



Inspiring Excellence

Keir Hardie Newsletter

Dear Parent/Carers, it's been a positive start to the academic year with lots of exciting learning experiences. We are sure your child is settling well into their new class and is familiar with the expectations and routines. Thank you to all the parents/carers for supporting the pupils and the school in starting the academic year so smoothly. We look forward to a Autumn Term filled with MAGIC! Please find some important updates, reminders and key dates for your diary.

Welcomes

We would like to welcome the following members of staff who have joined the Keir Hardie family:

- Mr Newlands (Year 5 Teacher)
- Miss Latif (Year 4 Teacher)
- Miss Modlim (Year 3 Teacher)
- Miss Obeng (Graduate Teaching Assistant)

Attendance

We would like to say a thank you to the parents and carers who have helped to start the academic year by bringing their child(ren) to school every day. The school attendance target for 23/24 is **96%**. Let's aim, even higher, to exceed our target!

A couple of important attendance reminders:

- School attendance is mandatory for all pupils
- Leave of absence / holidays will not be authorised during term time
- For any sickness absences / or medical appointments, please ensure medical proof is provided to the school so the absence can be authorised.
- In line with government regulations, if a child's attendance falls below 95% in a term, they will be referred to the **Attendance Management Service**. If there are 6 unauthorised sessions (1 session = half a day) in half a term, a penalty notice of £60 per parent may be issued.

Working together to improve behaviour

With your support we aim to continue creating a positive culture that promotes excellent behaviour, ensuring that all pupils have the opportunity to learn in a calm, safe and supportive environment.

As a school community, we foster a shared responsibility amongst all staff, pupils and parents, towards encouraging good behaviour and actively discouraging unacceptable behaviour.

Together we can create an environment where all pupils are happy and can learn.

Friendship Friday

On the **last Friday** of every month we celebrate Friendship! A child in every class is given a certificate for showing good friendship to others. This is important as it shows children the importance of working well with their peers and having strong friendships. Even the Adults get involved by giving certificates to each other. We ask that all children wear Denim Jeans on Friendship Friday- it is not a non-uniform day. We give all children a Friendship T-Shirt to keep in school for Friendship Friday. The dates for Friendship Friday are available on the school website; Class Dojo reminders are also sent nearer the time.

MAGIC Habits

At Keir Hardie we aim to inspire our children to achieve excellence. We expect our pupils to be **Motivated** in their learning, display a positive **Attitude** at all times, show **Gumption** when faced with obstacles, demonstrate **Independent** thinking and always **Communicate** effectively. We call these our **MAGIC** Habits.

Our Learning Journey

To help our pupils to learn, know more, do more and remember more as well as preparing them for the next stage of their education, we use the KEIR HARDIE mnemonic to ensure our lessons are effectively sequenced.



[Click here](#) to find out more.

Reading

Keir Hardie is a reading school. Please remember to read with your child each day and to visit the school library! Parent Reading for Early Years will commence on **Friday 22nd September** from 8.45am - 9am. This will be taking place weekly, please come and read with our pupils.

Uniform

It has been great seeing our pupils attending school looking so smart in their uniform! Quick Reminders: 1) please ensure your child brings their PE kit to school - including their house coloured PE top. 2) school uniform can be ordered on the school website by [clicking here](#).

Keir Hardie Primary Inspiring Excellence Breakfast Club



Come and join us for a nutritious breakfast followed by a range of exciting activities at 7:45 every morning. **(Doors close at 8:20am)**

Keir Hardie Breakfast Club will be run under the guidance of the Head Teacher and the Governing Body of Keir Hardie Primary School.

Meet & Greet Sessions

Over the next two weeks, we will be hosting Year Group Meet & Greet sessions. The sessions will give opportunities for parent/carers to meet with all members of staff working with your child and for the class teachers to share the curriculum, expectations and learning focus for the year. It will also be a great opportunity to ask questions on how you can support your child's learning, and share ideas of how the school can support you.

Please find the dates of the sessions in the section below.

Important Dates for the Diary

- **Monday 18th September**
Year 4 History Off The Page Workshop
Year 1 Meet & Greet Session - 3:30 - 4:30pm
- **Tuesday 19th September**
Year 6 History Off The Page Workshop
Year 5 Meet & Greet Session - 3:30 - 4:30pm
- **Wednesday 20th September**
Year 5 History Off The Page Workshop
Year 3 Meet & Greet Session - 3:30 - 4:30pm
- **Thursday 21st September**
Year 2 Visit to Lambourne End
Year 6 Meet & Greet Session - 3:30 - 4:30pm
- **Friday 22nd September**
Year 4 Meet & Greet Session - 3:30 - 4:30pm
- **Monday 25th September**
Year 2 Meet & Greet Session - 3:30 - 4:30pm
After School Clubs Start
- **Tuesday 26th September**
Nursery (AM) Meet & Greet Session - 9am
Nursery (PM) Meet & Greet Session - 12:30pm
Reception Meet & Greet Session - 3:30 - 4:30pm
- **Friday 29th September**
Friendship Friday
- **October** - Black History Month
- **Tuesday 10th October**
Parent Early Reading Workshop 9-10am
Parent Early Reading Workshop 2:15 - 3:15pm
**Sessions for Nursery / Reception & Year 1 Parents*
- **Monday 16th October**
Heritage Week (All Week)
- **Thursday 19th October**
Friendship Thursday
- **Friday 20th October**
INSET DAY (School Closed for Pupils)
- **Monday 23rd - Friday 27th October**
Half Term Break (School Closed)
- **Monday 30th October**
Pupils return to school
Year 6 visit Outward Bound Trust (Aberdovey, Wales)

Extra Curricular After School Clubs

The Extra Curricular After School Clubs programme is due to commence the week beginning **Monday 25th September**. Clubs will be run in house by Keir Hardie Staff. Parents will receive a notification via ParentMail on **Friday 15th September** containing a link to complete a Google Form to express interest in joining a club.

** Please note that the form is an **expression of interest**, not a booking form.*

We have a commitment to run a wide range of clubs however the costs of running clubs continues to increase. The school continues to explore ways to continue subsidising the cost of clubs. After Half Term we will be asking parents to contribute a small fee toward the cost of clubs.

BIG Question of the Week

Each week, Keir Hardie pupils and staff learn about current events in the world and discuss the BIG Question of the Week, linked to the British Values and UN Rights of a Child. Beginning Monday 18th September, we will post the BIG Question of the Week on Class Dojo for you also to discuss and debate with your child(ren).

Communication

We believe that good communication between parents/carers and the school is key to supporting pupil's learning and building good relationships. We will communicate with you in the following ways:

- At the school gates before/after school
- ParentMail (whole school messages / attendance)
- Class Dojo (curriculum updates)
- Face to face meetings
- Home/school books for target pupils
- Newsletters
- Telephone calls
- Google Classroom

For any questions or concerns, please speak to a class teacher as a starting point.

Harvest

Over the years the school council has had a commitment to supporting the local food bank. We have been grateful to parents/carers who have helped with donations. We kindly ask parent/carers for donations from **Monday 18th September**.

Possible Donation Items:

- Tinned goods: soup / tomatoes / rice pudding
- Long life milk
- Fruit Juice / Squash
- Biscuits
- Coffee in Jars
- Tea Bags
- Pasta
- Rice

Healthy Schools

Keir Hardie is a Healthy Eating school. If bringing a packed lunch from home, please ensure that pack lunches contain healthy options. Guidance for pack lunches can be found [here](#) on the school website.

***Please note: the school operates a no nut policy. All school food served by the catering team at lunch time does not contain nuts; homemade packed lunches must also not include foods containing nuts.**

While it is fantastic to celebrate birthdays, we would kindly ask parents not to send party bags containing food to school. As I'm sure you will appreciate, there are many pupils with different types of allergens. Any party bags must only contain non-edible items.