



Learn to Love, Love to Learn

22nd September 2022

Latest Update

European Languages Day

At KIPS we believe it is important for our children to have the opportunity to learn a second language from a young age and we currently offer Spanish from P2 with a programme that runs throughout the year for our P4-7 pupils. We will therefore be celebrating **European Languages Day on Monday 26th September**. **On this day pupils will be asked to dress in colours representing a specific country as follows –**

- P1 – Spanish – Red/Yellow**
- P2 – French – Red/White/ Blue**
- P3 – German – Black/ Yellow/ Red**
- P4 – Italian – Green/White/Red**
- P5 – Irish – Green/White/Orange**
- P6 – Polish – Red/White**
- P7 – Ukraine – Blue/Yellow**

Homework

Whilst it is important that your child is encouraged to become more independent as they move through primary school please continue to support them in the completion of homework; this is an important aspect of their learning and development. At KIPS we have stripped back on what is required in each primary to ensure that the key areas are covered. If you are experiencing issues with homework times please discuss this with your child's class teacher.

After School Clubs

Our After School Clubs programme will resume from Monday 26th September. Unfortunately, due to a lack of numbers. Miniversity, Debutots, DebutKids and Supreme Sports Football will not be running this term (all bookings will be refunded). Please note that for any club requiring sportswear pupils should come to school in normal uniform and bring a change of clothes in a named bag.

Day	Club	Status	Additional requirements
Monday	Hurling/Camogie (P1-3)	Spaces still available	Outdoor Sports wear (not school outdoor games kit) trainers and a waterproof coat. Pupils may bring their own playing equipment of they wish.
	Hurling/Camogie (P4-7)	Spaces still available	As above.
	Art Club (P2-3)	Full	N/A
	Board Games Club (P4-7)	Spaces available	N/A
Tuesday	Miniversity	Cancelled due to insufficient numbers	
	Chess (P5-7)	Spaces available	
	Yoga (P5-7)	Spaces available	This is now open to P4 pupils. Letter home today. Outdoor games kit required or alternative sports gear.
	IFA Girl's Football	Starting later in the term	More information to follow.
Wednesday	Debutots and DebutKids	Cancelled due to insufficient numbers	
	Animation Club (P4-7)	Spaces available	N/A
	Basketball Club	Full	Outdoor games kit and coat required or alternative sports gear.
	Art Club (P5-7)	Full	N/A
Thursday	Supreme Sports Football	Cancelled due to insufficient numbers	
	Board Games Club (P2-3)	Full	
	Scripture Union	Spaces available	

REFURBISHMENT PROGRAMME

After two years of waiting, work will finally begin next week on some internal refurbishment of office spaces and staff room. This will mean some disruption as follows –

Principal's and Secretary's Office will be out of action for the next few weeks. Where possible please avoid accessing the school building and contact the office via phone or email.

Part of the front entrance area will be cordoned off for work's traffic, skip, workman's hut, etc. Please ensure children are kept away from this area. The works team are used to working in schools and understand our safeguarding procedures and measures.

Attendance

We are encouraged to see that our attendance figures are up this term to over 96%. Please ensure that your child only misses school when absolutely necessary.

P7 AQE details

Please note that any pupil wishing to sit the AQE assessments later this term must be registered by Friday 23rd September 2022 via www.aqe.org.uk.

KIPS+ Committee

We will be officially starting our KIPS+ (Parents', Teachers' and Friends' Association) in October with an Annual General Meeting. More details to follow in a separate letter.

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION – REVIEW OF CHILDCARE SERVICES - SURVEY

Have you got a few minutes to help improve childcare services in Northern Ireland?

A review of childcare services in Northern Ireland, commissioned by the Department of Education, wants to hear from parents, carers and others in the sector. The review wants to understand the current state of the childcare sector in Northern Ireland, including the supply and demand of childcare services, their accessibility and affordability. The review will involve surveys and focus groups or interviews with parents, carers, childcare providers and other people within the childcare sector. Parents and carers of children aged between 0 and 14 years of age in Northern Ireland can have their say in this survey (your answers are anonymous):

tinyurl.com/mrc7dskp

The survey will close on 30th September 2022. The independent review is being carried out by RSM, with support from: National Children's Bureau; Dr Glenda Walsh of Stranmillis University College; and LucidTalk. The final report is expected in December 2022 and will inform the development of the NI Executive's Early Learning and Childcare Strategy.

DE Consultation

The Department of Education has launched a public consultation on its draft Corporate Plan. The Corporate Plan will set our strategic focus over the next five years and, working in partnership with stakeholders, it will help us make a difference and improve outcomes for children and young people. DE would like to give everyone with an interest in education the opportunity to have a say and influence the final Corporate Plan.

If you would like to submit a response please do to the DE website and search for Corporate Plan 2023-2028.