



# Kents Hill School & Nursery Newsletter—October 2022



Happy Harvest!

“Give it 1, Give it 2, Give it 1, 2, 3

We are the children of Kents Hill School, We take the pride in the things we do

Learning together and having fun! Who’s for a good day? EVERYONE!

Thank you to everyone that helped us celebrate the end of the first autumn half term with a Harvest celebration. The singing (and flippy, floppy shaking) was fantastic. We must remember that some of our children have only been in school for 6 weeks! What star performers they are! All of your generous donations, will be collected by the Food bank, helping to support local families within Milton Keynes.

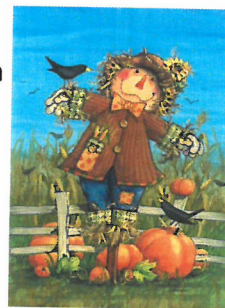
It has been lovely to share your children’s learning with you, including the phonics workshop, Macmillan coffee mornings, in which we raised £172.14 and most recently, the Learning celebrations across the school. It is lovely to see families in school again, so check out the dates in the newsletter for other opportunities!

Thank you for your continued support.

Have a happy and safe half term, and we’ll see everyone back on Monday 31st October @ 8:45am.

Warmest wishes,

Jane Mackie



## **OPEN MORNING—THURSDAY 10TH NOVEMBER 2022**

Our second Open Morning of 2022 will be held on Thursday 10th November 2022 at 9.30am for prospective parents and carers for September 2023 entry. Please do share this date with anyone you know who might be interested in coming along.

## **SCHOOL APPLICATIONS FOR SEPTEMBER 2023**

The closing date for applications for a Reception place at our school is **15th January 2023**. This is also the closing date for children in Year 2 applying for a place in Year 3 at your child’s next school. To apply or for further information, please visit [www.milton-keynes.gov.uk/schooladmissions](http://www.milton-keynes.gov.uk/schooladmissions) or see the Letters Home section of our website.



# Dates for your Diary



## OCTOBER

*Friday 21st October - Last day of term*

*Monday 31st October - School re-opens at 8.45am*

*Monday 31st October - RBL poppies can be purchased from 3pm*

## NOVEMBER

*Wednesday 2nd November - sign up sheets outside classrooms for Parent Consultations*

*Thursday 10th November - Open Morning for prospective parents and carers for September 2023 entry*

*Monday 14th November and Tuesday 15th November - Parent Consultations - 3.15pm—5.45pm*

*Friday 18th November - Children in Need—'Great Spot-acular' (letter to follow)*

## DECEMBER

*Date to be confirmed - Elf Day*

*Thursday 8th December - Whole School Christmas Disco - 4pm - 5.30pm*

*Tuesday 13th December - pm - Reception/Year 1 Nativity*

*Wednesday 14th December - am - Reception/Year 1 Nativity*

*Wednesday 14th December - Christmas Lunch*

*Thursday 15th December - 11.20am - Nursery Singalong*

*Friday 16th December - Year 2 Christingle Service at Christ The King Church*

*Friday 16th December - Christmas Jumper Day*

*Friday 16th December - Christmas Party*

*Friday 16th December - Last day of term*

## JANUARY

*Wednesday 4th January 2023 - School reopens at 8.45am*



# Nursery (Ducklings)

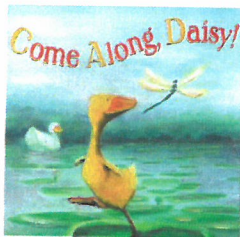


This half term we have been focusing on two different topics. On the topic "All About Me", we have been building positive relationship between our friends and the adults in the setting. We have been learning about our rules and routines, and how to follow instructions so that we can stay safe. We talked about our families, what we like to do with them, and learning about our similarities and differences.

On the topic "How Many Colours in a Rainbow", we aimed to develop exploration and observation skills in our Autumn topic, focusing on the changes of the leaves on trees. Collage, drawing, and painting were our focus this term. We explored the colours of Autumn and experiment with printing materials.

## Literacy

In Literacy, the books we focused on were Ruby's Worry, The Really, Really, Really Big Dinosaur, Come Along, Daisy! and The Colour Monster.



A range of fiction and non-fiction texts have been used supplement the children's learning throughout the topic.

Duckling's class had an exciting range of finger gym, writing opportunities across all areas of learning such as role play, investigation and small world.



## Mathematical development

Our focus was on number. Counting, matching numbers to sets and using numbers in our play. We focused also use shapes for printing, sorting, naming and making pictures and patterns.

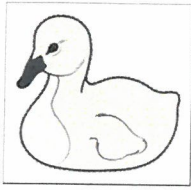
## Communication and language

We aimed to develop sustained listening skills, through learning rhymes and listening stories. We encouraged the use of questioning, to find more, such as "why", and "how", "who" and "when". In talking, we want all the children to feel confident enough to make contributions to discussion in a group and to listen to other. Every day at circle time we discuss about our emotions focus around the book, The Colour Monster.

## Wow Moments!

We would love to hear about those special Wow learning moments your child experiences out of school. It could be a new skill, such as swimming or riding a bike, independently getting dressed or using a piece of technology at home.



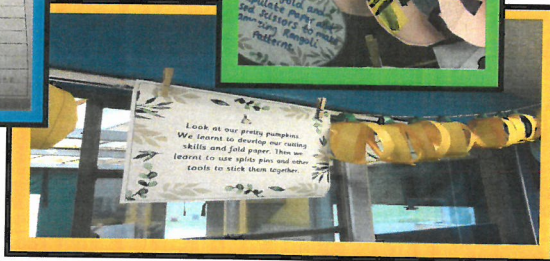
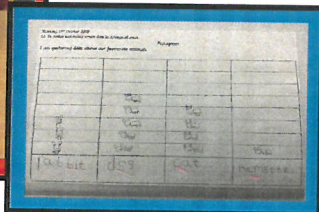
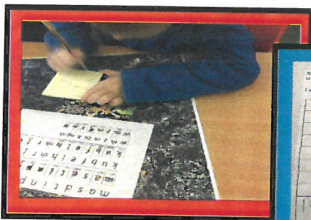


# Reception/Year 1 (Cygnet/Swans)



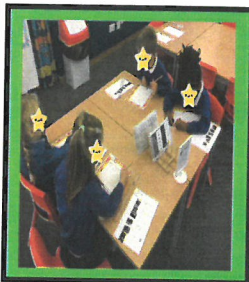
## Cygnets:

We are so proud of how Cygnets have settled in at Kents Hill during their first full half term. They are always busy learning and exploring and have a real keenness to keep active! They have been focusing on learning their first few letter sounds using our Read Write Inc phonics scheme and continue to learn more sounds and how to form the letters using fun materials and with writing resources. Cygnets have also been learning how to blend some of these sounds together to read short words such as, and, cat, mat. In maths they have been focusing on number recognition to 10, placing numbers in order and counting out a set amount of objects to match a number. During continuous provision, Cygnets have learnt to feel and describe pumpkins, create rangoli patterns, use various materials to create animal pictures during our topic, Paws Claws and Whiskers. Lots of children really enjoyed sharing their learning with you during our Celebration Afternoon too! Keep up the astounding efforts Cygnets!



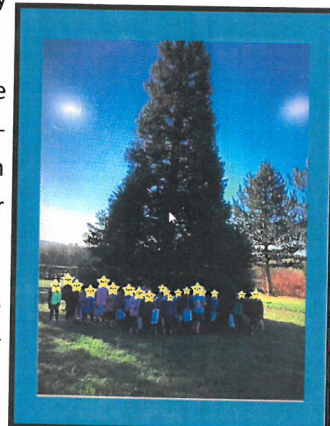
## Swans:

What an amazing first half term Swans have had, they have really taken on their learning roles in Year One, like a swan to water! It is such a big step from learning in Reception and we are immensely proud of each of them. During English we have really tried embedding the basics of capital letters, finger spaces and full stops. Please can you continue to practise these skills at home. We also wrote a recount about meeting Murphy the dog and our Autumn Walk. We had great fun changing the story about a pet who came to tea too! In maths we have been learning to use different resources to help us develop our math skills e.g. tens frames, number lines, part part wholes and bead strings. Feel free to ask your child about these and see if they can explain to you how they use them.



Swans really enjoyed having the chance to share their learning with you during the MacMillan afternoon and during our celebration afternoon when they made concertina Murphy dogs as part of our Paws Claws and Whiskers topic.

As part of our topic we have also designed and made a carrier for a pet, collected data on the most popular pet and represented this in a pictogram.







## Year 2 (Flamingos)



Year 2 have had a very busy half term learning all about castles. We have enjoyed learning about different castles in the UK, the different parts of a castle and even the different jobs you can have in a castle...why don't you ask your child what job they would or wouldn't like to have if they worked in a castle...?!?



In English we enjoyed making marmalade sandwiches. The children have worked really hard to learn and use some new "spicy words" to improve their spoken & written vocabulary. Please see attached sheet for their spicy words which you could encourage your child to use in a sentence at home too.

In Maths, we have been solving lots of number problems...putting numbers in the correct order, solving number puzzles, finding 1 more, 1 less, 10 more & 10 less and finding different ways to represent numbers. We have also been using column addition to add numbers together. After half term we will be moving onto our times tables, so please use the half term to practise counting in 2s, 5s & 10s.

The whole school have enjoyed learning about Diwali. Year 2 made some amazing Diva lamps.





## PARENT GOVERNOR OPPORTUNITY

Do you have....

Good inter-personal skills?

Curiosity and a willingness to learn and develop new skills?

The ability to provide a strong commitment to the role?

If so, please read on....

We currently have an exciting opportunity available for a Parent Governor to join our Governing Body. Our Governing Body is passionate about education and are thoroughly committed to continuous school improvement to ensure the very best outcomes for all of our pupils.

For further information on the role and the commitment, please email [kentshillschool@mket.org.uk](mailto:kentshillschool@mket.org.uk) and we will be in touch.

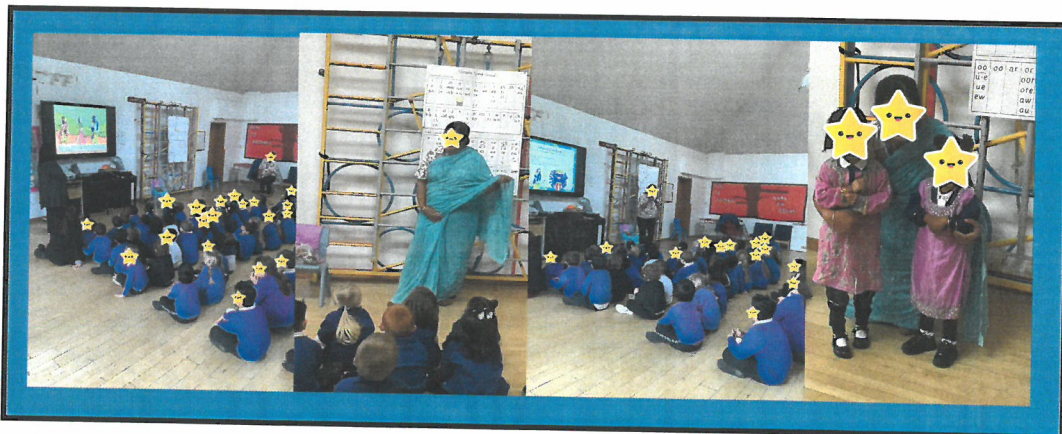
## DIWALI ASSEMBLY

Our lovely Mrs. Hayer gave our lucky children a wonderful insight into the customs, history and traditions of Diwali in assembly today.

The children learnt how Diwali is celebrated in different faiths, such as Hinduism and Sikhism. She taught the children the story behind Diwali and how Diwali has similarities to other celebrations.

Mrs Hayer gave a demonstration in how to tie a sari which was beautiful to watch.

Thank you very much, Mrs. Hayer for sharing the traditions of the festival of lights with us!





# DIWALI

The whole school have been learning about the traditions and customs of Diwali. From a special assembly from Mrs. Hayer, to making Diva lamps and Diva cards in class, to rangoli patterns and henna designs, the children have thoroughly enjoyed their learning of this special festival - a Festival of Lights'.





## AUTUMN WALKS

The whole school enjoyed Autumn walks during October. The weather was so kind to us, giving us beautiful sunshine to observe the colours of Autumn and learn the difference between a deciduous tree and evergreen tree. We also identified which type of trees each different leaf could have fallen from.



### KENTS HILL SCHOOL PTFA

Now that the restrictions of Covid-19 are largely behind us, we are seeking to resume the fantastic activities of The Kents Hill PTFA - the 'Friends of Kents Hill School'.

The FOKHS is a group of parents, carers and teachers who work together to raise money through a variety of fundraising activities and decide how best to spend this money to enrich the experience for the children in the school in ways that would not otherwise be possible.

The committee meets 6 times a year at evening meetings once every half term. The committee has the usual roles such as chairperson, treasurer, secretary etc. as well as other ordinary members. There is no need to take on a particular role to be on the committee and it is possible to be on the committee even if you can't make the meetings. As well as the committee members there are a number of people who offer their help as and when they can and this is always appreciated.

Each year, we would like to raise money through events such as Christmas and summer fetes, cake sales, 2nd hand uniform sales, Bags2School collections, and are open to other ideas. We hope that everyone finds these events fun and/or useful as well as helping to raise money. The money raised can be used to fund school trips, visits to the school by exciting workshops, new books, new toys and other equipment, as well as for larger long-term projects.

As a parent/guardian of a child at Kents Hill School, you would automatically be a member of the Friends of Kents Hill School and would be kept up to date with all activities.

If you would be interested in an informal chat about reviving the Friends of Kents Hill School, please feel free to get in touch with Mrs. Mackie via the office email - [kentshillschool@mket.org.uk](mailto:kentshillschool@mket.org.uk).

We would LOVE to hear from you!



## PAWS, CLAWS AND WHISKERS TOPIC

We are fortunate to have some Post-16 students from Walton High School working within the school, supporting the children in Early Years. As part of the Paws, Claws and Whiskers topic, they made the children a fantastically creative Vet Surgery!

Here, the children can use their imagination and knowledge to explore what happens at the vets, learn about different creatures and how to care for animals .

