



January 2018

Keir Hardie Newsletter

Head Teacher's Message

Dear Parent/Carers, welcome back and happy new year! Although the Spring term is a short term, we are looking forward to it being filled with exciting new learning experiences.

Punctuality

Well done to all the parents and pupils who have been arriving to school on time each morning; a quick reminder that the school day starts at 8:45am.

Uniform

Having listened to pupil feedback regarding the new additions to the school uniform, school ties may now be purchased and worn by pupils in Years 1 to 6.

Behaviour

At Keir Hardie Primary School we are committed to promoting positive behaviour and therefore providing the opportunities for pupils to maximise their learning potential and find purpose and enjoyment at school, feel safe and secure and maintain healthy relationships. We actively encourage our pupils to make positive choices and display their MAGIC habits, which we recognise a range of rewards. For example, pupils who consistently use their MAGIC habits to support their learning behaviour are recognised through weekly celebration assemblies and half termly 'Celebrations of MAGIC'. With the introduction of the house system there is a further opportunity for pupils to contribute to the wider Keir Hardie community by earning MAGIC points for their houses.

As a school we pride ourselves on how our staff manage behaviour. This year staff have received training in promoting 'Language of Choice' in order to support pupils to become more reflective of their choices and the impact it could have.

We are an active member of the Newham Headstart Project, aimed at developing the resilience and wellbeing of our pupils. This year, 12 of our Year 5 and 6 pupils are currently participating in a programme called 'Bounceback' where they are discussing and finding opportunities to overcome the challenges they face in life outside of school.

We work closely with families to ensure that any poor choices are followed up so that pupils understand the consequences of their decisions. Very occasionally, this can result in a fixed term exclusion, when the school takes the decision that a pupil must spend some time out of school. This is a last resort, and the school is proud of supporting all pupils, to be a success in our school. Further information about all of the above can be found in our Behaviour Policy on our school website.

Upcoming Dates

- **Week Beginning Monday 29th January**
 - Science & Computing Week
- **Friday 2nd February**
 - Individual Pupil Photographs (siblings 8am)
- **Wednesday 7th February**
 - Year 5 Curriculum Assembly
- **Week Beginning Monday 12th February**
 - Half Term Break (**School Closed**)

*Please refer to the [Calendar](#) section of the school website for up to date diary information



Keir Hardie Houses

At Keir Hardie we pride ourselves on our inclusive ethos and recognise the importance of belonging and understand the impact it can have on our children's academic and personal resilience and wellbeing. As a consequence, this year we will be launching a new house system where each child in the school will be assigned to one of four houses. The house system will become an important and vibrant part of school life where children will be provided with a number of opportunities and success can be celebrated.

There will be four houses, each led by a member of staff, to which each student and other members of staff will be allocated. The four houses and their leads are:

- Garnet** - Mr Ferguson
- Sapphire** - Mr Mohammed
- Emerald** - Miss Nguyen
- Citrine** - Mr Gunyon



All students will have the opportunity to represent their house in a number of inter-house competitions and events held throughout the year. Through these events, students will have the opportunity to earn house points to go towards the house totals. Individually, students can add to their house total by being awarded MAGIC points by staff for displaying their MAGIC habits.

Each child will be receiving a t-shirt in the colour of their house. This t-shirt can be worn during PE lessons and during any inter-house events or competitions.

A running total of house points for each house, photos from inter-house events and any other relevant information will be regularly updated on the schools' website and the boards around the school. At the end of the academic year, every member of the house that has accumulated the most house points will be provided with an exciting reward.

Reading at Home

A new incentive to encourage our children to read at home will be launched on **Monday 15th January**.

Your child can earn a raffle ticket if they read at home at least four times in a week.

The raffle ticket will go into a class lottery which will be drawn at the end of each half term. Winners will be able to choose either a book or book voucher.

There will also be prizes for children who have read the most over the half term (even if they have not been drawn from the lottery)



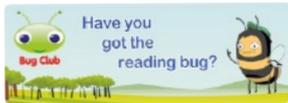
Parents

You will need to sign your child's 'Reading is Fun' book **or** encourage your child to write reviews, questions etc. to show that they have read at home.

Children

Your reading can include:

- ❖ Class Reading Books
- ❖ Bug Club
- ❖ Library books
- ❖ Books, comics, of your choice from Home
- ❖ Reading questions or information as part of a game



Reading for Pleasure

We have a dedicated 15 minutes a day, where your child experiences stories and poetry at levels they may not be able to access for themselves.

Your child's teachers enthusiastically bring the texts to life to engage your child. Please ensure your child is in class at 8.45, so they do not miss this experience or miss out on the story plots!

Pupil Voice!

"I like reading and I think it's better than watching TV because things can be fake. I like non-fiction books and Atlas, to see real things." **Ayomide**

"I like reading because it helps me read faster and I read at night and morning and I like reading!" **Zoya**

"I read every night because I love reading and it helps me with my phonics!" **Jannah**

"The reason I like books is I like scary books because they are great!" **Pleasure**

"I like reading because it's not just boring, it's actually more exciting! I like non-fiction books because they tell me what's happening and I like big books." **Malia**

"The reason why I like reading books at home is because my teacher gives me books like 'Horrid Henry'. I always read to my big brother and sometimes he reads to me." **Naomi**

