

# Newsletter Issue 6



**Newsletter Issue 6**

**21st November 2024**





## Headteacher News

### Curriculum Enhancement

Our curriculum is taught as separate subjects and offers many opportunities for children to be successful in the 21st century. You can see our curriculum intent here <https://www.sissinghurst.kent.sch.uk/page/?title=Curriculum+and+Class+information&pid=44> along with how we implement this and measure the impact of learning in all subjects. It is vital that children learn skills and have the knowledge they need to become successful adults of the future. We are always considering what the future might look like and what skills children may need for their futures. With the fast moving developments, particularly in technology and science it can feel difficult to keep up but we ensure we use research to guide our decisions and principles and are continually developing and enhancing our curriculum offer so it strengthens as it embeds at Sissinghurst so we can offer the very best to all our children.

### Anti-Bullying Week

We would like to thank you all for helping mark the beginning of Anti-bullying awareness week by dressing your children in odd socks. This was a fun way to highlight the importance of showing kindness and saying NO to bullying and that we celebrate differences between us and how these differences make the human race so interesting. Throughout the week, the children have learnt more about kindness, respect and forgiveness. Through assemblies and class discussions, the children have learnt 'What is bullying?' They have explored the different forms of bullying and how to deal with bullying. Once establishing what bullying is, we have focused our teaching on KINDNESS (one of our school values) and helped the children explore the effects that the smallest kind act may have on another.

Please reinforce these important messages at home too!

# Top tips for KINDNESS

Do things for people! Not because of who they are or what they do in return, but because of who you are.

Choosing kindness doesn't cost a thing but can help someone enormously.

Showing manners, politeness and kindness cost nothing.

Every new day we are faced with choices Do you choose # KINDNESS?

Saying or doing a kind act can bring a smile to someone's face!

Remember you never know what someone else is going through in their life.

Acts of kindness will never come back to hurt you and will never be wasted on someone.

Being mean, even if you think it's harmless, can hurt someone else very deeply; think twice about what you say and do.

Acts of kindness are good for you as they release Oxytocin.

"Unexpected kindness is the most powerful, least costly, and most underrated agent of human change."- Bob Kerrey

We have welcomed a number of visitors to Sissinghurst again in the last few weeks – governors, staff from other schools to look at our curriculum offer, our Opal play and lunchtimes and how we have embedded transformational change in the last year and a half. All visitors, including a

number of prospective parents have been so impressed by the children, our offer at Sissinghurst and of course the amazing learning going on in every classroom and over every part of the school day. We are very proud and continue to work tirelessly so the children get the best primary school experience that they can.

We ended last week with absolute service by giving so generously to Children in Need.

This week we are focusing on road safety as it is road safety week. There is always so much going on!

It has been the most lovely few weeks in school where we focused on all that is important to us at Sissinghurst – our vision to shine brightly and help others who are facing dark or difficult times and to show our values in all we say and do.

Have a wonderful weekend when it gets here

Sarah Holman

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[Click here for dates](#)

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## Reminders

### Snacks

A reminder that if children bring snacks into school for their break they must be healthy snacks like fruit or vegetables, raisins, cereal bars (nut free) or plain biscuits. Please do not send chocolate biscuits, bars of chocolate, crisps or Pepperamis in please.

### Coats etc. for cold weather

Please make sure that your child is suitably attired for school now the weather has turned colder. They do need a coat for lunch times as they will, of course, normally be outside for a period of time so they can play and have fun in the fresh air. We are sure you will support us in trying to encourage them to adopt healthy lifestyles now and for the future.

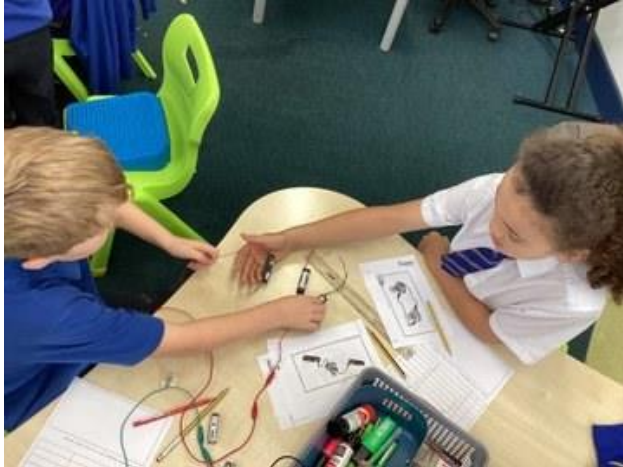
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## Twitter / X

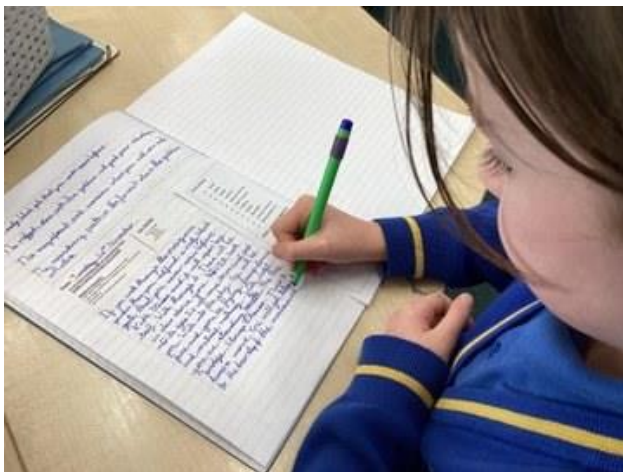
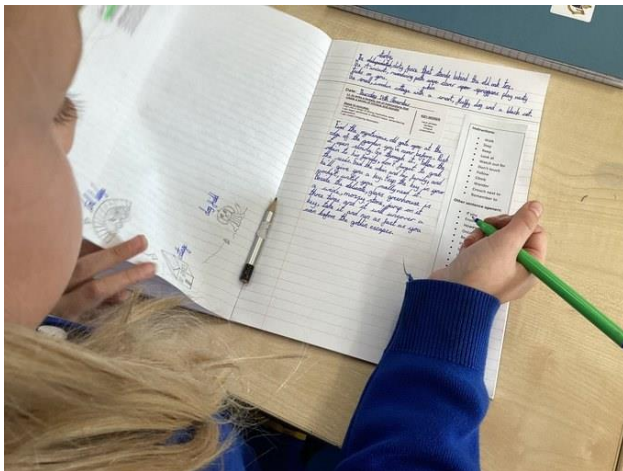
Do follow us on Twitter/ X @sissinghurstva to keep up to date on all the exciting activities/lessons the children are taking part in. Here are a few from this week:

Fascination making circuits in Rhinos:





Extended writing focus in Eagles:





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## Sporting Events @ Sissinghurst

Football afternoon, held at Dulwich prep school, Tuesday 5th November.

So lovely to take our Sissinghurst football team to a tournament held at Dulwich. The aim of the afternoon was to have fun playing football they all enjoy. They played 3 games, which included no knockouts and no overall school winner. All played extremely well, working as a team, communicating with each other, and showing their skill of the game. Devid J won a medal for most improved and Alex B for great play. We are so proud to have such an enthusiastic, strong and dedicated team. Looking forward to having our team take part in many more matches in this academic year.

Well done team!





Netball afternoon, held at Dulwich prep school, Wednesday 13th November.

This netball sporting event was about team building, getting to know and training with other schools.

They all took part in a training session being mixed with other schools, followed by being placed in a netball team with other schools, playing other mixed school teams. Huge congratulations to our netballers, for playing netball with other schools in your team, getting to know them and playing different positions each game. All showing great commitment, skill play and knowledge of netball. Grace and Lucinda won medals for most improved players, well done girls! They all played amazingly! We are so excited to have you playing as a team against Colliers Green on Thursday 28th November and many more matches to follow.

Well done!

Mrs Saxby



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## FOSS - Events

A big thank you to FOSS and all the helpers for making the disco happen. £350 was raised for school.

### Christmas Shopping Day

We are collecting items for the FOSS Christmas shop on Friday, 29th November in return for non uniform that day.

We would love donations of things we can sell for £2.50. We need gifts for children and adults and even pets! Popular items include unopened cosmetics, biscuits, chocolates and sweets, mugs, socks, gift sets, toys and trinkets.

On Thursday, 5th December FOSS will be setting up the Christmas Shop in the hall. Your children will have the opportunity to buy up to 4 gifts for £2.50 each. These should be paid for on parent pay by Tuesday 3rd please.

The children then carefully select and wrap their selected items with the help of parent helpers and take them home to give to their loved ones for Christmas.

The children have often described Christmas shopping day as the best day of the year. It is only possible because parents support it so generously by donating lots of lovely gifts for the children to pick from. The shop needs at least 700 items in order to meet demand!

If you would like to help the children wrap gifts please let us know or just turn up with scissors and sellotape on the day! We can't have too many elves!

Thank you for working with FOSS to create so many happy memories and raise funds for our children.

Merry Christmas

FOSS

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*1 - Admission to Primary/Junior Schools 2025*

For children born between 1 September 2020 and 31 August 2021,

Transferring to Primary school in September 2025

Apply online at [kent.gov.uk/primaryadmissions](https://kent.gov.uk/primaryadmissions)

Open now and closes at midnight on Wednesday 15 January 2025.

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KENT HOMES



Helping young people on their journey into adulthood and independence



## 03000 420 002 [kentfostering.co.uk](http://kentfostering.co.uk) What is Kent Supported Homes?

The transition to adulthood is not one that is easy for many young people, and particularly for those young people who have been in care because of trauma and breakdown in their own family. Kent Supported Homes provides accommodation therefore, for young people and care leavers aged between 16 and 21, who are not yet ready to live independently. Kent Supported Homes enables young people to develop confidence, emotional resilience, and independent living skills in a safe and supportive setting, allowing them to move on from the arrangement by the time they reach the age of 21, or in some circumstances 25 if they are in further education.



### The role of a Kent Supported Homes host

As a Kent Supported Homes Host you will teach, guide and assist young people to gain essential practical living skills, such as budgeting, cooking and cleaning, alongside providing them with much needed emotional support to continue to recover from their previous experiences and manage challenges, preparing them for independent adult life.

You must have the physical room to accommodate a young person, be emotionally resilient, be able to support the young person's self-esteem and confidence, and aid them on their pathway to independence. It is a requirement that hosts offering a supported home have the capacity to provide each young person with a bedroom of their own (furnished and maintained to a good standard) as well as access to and use of kitchen and bathroom facilities, and that no more than three young people are offered accommodation and support at any one time. All hosts/host

families are assessed, checked and trained for their role and offered full and ongoing support once a young person comes to live with them.

Approved KSH hosts will receive comprehensive training, including a Pre-Panel induction programme and courses such as Roles and

Responsibilities, Managing Challenging Behaviour and Digital

Safeguarding, extending to more specialised courses on young people's mental health and understanding and supporting LGBTQ+ young people. Ongoing support and supervision from a dedicated Supported Homes Accommodation Officer is provided to all hosts.



## Who are we?

Kent Supported Homes is part of Kent County Council's fostering service – Kent Fostering and the 18+ Care Leavers Service. We are the most experienced fostering service in Kent, and we have been looking after children and young people for over 40 years. We are a public service and not for profit, and therefore our only goal is to provide safe, nurturing homes for our children and young people.

Unlike other independent supported lodgings providers, we make a commitment to arrange for our young care leavers in Kent to live with Kent Supported Homes providers, so your meetings and commitments will be local to where you live. Our social workers, personal advisors and accommodation officers are local too.

As a KSH host, you will be supported throughout every step of your assessment, approval, training and support of young people by an experienced and dedicated team of professionals, including 24-hour support through our Accommodation Team and county out-of-hours service.

## Why choose Kent Supported Homes?

As a KSH host, you will receive:

- A standard payment of £178.69 per week for 15 hours support or an enhanced payment of £297.81 per week for 25 hours support,

£parent and child.357.37 per week will be paid for accommodation and support for

- A rental payment from the young person to their hosts at either £83.38 per week or at the Local Authority Housing rate.
- £10 per week from the young person to contribute to utilities and £20 per week contribution towards food.
- Two-week paid break.
- Specialist supervision, training and support from a dedicated team.

### What our KSH hosts say!

**It is so rewarding to see young people gain their confidence and independence and move forward in life, knowing that**

**you have played some part in their journey and success. The young people I have supported have continued to keep in**

**touch, sharing their achievements and successes and their new relationships.**

**To watch them thrive and continue to develop is incredibly rewarding.**

The support provided to young people through Kent Supported Homes

allows young people to have the stability

needed to make better choices, giving them the opportunity to prepare for the transition to independence so that they have the necessary skills to manage this successfully. We hope to provide the invaluable support and reassurance when needed and help these young adults recognise that they are able to successfully manage these independent aspects of their lives and do it well.

Chris

Join our team!

It is rare that young people are ready to leave home at 18, particularly for those who have experienced trauma and challenge in their lives. It is important that young people, including our care leavers, do not feel overwhelmed or subject to an instant expectation of adulthood, and

that we as a service continue our commitment to them, through ensuring the provision of accommodation, support and guidance during their transition to more independent living.

Our young people need the time and dedication to prepare them for the future and in turn promote better life chances. Kent Supported Homes offers an excellent opportunity for individuals, couples and families in Kent to work with our local young people aged 16 or over towards living independently. We are looking for potential hosts, who have a genuine desire to support older young people in Kent, meaning that they take a real interest in the lives of young people and wish to support and help them to learn the necessary skills that they need to live independently.

By welcoming a young person into your home, you can provide the knowledge, practical skills and emotional support they will need for independence and adult life. We need hosts to provide opportunities for our young people to have more time to strengthen their independence skills whilst feeling safe and cared about in a supportive home.

**Angela Cornwell, Team Manager**

**Kent Supported Homes Development Team**

**Want to know more? Our enquiries team would love to hear from you!**

If you are interested in working with us to make an amazing difference to the lives of young adults in Kent, please get in touch with our enquiries team today!





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Family Lives @Family lives

## FREE online parenting courses

Our courses are filled with helpful techniques and ideas to help you become a happier parent. **Our library of courses includes something for each age and stage of parenting.**

- Parents Together
- Let's Play
- Coping with Teens
- Co-parenting after Divorce or Separation
- Bringing up Confident Children
- A New Baby in the Family
- A New Baby in the Family (Arabic and Pashtu)
- Sibling Arguments and How to Manage Them



[www.familylives.org.uk](http://www.familylives.org.uk)

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## Aladdin Panto in Cranbrook

Please find below the details for the upcoming Aladdin Pantomime, staged by Cranbrook Operatic and Dramatic Society between 28-30 December 2024.

<https://www.cranbrookods.org.uk/aladdin>

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## Premier Education - Holiday Camp

Dear Parent/Guardian,

It brings me great joy to inform you that our highly anticipated 5-star holiday camps are returning this December and January! The camps are scheduled to take place from Monday 23rd December – Monday 6th January, from 9am-3:30pm. Designed for children in year 1 to 6, our multi-activity camps provide a diverse range of sports, games and arts/crafts. To join the fun, please click the following link: <https://www.premier-education.com/holiday-camps/>

**HAF** - I'm delighted to announce that we have a limited amount of HAF spaces available too! Be quick as these are filling up!

See what happens at on our holiday camps by watching this short video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AzvUhizaLWc>

### Where are we?

- East Farleigh Primary School – Dec 23rd & Jan 2nd
- Putlands Sports and Leisure Centre - Dec 23rd, Jan 2nd/3rd & 6th. (Jan 3rd is only £10!)

\*Tax-free childcare vouchers accepted here. For more information on childcare vouchers, please click the following link: <https://info.premier-education.com/en/help/childcare-funding>

A holiday club you can trust. We're rated 'Excellent' on trustpilot with over 22,375 reviews! <https://uk.trustpilot.com/review/premier-education.com>

To join the fun, click the following link: <https://www.premier-education.com/holiday-camps/>

Kind regards,

**Matt Aldis**

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## News & Events

For upcoming local events in the parish of Cranbrook & Sissinghurst:

<https://cranbrookandsissinghurstpc.co.uk/whats-on/upcoming-events/>

Sign up to receive 'Be In The Know' emails from the parish council:

<https://cranbrookandsissinghurstpc.co.uk/>

Or follow the Parish Council Facebook page

<https://www.facebook.com/CranbrookandSissinghurstPC>

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**Sissinghurst (VA) Church of England Primary School**

Common Road, Sissinghurst, Kent TN17 2BH

Tel: 01580 713895 / Fax: 01580 710051

[office@sissinghurst.kent.sch.uk](mailto:office@sissinghurst.kent.sch.uk) / <http://www.sissinghurst.kent.sch.uk>

Office opening hours are 08.30am to 3.30pm (term-time only)