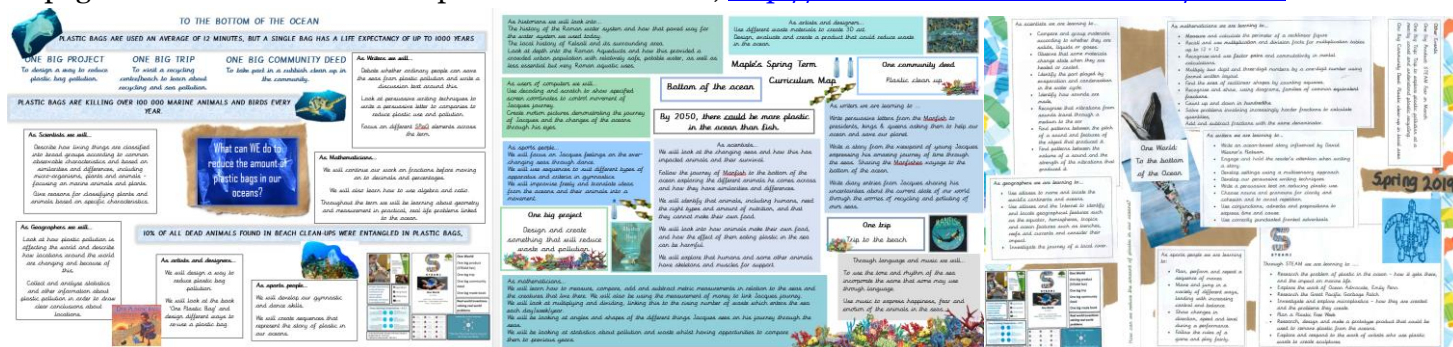


# Kelsall Friday Flyer

29<sup>th</sup> January 2019

Dear Parent,

It's been a busy first few weeks of the new term. All classes have settled back into school routines and it is such a pleasure to be able to walk around school and discuss the fantastic learning that is taking place in each classroom. Our **S.T.E.A.M** (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts & Maths) theme for this term is **'To the bottom of the Ocean'**. All classes are looking at the impact that plastic use has on our oceans and waterways. Go to your child's class page on website to see what is planned for this term; <http://www.kelsall.cheshire.sch.uk/classes>



## Routines

The doors open at **8:40am** and the gate closes at **8:50am**. Please ensure that you are all on time. The first 15/20 minutes in the morning is spent practicing/refining handwriting, learning spellings and times tables. If your child is arriving at 9:00am everyday they have missed out 1hr 40minutes a week of learning which over a term really mounts up. It has been noticed that some families are late each day; please could I encourage you to aim to get to school for **8:40am** – it does make a real difference.

## E-Safety

I hope that you have managed to pick up one of the **Digital Parenting** guides from school or via PING in digital format, in the past few weeks. These guides are really useful in helping to safely support your child's activities in the online world. I have added past guides on the school website; <http://www.kelsall.cheshire.sch.uk/page/internet-safety/32103> - if you would like a hard copy of the most recent guide we still have a few copies in school; please do ask for one at the office.

## Parking Charter

Last week some of our Y6 children met with CWAC representatives to formulate a Parking Charter for our school. They explored some of the problems with parking and came up with some really good solutions that will help to safeguard us all in the future. The charter will be ready to be signed by you all soon, alongside banners outside to remind us about our responsibilities when parking and driving around school.

## Morning Snack

We have noticed that crisps and chocolate are being brought back into school for morning snack.

To promote healthy eating choices and to reduce our plastic waste, please **only bring in fruit and healthier choices** – there are some fantastic ideas here on the change4life website;

<https://www.nhs.uk/change4life/food-facts/healthier-snacks-for-kids/100-calorie-snacks>

We also have a fruit/vegetable trolley in school with a range of fruit available to all children at snack times that they are able to eat if they wish.

## Clubs

A huge thank you to all of the teachers and parents who have given up their time and energy to run a wide range of after school clubs this term. Can you please ensure that your child attends the clubs that they have signed up to as there is a waiting list for some who were oversubscribed. We do our very best not to cancel any clubs but sometimes, mostly due to inclement weather, we have to make the decision to do so; we will let you know via PING as soon as we can.

## Jo Powell

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Jo Powell who has been our cleaner for a number of years. Jo has decided to end her time as cleaner with us. She has been a much valued member of the Kelsall TEAM and we wish her every success for the future.



## No Outsiders

A huge well done to Ieuan, Phoebe and Neave who spoke amazingly at the second CAT Public Speaking event at Storyhouse last week. The theme of their talks was ‘**No Outsiders**’ – to discuss a time when they have felt like an outsider. They were all so confident, calm and creative in their approaches to the speech. Phoebe successfully went through to finals day and spoke brilliantly again. We are all so proud of their achievements and I am sure that all three will remember this as a ‘**Magic Moment**’.



## Parent Survey

Thanks to everyone who completed our Parent Survey on PING. Here are the results of the survey (**89 responses**);

Question	Strongly Agree (+agree)	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't Know
My child is happy at this school	71% (97%)	26%	3%		
My child feels safe at this school	69% (99%)	30%	1%		
My child makes good progress at this school	52% (91%)	39%	4%		3%
My child is well looked after at his school	58% (100%)	42%			
My child is well taught at this school	55% (95%)	39%	4%		1%
My child receives appropriate homework for their age	34% (88%)	54%	10%	1%	1%
The school makes sure that its pupils are well behaved	37% (88%)	54%	3%	2%	7%
The school deals effectively with bullying	20% (47%)	27%	4%	3%	45%
The school is well led and managed	49% (89%)	40%	6%	2%	2%
The school responds to any concerns I raise	45% (87%)	42%	5%	1%	7%
I receive valuable information from the school about my child's learning	40% (95%)	55%	5%		
Would you recommend this school to another parent?	63% (88%)	25%	2%		10%

**Additional comments** (not all comments have been included as they refer closely to individual children or teachers)

My child is much more engaged with learning since joining the school. He feels safe and valued. My only comment as a working parent is that it would be great if after school clubs ran all term!’

A lovely, caring, nurturing and innovative school. My daughter is very happy at Kelsall primary and looks forward to everyday! :) Brilliant school!

Excellent school! Can't fault it in any way.

The teachers at Kelsall Primary have found some really creative ways of combining fun activities with learning. I wish my school experience had been this inspiring!

Excellent team, thank you.

Think all the staff in the school are doing an excellent job, both my children very happy there and can't wait to get to school every day. STEAM is amazing and covering the Oceans this term is brilliant, so interesting for them. Only complaint from them is why are there never any bagels at break time 😊 thankyou for all your hard work👍

It's great to see teachers greeting children into school each morning.

Both of my children are always inspired and excited to go to school each day, which speaks volumes. Importantly I feel Kelsall School has always encouraged my children to be confident, self-assured little people. The emphasis on arts within the school is absolutely inspiring, especially in the current educational climate, where this is so often neglected. I will be very sad to see my eldest leave in July.

**Additional comments;**

More notice of school events and plans

Some events can be poorly planned or thought out and some time needs to be spent on more the school office can run more efficiently and effectively

The office and the wider school team work hard to ensure that any events planned are communicated to you in a timely fashion. There are some occasions when information needs to be sent ahead of a newsletter or indeed when we get late notice of an event. We will continue to utilise PING to send you messages and will continue to plan in advance as much as possible.

I think that the school's move to put all homework on line is not the best course of action. There are significant problems with the software for a number of children, making it inaccessible. Furthermore kids today do too much on line and I think we should move back to homework books with homework tailored to a child.

I don't think computer based homework that is unmarked and without child feedback works at this age. Children need to know their efforts are seen by their teacher and receive positive feedback.

It has taken a great deal of time to find a solution to homework that supports the curriculum and learning taking place in school. The online tools enable teachers to allocate homework efficiently and timely linked to the area of Maths (MyMaths) or Reading (BugClub) that they are working on in that particular week. We will always support with technical difficulties. We will review our feedback on homework through staff meetings. The vast majority (88%) are comfortable with homework so we will continue with the online content whilst also encouraging 'a love for learning' in self-directed learning at home which we are always happy to see.

I feel the children especially girls, would benefit from more sport activity and competitions

As a school we have increased the number of tournaments and events that we enter. Miss Creek and Miss Cadwallader are our Sports Champions and work hard to organise and support equal opportunity for all of our pupils, including ensuring our children are active and benefit from many different sporting activities; ranging from external coaches in cricket, football, handball and hockey to after school club sports clubs and a range of competitions linked to Tarporley High School and the Cheshire Sports Partnership.

My only concern is that at the end of the day when children leave the school there is no 'check' that parents have arrived to collect their children. I do worry about this as other schools only release children when a teacher knows a parent has arrived.

We will ensure that a member of staff is on the school gates at the end of each day to check that children do not leave the premises on their own. Children are told clearly that if parents are not on the playground they should come back inside school and wait to be collected.

As always, if you have any concerns about your child or school please do let me know. I appreciate the strong partnerships that we have with our parent community and this survey highlights that we are working well as a TEAM but there is always more that we can do. Alongside this newsletter I have attached our Kelsall Curriculum Statement. Our innovative and creative approach has resulted in other schools wanting to find out more and adopt some of our practice. We will continue to adapt and change to meet the needs of all of our learners in our inclusive school. Thank you for your participation in the survey and your continued support of Kelsall School.

<b>Diary Dates</b>	
<b>END OF SPRING TERM 1</b>	<b>15<sup>th</sup> February</b>
<b>START OF SPRING TERM 2</b>	<b>25<sup>th</sup> February</b>
Parents Evening	<b>12<sup>th</sup> &amp; 14<sup>th</sup> March</b>
Y6 Amasing @Storyhouse	<b>12<sup>th</sup> March</b>
Additional Y6 Parent's Evening	<b>19<sup>th</sup> March</b>
Y3 Tattenhall Residential	<b>20<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup> March</b>
Conway Art Weekend	<b>22<sup>nd</sup> March</b>
STEAM Expo – Parent's invited	<b>28<sup>th</sup> March 1:00pm onwards</b>
<b>END OF SPRING TERM 2</b>	<b>29<sup>th</sup> March</b>
<b>START OF SUMMER TERM 1</b>	<b>15<sup>th</sup> April</b>
Good Friday	<b>19<sup>th</sup> April</b>
Easter Monday	<b>22<sup>nd</sup> April</b>
Children back in school	<b>23<sup>rd</sup> April</b>
Y5 Isle of Man Residential	<b>7<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> May</b>
Y4 Nant Glyn Residential	<b>15<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup> May</b>
<b>END OF SUMMER TERM 1</b>	<b>24<sup>th</sup> May</b>
<b>START OF SUMMER TERM 2</b>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> June</b>
Sports Day	<b>21<sup>st</sup> June</b>
Year 6 Conwy Residential	<b>24<sup>th</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup> June</b>
Year 6 to London	<b>11<sup>th</sup> July</b>
<b>END OF SUMMER TERM 2</b>	<b>19<sup>th</sup> July</b>

**Has someone done something online that has made you or a child or young person you know, feel worried or unsafe? Click on the link below;**



Thank you

Mr Wearing & the Kelsall TEAM.



**Follow us on Twitter.  
@KelsallSchool**