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Dear Parents and Carers

## **School Census Day**

Next Thursday 18th January is the Spring School Census Day.

What does this mean to me?

The money the school receives from the government to pay for the Infant school meals is based on an average of the number of meals taken on the census days in October and January.

It would really help us if your child was to have a school meal on this day, particularly if your child is in Year R, 1 or 2 and/or they are in receipt of pupil premium funding.

Please kindly book your child's meal through SCOpay as usual. The options are **Red-Roast Beef**, **Green-Pizza** and for **pudding Chocolate cake**.

We thank you in advance for your anticipated support.

## The Big Ambition – Have your say!

The Children's Commissioner for England, Dame Rachel de Souza, has launched **The Big Ambition**, a national survey of children and young people across England.

**The Big Ambition** aims to hear from children across England on what they think is important! In the lead up to the next General Election, the Children's Commissioner wants to take children's thoughts, opinions and ideas to decision-makers, to make sure that the Government hears young people's voices on what they think needs to be done to make children's lives better in England. To find out more, and to take part at home, please follow this link: <a href="https://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/the-big-ambition/">https://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/the-big-ambition/</a>



Inset Day - Friday January 26<sup>th</sup>

School will be closed to all pupils.



12th January 2024 Newsletter Number: 16 Kings Worthy Primary School are now a Nut & Sesame-Free school. We do not allow nuts or sesame in school lunch boxes. Sesame has now been added to the prohibited foods.

Our school aims to protect children who have allergies to nuts and sesame yet also help them, as they grow up, to take responsibility for what foods they can eat and to be aware of where they may be put at risk. Never the less, we sometimes encounter these prohibited foods within children's lunchboxes which puts the children with allergies at significant risk.

Our "Nut and Sesame Free guidance" means that the following items should not be brought into school:

- Packs of nuts
- Peanut butter or Nutella sandwiches
- Fruit and cereal bars that contain nuts
- Chocolate bars or sweets that contain nuts
- Sesame seed rolls and breads containing sesame seeds
- Sushi covered with sesame seeds
- Hummus
- Cakes made with nuts
- Any home cooked meals for packed lunches that are made with nuts or sesame
- This list is not exhaustive and we respectfully ask that you check all items sent in lunchboxes do not contain these allergens.

We do not use nuts or sesame in any of our food prepared on site at our school. Our suppliers provide us with nut and sesame-free products. However, we cannot guarantee that some foods haven't been manufactured in a sesame free factory.

If your child has a known allergy to sesame you will need to register this with the HC3S Special Diet team on the following link <u>https://specialdiets.hants.gov.uk/</u>

Parents and carers must notify staff if their child has any known or suspected allergy to nuts or sesame and provide all medical and necessary information. This will be added to your child's care plan and if necessary, a meeting organised with the school first aid lead.

The school requests that parents and carers observe the nut and sesame-free guidance and therefore do not include nuts, or any traces of nuts or sesame, in packed lunches. All children are regularly reminded about the good hygiene practice of washing hands before and after eating which helps to reduce the risk of secondary contamination. Likewise, children are reminded and carefully supervised to minimise the act of food sharing with their friends.

Thank you for your help in making our school safe for all children.

## **Spelling Shed**

A fantastic start to the new year from 5S, who are holding on tight to their number 1 position. 2B and 4R are very close behind so it will be interesting to see if they can hold onto the top spot next week! Congratulations to our individual spellers of the week too. Fantastic work – well done!

<u>Classes</u>					
1st Place – 5S					
2nd Place – 2B					
3rd Place – 4R					
<b>Individuals</b>					
1st Place – Safia, Year 5					
2nd Place – Vladyslav, Year 4					
3rd Place – Isabelle, Year 5					
(Written by Mrs Cowling)					

### Maths Shed

At the start of this half term, the first battle for the top of the Maths Shed leader board has been close. 6S and 4R have both finished with around 3,000,000 points! Well done to the individual winners! Can **you** make it the top next week?

#### <u>Classes</u>

 $1^{st}$  Place – 6S  $2^{nd}$  Place – 4R  $3^{rd}$  Place – 2C

#### **Individuals**

1<sup>st</sup> Place – Vlad C, Year 4 2<sup>nd</sup> Place – Faith G, Year 6 3<sup>rd</sup> Place – Rafal M, Year 5 *(Written by Mrs Smyth)* 

### <u>Snow</u>

I thought that I should send information out to parents and carers around school closures in case of snow. We will always endeavour to keep the school open, as closing the school presents problems for working parents, and we have a statutory responsibility to provide an education for the children during school hours. I also try to not have the school open for just half a day, or allow a late arrival at school, as this poses operational problems and again is a hassle for parents and carers if they have to do a ten o'clock drop-off or one o'clock pick-up. However, we also have to staff the school adequately to ensure the safety and well-being of the children, and most of our staff live beyond the boundaries of Kings Worthy, whereas most of the children live within walking distance.

When deciding whether or not to close the school, I have to consider the journey that staff will take in terms of distance and safety, whether kitchen staff are able to get into school to feed the children and also take into account the weather forecast for the day. If I do decide to close the school, this will appear on the 'announcement' banner on the school website as early as possible on the day of closure. It will also be on the Hampshire County Council page for school closures, and BBC Radio Solent picks up from this to announce closures. We would endeavour to email parents, but it is likely that email traffic will be high if multiple schools are doing this, and it may be that the email communication is slow. If the school remains open, then we will run as a normal school day and any absence will be unauthorised.





Jamie Dodson			
Headteacher			