

14th March 2025

Dear Parents,

Dance Track Success

You may know that in Year 1, we work with the Birmingham Royal Ballet as part of their Dance Track programme. This aims to identify talent and then offer not only free lessons but also opportunities to perform on stage over the coming years. We know that we have many children further up the school who still participate in this programme and have enjoyed watching their performances at The Hippodrome and Rep Theatres in Birmingham.

This week, I need to say huge congratulations to Lorens, Charif, Lily, Beatrix, Harry, Savannah, Lucas, Harriet, Grace, Seren, Oliver and Ibzy, all of whom have been talent spotted and invited to a second workshop. Very well done all!

Easter Events

Yes, it is that time of year again! For children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2, we will be holding our annual Easter Bonnet parade on 8th April at 9.10am in the KS1 hall. We would love you to get involved by supporting your child to make a bonnet and then come and watch the EGG-citing parade in school. If you are able to come, we would really appreciate you staying for the short time that it takes all 4 classes to parade, rather than leaving after your child's class has taken part.

Our school captains have written a letter giving more information that will also be attached to this email.

KS2 will be holding their Easter Assembly on 9th April. Please join us in the KS2 hall at 9.10am to watch this.

While we are talking about Easter, just a reminder that school finishes on 11th April at 3.20pm for the holidays and children return on Monday 28th April.

School Photographs

You will know that we currently use a professional photographer to take individual/sibling photos of your children during the Autumn Term and then class photos, along with individual photos of our Year 6 leavers in the Summer term.

We have noticed that orders for these photos are falling. We wondered whether this is because in the age of social media and mobile phones, the need to have photographs of your children is simply no longer there, or whether this is down to how we organise this.

We would be really interested to hear your opinions on whether we still need a photographer to visit school at all, and if so, how we can make any changes in order for this to better meet your needs.

We would be really grateful if you could give us your thoughts by clicking the link below to access our questionnaire about school photos. The form will be open until 28th March and will take only a couple of minutes to complete.

<https://forms.office.com/e/D9D9A8G8Zs>

Mobile Phones in School

Please ensure that your child does not bring a mobile phone into school, unless they are walking to or from school by themselves **and** you feel it is necessary for their safety. This is the only reason that a child may need a phone in school. In this case, phones should be handed into the office in the morning and collected at the end of school, so that we can keep them safe.

Camp Hill Rail Line Development

We have been asked by Transport for West Midlands to pass on the following information regarding updates to the Camp Hill train line and Kings Heath station. This will affect routes through Kings Heath.

Kings Heath Train Station Development

from Sunday 23 March 2025

Transport for West Midlands would like all your students and staff to be aware of the upcoming works at Kings Heath Station and encourage them to plan their journeys.

Please share the following information with students, staff and parents as soon as possible.

What is happening?

From **Sunday 23 March 2025** for 7 weeks, there will be roadworks on **Kings Heath High Street** and restricted access to **Valentine Road**.

Lane closures on the High Street will be controlled by 3 way temporary traffic lights near the junction with Queensbridge Road and Alcester Road/A435. There will no access for motor vehicles to and from Valentine Road at this junction to assist with traffic movement.

Some bus stops on Kings Heath High Street will be temporarily moved during these works but buses will not be diverted. A temporary pedestrian crossing will in place to ensure safe crossing from the High Street to the footpath opposite.

To help you and your staff and students navigate this disruption smoothly, we've created a free, easy-to-use toolkit.

It includes a series of downloadable resources that can be easily printed, shared, or posted on social media, so you can keep your students and staff community informed.

Travel advice

Plan ahead. Journey times will be increased so please allow extra time.

Public Transport: Bus routes will not be altered during this closure but journeys on 1, 35 & 50 bus services may take longer so plan your bus journey and allow more time for travel.

Consider an alternative route: Road users are advised to avoid travelling in Kings Heath to reduce congestion - divert via Bristol/Pershore Roads from the South and Stratford/Warwick Road from the East.

Cycling & Walking : Think about your options and if you are travelling locally for a short distance, consider walking or cycling to your destination.

Thank you for your continued support,

Mrs Ridley