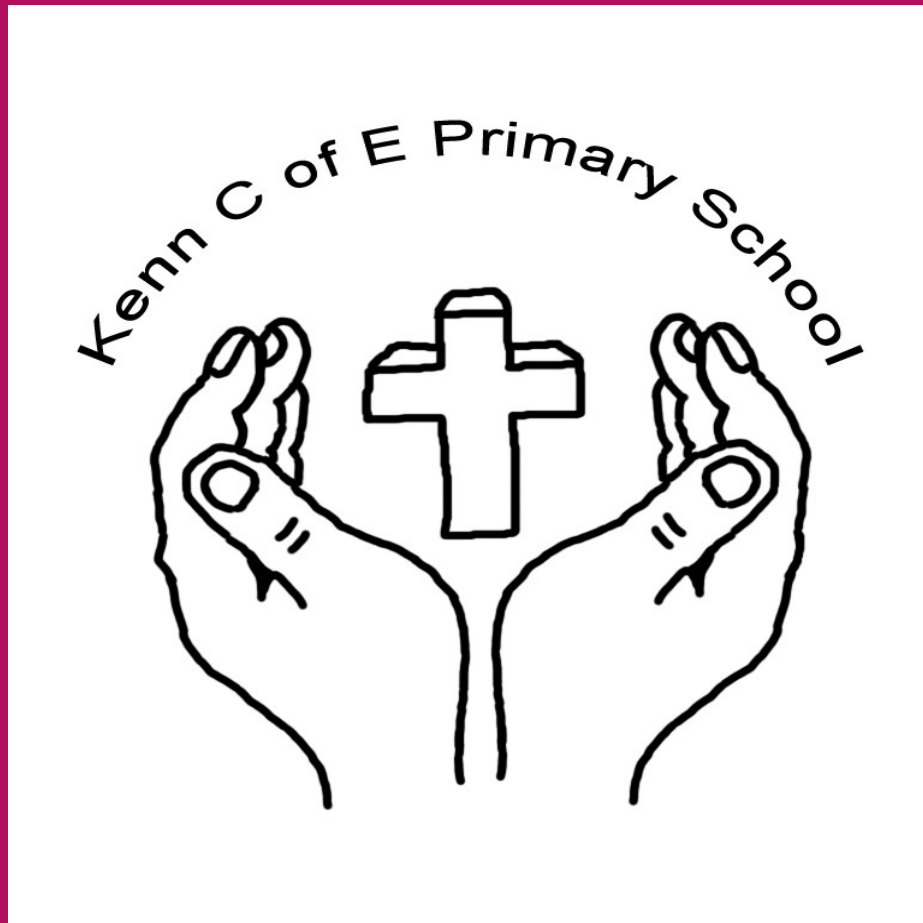


Kenn Church of England Primary School
Kennford, Exeter, Devon, EX6 7TX
Tel and Fax: 01392 832347



Newsletter

Friday 13th December 2019

Diary of Events

	Please follow the link to view our online calendar: http://www.kenn-primary.devon.sch.uk/calendar/	
Friday 20th Dec	Last day of Autumn Term—break for Christmas	
Monday 6th Dec	First day of Spring Term	

DECEMBER EVENT DATES

Monday 16th — Blue non uniform day

Tuesday 17th — Class 1 and 2 Christmas parties

Wednesday 18th — Class 3 and 4 Christmas parties

Thursday 19th — Christmas lunch and children's talent show in the afternoon



From all of us at Kenn, we wish you a wonderful Christmas and look forward to seeing you in 2020.

Can you help?

- Do you have any spare board games that we could use for wet-play times in either KS1 or KS2?
- If you are able to help in school whether that be joining our parent group in the allotment, hearing readers or being able to volunteer for trips, please do let us know. We are always in need of extra helpers so your offer will be greatly received.

Please check the deadline date on letters for trips and PE events. Unfortunately, we have had to turn away several children for PE events as the consent has not been completed on time. This is not a decision that we make lightly, but due to teacher workload and risk assessments having to be submitted two weeks in advance of the event, it is not possible to add additional children after the deadline. Thank you for your understanding.



Email: admin@kennandkenton.devon.sch.uk

Charity

Dear All,

On behalf of Christian Response to Eastern Europe, my sincere thanks to everyone for helping to produce another successful Christmas shoebox collection.

The lorry was loaded, using every square inch, this week with some 6,000 shoeboxes and 130 bags of warm clothing and is now on its way to Moldova.

Thank you so much once again for helping to make this Christmas a heartwarming experience for these families.

Bruce Pell,

Dawlish Water Rotary Club

Reverse advent calendar

KS1 have been busy bringing in items on their selected days so far in December. Thank you for your contributions.

KS2 have been allocated days from 10th December until the end of term. We look forward to seeing how much they can produce.



Exeter Foodbank
Priority & Christmas items
2019

Priority Items	Seasonal Items
Fruit Juice (1L long-life)	Selection Boxes (for children)
Sponge Puddings	Chocolates
Pasta Sauce	Christmassy Biscuits
Biscuits	Soft drinks
Toiletries	
Squash/Cordial	Any Mince Pies, Christmas
Rice (500g / 1 kg)	Cakes or Puddings must be
Fish (tuna)	alcohol-free!
Potatoes (tins/instant)	
Sugar	All Christmas Items must be
Custard (tins / cartons)	with us by December 11th
Meat (tins)	If you have any questions or to make
Milk (1L UHT semi-skimmed)	arrangements,
Vegetables (tins)	email: info@exeterfoodbank.org.uk
Rice Pudding (tins)	
Fruit (tins)	
Cereal (small / medium size packets)	

THANK YOU!



Sport



Well done to everyone who took part in the cross country event in Dawlish and represented our school.

An extra special well done to William and Georgie for being placed 2nd and 3rd—a fantastic achievement!

Plastic free

Mrs Arrowsmith was very proud when members of Class 4 showed her how they had taken on the challenge of reducing waste by one item each week in their lunchboxes.

Fae, Grantas and Isaac gave examples of how they have now decided to buy crisps in large bags, yogurts in big pots and bring biscuits in a container, rather than buying multipacks (which cause us to have so much waste left in lunchboxes). William also showed us how he uses a beeswax wrap instead of cling film or foil. A great effort!

Thank you to all the parents who have discussed or already made changes to the lunchbox waste. We really can make a difference.

Please tell your children to discuss with their class teachers any changes that they have made so that they can be congratulated.



Christmas cards

With our school aim of reducing waste in mind, we have decided that we could make a class Christmas card or simply say Merry Christmas to our friends, rather than buying individual cards for children and staff. As a result, it will save money, envelopes and lots of card that will end up in the bin (or found in school trays at the end of the year!).

We understand that many of you have already bought cards and may have even written them so we will not be stopping children from handing them out. Instead, we are using this time as opportunity to highlight what is necessary waste and what we could reduce next year.

Thank you for your support.





Suggested Apps and Games For EARLY YEARS



Learning



FISH SCHOOL HD

This app teaches young children (age 2-5) about important things like letters, shapes, numbers and more, all set in a colourful underwater setting with adorable sea creatures. The basic idea has fish and sea creatures forming the shapes of letters, numbers etc that your little one can identify. Developers Duck Duck Moose have a lineage of creating family friendly apps and games with 21 top-selling apps since 2008. Fish School HD has over 50,000 downloads and offers a rounded package of activities, but many other apps by this developer are highly rated and offer a few twists on the formula. As always it's worth checking a few out to see which best suits your child's interests. Fish School HD is available for free on iOS and Android.



GREEN EGGS AND HAM - DR. SEUSS

The classic Dr. Seuss book has been reworked into an interactive adventure for modern day devices, with an emphasis on encouraging literacy learning in younger children. Within the app, there's a few different options on how to enjoy the story; you can read it aloud together, have the app read the book and follow along, or just play the story through automatically. You can even tap on words to hear them individually to practice vocabulary. While the app will set you back £3.79 on Android (£3.99 on iOS) it has an excellent rating and over 10,000 downloads, with many noting how much their young children have enjoyed the story. It speaks volumes about the quality of the work, too, that a book from 1960 can still be read and loved by children some two generations after its initial release.



TOCA LAB: ELEMENTS

Toca Lab is the app of choice in encouraging little scientists to get to grips with elements, our world and how physics and chemistry work. This one might be a little advanced for younger kids and, though it has a PEGI 3 rating, it does recommend ages 6-8 in the description. All 118 elements are present in Toca Labs and kids are encouraged to find and test them all. Experimenting with things like Gold, Neon, Hydrogen and more, it gives a better grasp of how everything in our universe is formed. Bear in mind though that it's not meant to be a scientifically accurate account of how elements react, but to build curiosity in young minds. The app is available on iOS and Android for £3.99.



BAREFOOT WORLD ATLAS

What's the next best thing to travelling the world? Well, for kids with access to an iPad or Apple phone, Barefoot World Atlas could be a close second. In this app available only on iOS for £4.99, kids and adults can explore the globe from the comfort of their own homes and learn all about our planet. The app, which is rated 4+, only appears on Apple devices but the sheer amount of information contained in here will keep curious kids busy for hours on end.



SKETCHBOOK - DRAW AND PAINT (AUTODESK SKETCHBOOK ON IOS)

Encouraging artistic ability at an early age can often be invaluable in letting kid's imaginations loose and there are many apps that allow them to unlock that passion. SketchBook comes highly recommended with over 300,000 reviews. Essentially, the app comprises a blank canvas and a host of "fast and powerful creative sketching tools" like pens, pencils and paint brushes to let those creative juices flow. SketchBook is rated PEGI 3 so even younger children should be able to get to grips with it. However, it could prove a little too complex for some and the large collection of tools and crisp graphics would suit a larger screen like an iPad, over a mobile phone. Despite this, the ability to simply mess around and doodle, coupled with more advanced accessibility later down the line, should make it a must own for all age ranges. The app is free to download on both Android and iOS.



Suggested Apps and Games For 7-11 YEARS



Learning



MAGIC PIANO BY SMILE

While Magic Piano doesn't strictly teach you how to play the piano, it does teach hand-eye coordination and can help spark creativity in young minds. Users can play along to a variety of popular songs on a range of difficulty levels in an attempt to get through the song with as few mistakes as possible, increasing dexterity and reaction times. Free on iOS & Android, the game does contain some ads and in-app purchases, so be sure to check these out before letting younger players unleash their musical side. Magic Piano is PEGI 3 rated but requires slightly more nimble hands to master so older kids will get the most from this.



AZOOZEE

Azoozee houses over 1,000 games, videos and activities for kids of all ages to play, have fun and most importantly, develop their key skills in. The app is award winning, BAFTA nominated, supported by the NSPCC (according to the description on their app page) and comes with a suite of parental controls built in. As well as educational games, activities and kid's favourite TV shows, the app also has a built-in chat feature where they can talk to their friends safely. A nice little touch is that if you buy a subscription to Azoozee for unlimited premium content for £4.99 a month, a portion of the money raised goes towards supporting the NSPCC. The app is available on iOS, Android and Amazon.



POLY BRIDGE

While Poly Bridge could be easily enjoyed solely as a game, it's actually an incredibly clever way to learn critical thinking and engineering skills in a kid friendly way. It's set in a colourful, cartoony world and has extremely simple gameplay. In Poly Bridge, it's your task to get cars, buses, trucks, boats and more safely to their destination by designing bridges that are safe and practical. How those bridges are created is entirely up to you. With over 100 levels, a sandbox mode and almost infinite playability, Poly Bridge is available on PC, Android, iOS and Nintendo Switch at various price points, so be sure to check which is the best option for you.



CROSSWORD PUZZLES (WUBU APPS LTD)

Crossword puzzles might not immediately seem like a learning game for younger kids, but they're incredibly effective at building strong word skills and problem solving. This one by Wubu Apps Limited is exclusive to iOS and constantly changes its roster of daily crossword puzzles and challenges, although there are a whole bunch of apps available out there which do similar things. The app is rated 4+ but would likely be suited to kids a little older as the crosswords are designed for adults as well. As mentioned, Crossword Puzzles is only available on iOS devices and is free to download but does contain in-app purchases.



SCRIBBLENAUTS UNLIMITED

Scribblenauts is a game like few others in that it actively encourages children to use their intuition to solve a variety of puzzles. Armed only with their imagination, players must complete levels by conjuring potentially useful items for main character Maxwell to collect the Starites and achieve his goal. The game helps create strong vocabulary and word association to a fun 2D backdrop. While any version of Scribblenauts is good, Unlimited is the most readily available, being released on Wii U, PC, Nintendo 3DS, iOS and Android devices, PS4, Xbox One and Nintendo Switch.



Stay safe online over the Christmas period

There things you can do to help make your connected home safer for your child:

1. Do your research: Research different products online and read reviews. This is a great way to find out more about a product including age restrictions and credibility, as well as hearing directly from other parents.

2. Read the manual: Read the manual provided by the manufacturers. Information should be given about the privacy of the device, how it connects to the internet, and information about any app which may need to be downloaded in order to use the device.

3. Set up parental controls: Make use of the parental controls available on your home broadband and any internet enabled device in your home. You can find out more about how to use parental controls by visiting your broadband provider's website, or by reading the Thinkuknow article about parental controls.

4. Use safe search: Enable the 'SafeSearch' function on your connected device and web search engines. This will allow you to limit the material your child can see when online. It is important to understand that no parental control or 'SafeSearch' function is 100% effective. This cannot be used alone to protect your child from accessing age-inappropriate material.

5. Change the default password: When you buy a connected device or toy, change the default password. Use a strong password that cannot easily be guessed and do not share this with others.

6. Set your Bluetooth to 'undiscoverable': Many connected devices are Bluetooth enabled. This means they are able to connect to nearby devices without having to connect to the internet. If the device has Bluetooth, set this to 'undiscoverable' so your child doesn't share data or pair with an unknown device.

7. Review and/or delete audio files: Some connected devices or toys work by listening to your child's voice commands, so these devices usually record and keep these audio files to work properly. Refer to the manual and find out how to review and/or delete audio files. If there's a microphone on your child's connected device, you can turn on the 'mute' button. This will stop the device from recording and storing audio files.

8. Talk to your child: Include connected devices in your online safety conversations, reinforcing the message that if your child sees or hears anything that makes them feel worried, they can speak to you or another adult they trust.

9. Supervise your child: If your child is primary school aged, supervise them when they are online or using a connected device. You should keep the connected devices your child uses in communal areas of the home such as in the kitchen or living room.





TERM DATES

SPRING TERM 2020 begins Monday 6th January

Half-term 17th—21st February

Spring term ends on Friday 27th March

SUMMER TERM 2020 begins Tuesday 14th April

May Bank Holiday **Friday** 8th May

Half-term 25th to 29th May

Summer Term Ends Friday 17th July

NATIONAL DATE CHANGE - May Day has been changed to 75th Anniversary of VE day

Hopefully you will all have heard the Government's announcement in June that the May Day bank holiday will be combined with the 75th anniversary of May Day in 2020 and the Bank Holiday at the start of May will now be on **FRIDAY 8th MAY 2020** and not on the preceding Monday. Please can you make this change in your diaries as the children will be expected to be in school on Monday 4th May, but will have a holiday on Friday 8th May.