toothpaste and a toothbrush Shampoo and deodorant Paints and a notepad Chocolates and biscuits A top, socks and tights A brush, hair band and hair clip A game and face powder A purse, hat and gloves Jewellery	Toothpaste and a toothbrush Shampoo and deodorant Chocolates and biscuits A T-shirt, socks and gloves Paints and a notepad Felt tip pens, pencils and pens A lego and puzzles A wallet and a car
15 to 18	Toothpaste and a toothbrush Shampoo and deodorant Pens, pencils and a notepad Chocolates and biscuits A top, socks and tights A brush, hair band and hair clip A calculator and a watch A perfume and hand cream Jewellery Fragrant soaps	Toothpaste and a toothbrush Shampoo, shower gel and deodorant Chocolates and biscuits A T-shirt, socks, a hat and gloves Paints, pens and a notepad A lego and a calculator A hair brush and a watch A towel
Granny or Grandpa	Toothpaste and a toothbrush Shampoo and deodorant Fragrant soaps Chocolates and biscuits	Toothpaste and a toothbrush Shampoo, shower gel and deodorant Razor and shaving cream Chocolates and biscuits

# PTA

Thank you to Donna and her team for their efforts as our PTA. It was a very tricky year to fundraise for us last year but we thank you for all of the fantastic events that you have been able to create for our children and all of the money that you have raised to help us as a school.

The new PTA team is: Abi Cotton - chair, Alice Gaydon - treasurer and Ayesha Day - secretary.

Please support our PTA to raise the funds to support us with school trips, books and much more. Due to Covid, they missed a lot of fundraising opportunities in the spring and summer so we are holding three non-uniform days to support them.

Please donate £1 on the day for your child to wear the following non-uniform:

Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> Nov- Bonfire night - wear something sparkly or colourful!

Thurs 17<sup>th</sup> Dec- Christmas jumper day - wear something for Christmas!

Donna will be handing out bags at the school gate soon but if you miss her, then please collect one from the office.



Please work with your child to draw a self portrait on the small piece of sticky paper provided, including their name. Please only use a black felt tip pen, not pencil, biro, or coloured paints/pencils as these will not reproduce well. Ensure all names and drawings are clear. If you need to draw on a larger piece of paper you can but this will need to be shrunk and will mean a lot more work for me as we need to fit all 100 children in a small space. Thanks.

Your drawings need to be returned to me (Donna) or Susie (reception) by November 1<sup>st</sup> at the latest.

# A half term activity?

## A message from Mel Stride (MP)

On Friday, 9 October, I launched my annual competition for local primary school pupils to design my Christmas card. This year I am asking for 'an exciting, colourful and festive Christmas scene'. The card will be sent to more than a thousand people including local groups and organisations I have met, fellow MPs and the Prime Minister. This year the competition will be sponsored by Western Spray, a local business based in Crediton. Owner Peter Heal will judge the entries along with myself.

This year, due to the impact of Covid-19, I will be sending the Christmas cards electronically. The card will feature the winning design on the front and two-runners up either inside or on the back. There will also be special commendations for drawings that didn't quite make the final three, with us ensuring at least one commendation from each school that participates. The winner and two runners-up will have their names, ages and their school written under their design and there are art supplies and book tokens to be won.

Entries would ideally be scanned and emailed to [mel.stride.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:mel.stride.mp@parliament.uk) but they can also be posted directly to

Mel Stride MP  
House of Commons  
London, SW1A 0AA

Entries should be A5 sized (half a sheet of A4).

Entries must be received by Monday 9th November.

Entries need to be accompanied by the name, age and school of the artist.

## Dyslexia course

All parents are able to take part in the Understanding Dyslexia course for free!

Go to [Nessy.com](https://Nessy.com) and use the code - TEACHMEUD

Being a shy kid is really tough. The world can be noisy, busy and overwhelming. Shy kids are often overlooked, underestimated and sidelined. They tend not to get involved. They struggle to make friends. They don't share their opinions or their ideas. They miss out.

Shy and Mighty presents a free online workshop: NURTURING SHY KIDS, on November 9th at 8pm.



It's designed for parents, teachers... and it's completely free to attend.

I'll be sharing useful techniques to help us nurture and support our shy kids - so that they can feel happier, more confident and better able to speak up.

Email: [admin@kennandkenton.devon.sch.uk](mailto:admin@kennandkenton.devon.sch.uk)

## **A message from Dawn Stabb (Head of Education and Learning)**

Dear parents and carers,

Before we conclude the first half term of this new school year, I wanted to take a moment to thank you and your children for your patience and understanding, while teaching staff have worked incredibly hard to prepare and adapt to changes at school designed to reduce the spread of coronavirus. I also want to thank our students for their overwhelmingly positive response in accommodating the changes at school.

I would like to take this opportunity to update you on the wider coronavirus picture. Devon, overall, still has comparatively low numbers of positive cases – seven of our eight District areas remain lower than the national average. However, the number of positive cases across the county has risen in line with the national increase.

In Exeter, like so many university cities, we have seen numbers rising significantly, centred mostly around the university's student population. In response, the University introduced additional measures on top of their already comprehensive strategy to stop the infection, that include extending the restriction of movement between their student households on campus and within their student accommodation. Public Health information shows that the rest of the city is around the national average, there is no evidence at this time of significant spread of the virus between student and non-student populations in Exeter.

During this first half term, many of our schools have seen small numbers of pupils, either with symptoms of coronavirus requiring them to self-isolate, or that have tested positive and therefore need to self-isolate. However, even small numbers of pupils testing positive can disrupt learning as it means that many more pupils who have been in the same bubble have to self-isolate at home.

Schools have therefore needed to work hard to try to blend face-to-face teaching, for those still in school, with the provision of online or paper-based learning for children self-isolating at home. Please note schools do not need to provide learning at home for those pupils who do not need to self-isolate. For those pupils who are self-isolating, I ask you to ensure that they remain at home and are not socialising with people from outside of their household. If your child has been sent home for 14 days to self-isolate, it's vital that they do just that for the full duration. That means staying at home for no fewer than 14 days unless they are given the all-clear to return to school. It also means having no friends or visitors to stay over during that self-isolation period.

I would also like to remind parents of younger-aged children to follow the national guidance when they come to drop off or collect their child from school. That is to follow the 2-metre social distancing rules, and when in busier and noisier environments where social distancing is difficult, to wear face coverings.

It is likely that parents who talk outside of school do not do so in the same bubbles as their children and these simple steps not only protect you, but they also protect everyone else from the spread of coronavirus. As some people may have COVID but not show any symptoms (i.e. the high temperature, new and continuous cough, or change to the usual sense of taste or smell) it is really important for everyone to follow social distancing and hand hygiene measures to stop the spread, including when socialising out of school or when participating in extracurricular activities.

With regards to the national news this week about schools remaining closed for an extra week in addition to the half-term holiday, we are in regular liaison with our headteachers and we are all keeping a close watch on changing Government guidelines, including the possible extension of half term. In normal times, schools determine their own holiday dates within the academic year and some Devon schools already choose to have two-week autumn half terms and shorten their holidays at other times. Individual schools will inform you of any changes to their term dates.

Finally, I know that schools are in regular contact with you, to keep you informed and to quickly alert you to any changing situation at school. Your child's education, health and wellbeing is as of vital importance to us and your school, as it is to you, and I ask that you continue to work with your school and that you support them in their efforts. For this reason, if your child tests positive for coronavirus (COVID-19) please ensure that you keep them and any siblings at home and that you notify the school immediately.

In anticipation of your child's well-deserved half-term break, I wish you and your families a safe and healthy holiday.



# TERM DATES

## **AUTUMN TERM 2020**

Half-term 26th to 30th October

Autumn Term Ends Friday 18th December

**SPRING TERM 2021** begins Tuesday 5th January

Half-term 15th to 19th February

Spring Term Ends Thursday 1st April

**SUMMER TERM 2021** begins Tuesday 20th April 2021

**Bank Holiday Monday 3rd May 2021**

Half-term 31st May - 4th June 2021

Summer Term Ends Friday 23rd July 2021