

# School Newsletter

September 2021 – Issue 1



## Welcome back!

We hope you have had a lovely summer and are as excited as we are about the start of the new school year. Over the holidays, our team has worked really hard to get the school building ready for learning. The council works have now concluded and we hope that the children are enjoying their learning in their new classroom environments.

I would like to extend a warm welcome to our new pupils, and families, who begin their learning journey with us in our nursery and reception class this term. The start of a new term brings a mix of anticipation, nervousness, and possibility - lots of new opportunities lie in wait in the weeks ahead and we are all looking forward to seeing our children thrive and grow this year.

If you would like to contact your child's teacher, please contact the school office in the first instance. I look forward to working with you and receiving your continued support throughout this academic year.

Mr Hunter

## COVID matters



As we work towards a 'new normal', the government guidance has been relaxed. Class bubbles have now been removed. We are reintroducing:

- Whole school and Key Stage assemblies
- Indoor and outdoor P.E sessions
- Key stage breaks and dinner times
- Whole school start and end times.

Children in Year 1 upwards can bring in a healthy snack for breaktimes this year. Please remember that we are a 'Nut Free' school. Grapes, and fruit, need to be sliced length ways to avoid becoming a choking hazard.



## School holiday dates...

Term Time	First day of term	Last day of term
<b>Autumn 1</b>	Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> September 2021	Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> October 2021
<b>Autumn 2</b>	Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> November 2021	Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> December 2021
<b>Spring 1</b>	Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> January 2022	Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> February 2022
<b>Spring 2</b>	Monday 28 <sup>th</sup> February 2022	Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> April 2022
<b>Summer 1</b>	Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> April 2022	Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup> May 2022
<b>Summer 2</b>	Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup> June 2022	Tuesday 26 <sup>th</sup> July 2022

Our remaining INSET days are:

- Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2022.
- Monday 6<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> June 2022.

Whole school upcoming events:

- Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2021- Harvest Festival – St James' Church Thornton @ 2pm (Information to follow).
- Friday 17<sup>th</sup> December - Christmas carol celebration – St James' Church Thornton @ 2pm (Information to follow).

## Attendance



**Whole school attendance up to 17/9/21:**

**98.2%**

**Adventurers:**

**99.6%**

**Explorers:**

**96.4%**

**Discoverers:**

**99.4%**

**Pioneers:**

**99.2%**

Visit our school website: [www.keelhamprimary.co.uk](http://www.keelhamprimary.co.uk)

# Inside Keelham...



Over the past 12 months, many areas of school have been redeveloped. Keelham now has a fully upgraded central heating system to ensure that all of our pupils, and staff, are comfortable (especially with the Keelham winters!). A full electrical rewire of the building has been completed, as well as a new upgraded fire alarm system installed. Each classroom has received new lighting and a new ceiling.

We have also been working hard to redevelop our classroom learning environments too...

ICT Suite



Library



Foundation



Year 3/4



'The Hub'



Year 5/6



Cloakroom



Lockers



Year 1/2

We have more redevelopment works planned throughout this year. These include:

- Decoration of the main entrance.
- Year 5/6 cloakroom

**Plea for help!**

We would like to paint the communal corridors this term. If anyone would be willing to give up their time to help us refresh these areas, please contact the main school office.

01274 832491  
office@keelham.bradford.sch.uk

# Keelham Governing Body

## Welcome!

Welcome to the new academic year at Keelham and a particularly warm welcome to our new children and their families. I hope you are keeping well as we adapt to a new era, living with Covid-19.

As a governing body we're always looking at how we can support staff in their efforts to provide all children with an excellent, all-round education. We believe that whilst the academic progress and achievement of pupils is crucial to their success in life, so too is the person they become (e.g. their confidence, social skills, reliability and punctuality). Your child's success at school is closely linked to the quality of the partnership between parents and the school (staff and governors) and we welcome feedback, positive or otherwise, via our governors' mailbox – [governors@keelham.bradford.sch.uk](mailto:governors@keelham.bradford.sch.uk). Please let us know if you feel we need to do more for your child to help them achieve their full potential.

In return, as a governing body, we ask that you help staff by ensuring your child:

- Always attends school unless unwell
- Arrives punctually; and
- Is properly rested and prepared for the day of learning ahead.

School does provide homework where appropriate, but please also look to build on this at home (e.g. read to your child, or have them read to you for 15 minutes in the evening where possible). This is particularly important now, given the disruption children have experienced because of the pandemic. If your child is having difficulty with anything at school, please do let the teaching staff know and school will do what it can to help. Openness and good communication between school and parents is a key part of an effective partnership and is shown to improve outcomes for children.

Here's to a successful, enjoyable and hopefully undisrupted year ahead!

Best wishes.

John Ashworth  
Chair of Governors



## Would you like to join us?

We currently have vacancies on our governing body for parents who feel they could make a contribution to the leadership and management of our school. These are voluntary roles requiring a minimum commitment to attend 6 meetings per academic year. Ideally, we would welcome expressions of interest from parents with a background and experience in management and/or working as part of a team. A passion to help make a difference to the success of the school is also important.

The governing body comprises members from all sectors of the community. Our work spans the strategic, financial and human resources management of the school, health & safety and facilities management and development of the academic curriculum. New governors can expect a big welcome and the required support and training. In turn, you will undoubtedly gain new skills and experiences to enhance your own career development.

If this is of interest to you, in the first instance please contact the school office with a brief summary of why you would like to become a school governor and relevant experience. This is your chance to make a positive contribution to our children's education!



Welcome back after what we hope has been a fantastic summer.

We had our first meeting of the new school year on Tuesday evening and I think we've planned, what I hope you'll agree, are some really exciting events. I wanted to give you a flavour of what's to come over this next term - we're going big this Christmas!!! We'll be bringing you a different take on our winter wonderland disco, we'll have wreath making face to face again this year (prosecco, mulled wine and nibbles included), Santa shop makes a return and we'll hold our first Christmas fayre, featuring products made and sold by Keelham children, amongst other things. Further details to follow.

I shared with you before the summer, that we have a new play area being installed in the playground over the October half term, as a result of crowd funding and grants secured last year. I promised to share with you the plans. I know the children are all really excited, as are we. It's been a long time coming!

You'll see our FKPA collection bin in the playground. If you have any good quality, clean uniform your children have outgrown, please drop it in. Later in the year we'll offer a number of opportunities to buy.

We'll be holding our AGM on Tuesday 12th October at 7.30 at school. If you're able, we'd love to see you there.

Finally, I wanted to share a reminder of our school lottery. Tickets are £1 a week and as well as being entered in the Keelham draw, you'll be entered in the national draw with a chance to win £25k. The funds raised through the lottery are a valuable source of income to provide experiences for our children, please consider supporting. Go to [www.yourschoollottery.co.uk](http://www.yourschoollottery.co.uk) and search Keelham to sign up.

As always, thanks for your support. Here's to another successful year for Keelham and the FKPA

FKPA

### Our new playground area will be installed over the half term holidays in October...



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