

# Kenningtons Primary Academy

15<sup>th</sup> December 2023

It feels like a lifetime ago that I was writing my last newsletter. As you are all aware we have had our much-anticipated OFSTED inspection. Whilst I have not yet received the full report, I am able to tell you that the inspection went very well. The inspector was very thorough, looking very closely at learning across the school. Her feedback to us was very positive and I am very much looking forward to sharing the report with you. I will receive the draft report within 18 working days of the inspection. I am then able to respond to correct any factual inaccuracies, after which I will be able to share the report with you. A big well done to all of the pupils and staff for all of their hard work before and during the inspection. Thank you also to all of the parents who responded to the parent questionnaire – your comments and feedback were much appreciated.

Last week, year 3 were fortunate enough to visit the Royal Opera House in Convent Garden to watch a Ballet of The Nutcracker. This is my favourite trip but unfortunately, I wasn't able to attend this year, as we had our special visitor in school! The children had a wonderful time and is a lovely experience in the lead up to Christmas. Our Reception children have been decorating their Christmas Plates this week. These will be going in the kiln this weekend ready for pupils to take home on Wednesday. This will be a Kenningtons memory for them to keep forever.

Please remember that we will all be having Christmas Dinner on Tuesday. This is always a special time – we love seeing the children enjoying their crackers with their friends. On the last day we will be having a Christmas Day in school. I know that the highlight is the sharing of the Secret Santa gifts, along with DJ Dewet playing us into school in the morning.

*Mrs Sawtell-Haynes*

## Dates for the Diary

Mon 18 <sup>th</sup> Dec	SendCo Coffee Morning
Tues 19 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Christmas Dinner Day – Wear Christmas Jumpers
Wed 20 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Christmas Day – Wear anything Christmassy
Wed 20 <sup>th</sup> Dec	<b>LAST DAY OF AUTUMN TERM</b>
Wed 3 <sup>rd</sup> Jan	<b>FIRST DAY OF SPRING TERM</b>



4B - PE Days will  
change from  
Tuesdays to Mondays

We will be starting on  
Week 3 of the Dinner Menu  
when we return  
<https://www.kenningtonprimaryacademy.co.uk/information-for-parents/school-meals>



## Employee of the Week

### Pupil Responsibilities

For Job descriptions and photos, head over to our website and click on the 'Pupils Tab':

<https://www.kenningtonprimaryacademy.co.uk/pupils/pupil-responsibility>

Maadhunan  
Class Champion



### British Values

#### Week 5 – Individual Liberty



Well done to those in Year 4 for completing their  
Bikeability Level 1 Course



All National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one of many issues which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit [nationalonlinecollege.com](http://nationalonlinecollege.com) for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

# 12 Top Tips for Children and Young People to Enjoy a TECH-FREE CHRISTMAS

The Christmas holidays are tailor made for families to enjoy relaxed quality time in each other's company – but with distractions like pinging phone notifications, the lure of games consoles and online Boxing Day sales, that can be more difficult than it sounds. Staying off our phones, laptops and tablets, however, can really help us to appreciate the things that genuinely matter at this special time of year. Follow our 12 top tips for a tech-free festive season ... Yule be glad you did! Merry Christmas!

## CHRISTMAS CRAFTING

Get out the paper, glue and scissors and have a go at hand-making cards or gift tags. You could also create your own decorations to add a uniquely personal touch to the Christmas tree.

## NATURE QUEST

Try a scavenger hunt in the garden or your local park. Challenge yourself and your family to find natural treasures that are symbolic of this time of year – like holly or pinecones, say.

## CAROL KARAOKE

Sing your hearts out with a Christmas carol karaoke night. Pick out your favourite tunes and enjoy a musical celebration with family and friends.

## WANDER DOWN MEMORY LANE

How about making a scrapbook filled with your favourite memories from Christmases gone by? Unleash your creativity while you enjoy reliving those magical holiday moments.

## TRY REFLECTIVE JOURNALLING

Jot down your thoughts, feelings and reflections on the holiday in a notebook or diary – you could also list some of your main goals for the new year.

## WRAP IT UP

Take time to get inventive with some luxurious gift wrapping. Break out the wrapping paper, ribbons and bows to make parcelling up those presents into a creative adventure.

## WALK IN A WINTER WONDERLAND

Delight in the great outdoors with some gentle walks over the holiday. The family can all wrap up warm as you add to your step count and savour the crisp winter air together.

## BE A SEASONAL CHEF

Get the whole family working together in the kitchen for some Christmas cooking. Choose a recipe and whip up a festive feast that all of you can enjoy.

## ENJOY A CHRISTMAS STORY

Christmas is a perfect time for sparkling stories. Get cosy and lose yourself in a brilliant book, from Dickens to Dr Seuss or a more modern favourite by Chris van Allsburg or Tom Fletcher.

## SNOWY SCULPTURES

If we're fortunate enough to get a white Christmas this year, make the most of the opportunity by having a family snowman-building competition!

## GAMES NIGHT GALA

Dive into some old-school fun with a tech-free games night. Classic board games and card games have stood the test of time for a reason!

## GOODWILL TO ALL

You and your family could spend a day volunteering – perhaps at a food bank or helping a local charity. After all, kindness and thinking of others are part of what Christmas is all about.

## Meet Our Expert

Minds Ahead design and deliver the UK's only specialist postgraduate mental health qualifications. They also provide training and support to education organisations and local authorities – empowering school leaders and staff with the knowledge and tools to shape their settings into inclusive communities where the mental health of pupils and personnel is prioritised.



The National College



National Online Safety

#WakeUpWednesday

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/NationalOnlineSafety

@nationalonlinesafety

@national\_online\_safety

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## Fabulous Feedback

Head over to the website to see some of the fabulous comments that have been left about your school. Look in the 'About Us' Tab

<https://www.kenningtonsprimaryacademy.co.uk/about-us/fabulous-feedback>

## Your Local Community

There is lots to do over the Christmas period. Click the link below which will take you to our 'Local Events' page in our 'Information for Parents' Tab on our website.

<https://www.kenningtonprimaryacademy.co.uk/information-for-parents/local-events>

### Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> December

Mar Dyke Valley Rotary Club's Christmas Sleigh and 'Santa' will be at Kenningtons Estate.

Starting at 5.30pm from the '**bottom**' of Usk Road.

The route can be viewed on the **Mar Dyke Valley Rotary Club** Face Book Page.

### Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December Christmas Dinner Day

- Wear Christmas Jumpers over uniform.

### Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December Christmas Day in Class

- Wear anything Christmassy
- Bring a festive packed lunch

### Secret Santa

- Presents to be given out on the 20<sup>th</sup> December, in classrooms



## Contact Us

School Office: 01708 865663

Email: [enquiries@kenningtons.thurrock.sch.uk](mailto:enquiries@kenningtons.thurrock.sch.uk)

Child Absence : Study Bugs App

Website: [www.kenningtonprimaryacademy.co.uk](http://www.kenningtonprimaryacademy.co.uk)

