

Newsletter

Kellands School

Issue No. 1 (20/8/15)

Dear Parents/carers

"The beginning is always today."

Mary Shelley

'I was never top of the class at school, but my classmates must have seen potential in me, because my nickname was 'Einstein.'

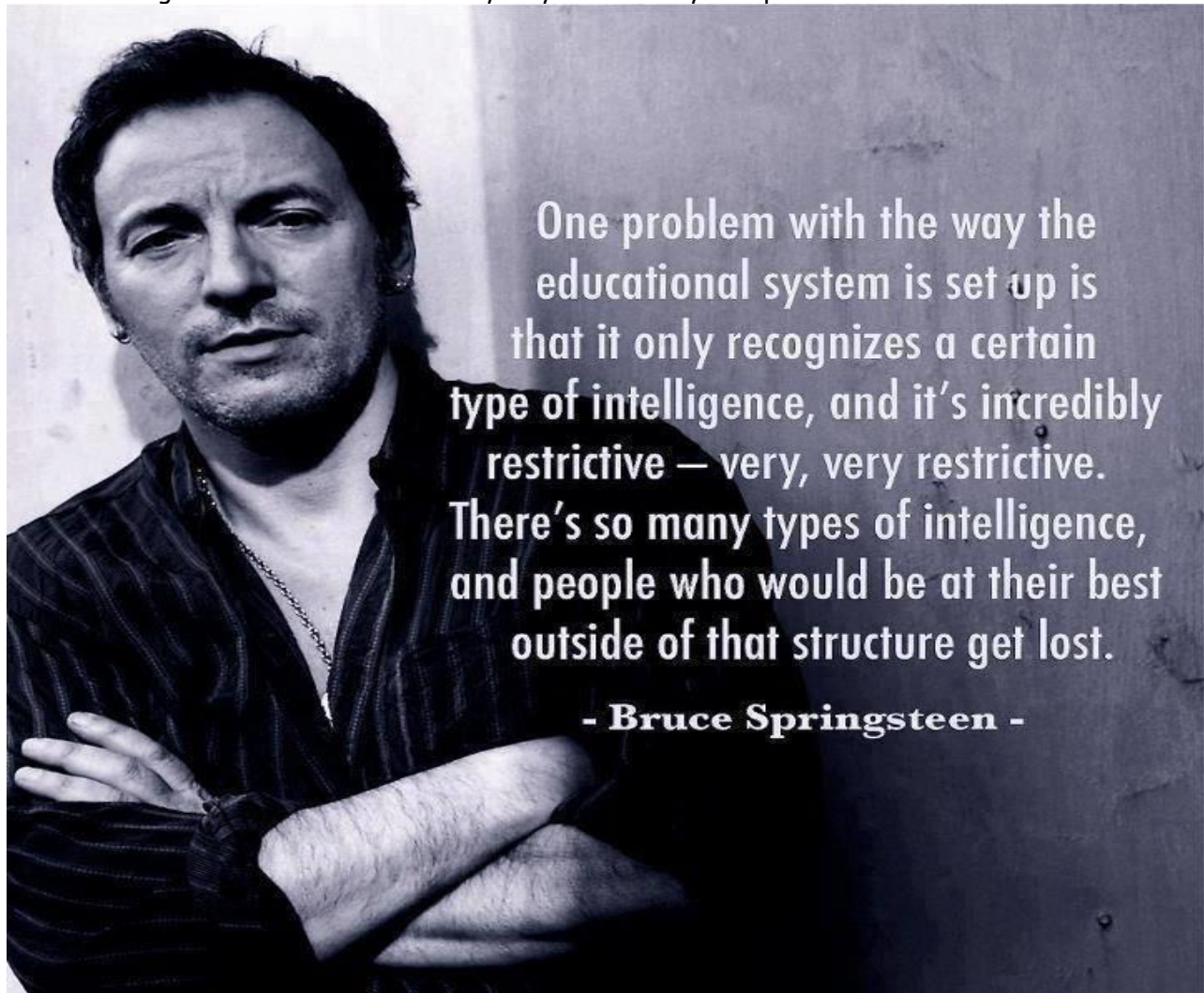
Stephen Hawking

We welcome you all back to what we hope will be a very exciting year at Kellands. We hope you all had an enjoyable summer break. We would like to express a warm welcome to all our new children in nursery, our new primary 1s and to all our new children in the school. A special Kellands welcome to all our new families you are now part of the 'Kellands family'. We are also delighted to welcome our new teachers, Mrs Girdwood, Miss King, Miss Wiedermann, Miss Glennie and Mrs Proctor and wish them all a very happy time at Kellands. We have been working hard on our direction and strategy this week to continue to improve the school for everyone- pupils, families and community. We will be sharing these with you all over the next few weeks, such as a new reporting strategy, a new school charter, a new behaviour policy and a new curriculum design. Please take a look at our curriculum rationale maps on the walls at the front of school and nursery. These will be shared with you at open afternoons in term 1. We also say a sad goodbye to Mrs Gullan, Mrs MacKay and Mrs Hayes, wish them all the very best and hope to see them in school regularly. The staff would like to thank you for all the very kind gifts before the holidays.

Aspiration, Excellence and creativity.

Our vision values and aims are based on the Kellands family statement 'Where everybody is somebody' and we want to focus on aspiration, excellence and creativity for all pupils, staff and stakeholders. I think aspiration is so important and we want our children to be confident individuals with high aspirations.

As a staff and school we will continue to engage and challenge all children in all areas of the curriculum, with developing high and consolidated numeracy and literacy standards. We want to challenge all the staff to be innovative, creative and deliver a curriculum that will be active, engaging, have depth across all curricular areas and create confident enterprising pupils with high order thinking skills. 'Where everybody is somebody' - Aspiration for all.



One problem with the way the educational system is set up is that it only recognizes a certain type of intelligence, and it's incredibly restrictive — very, very restrictive. There's so many types of intelligence, and people who would be at their best outside of that structure get lost.

- Bruce Springsteen -

Car Parking and pick up.

As you will be aware a gate has been put up at the access road, and this will only be used as access for deliveries to the canteen and the refuse collection. Last year we had many consultations with the council, the parent council/forum through discussions and questionnaires to help promote a 'Park Smart' approach with the health and safety of the children at the centre of all discussions. Thank you for all your help and patience in making the drop off safer and looking at alternative travelling and parking options. We will be having a walk to school week in November but would like to encourage if possible as many families to walk or cycle as possible. We are hoping new cycle/scooter sheds will be erected soon.

Please note that the car parks are for staff only and not a drop off point for school and nursery. We really appreciate your support with this matter.

School Uniform

Please ensure that your child wears the correct school uniform and would encourage black shoes to be worn.

We want to encourage the children to be outside as much as possible at break and at lunchtime (promoting healthy play) so if they could take a change of shoes for outside on the grass and wherever possible, waterproofs or tracksuit bottoms to allow them to play on grass in wet conditions. If they don't have a change of footwear they will not be allowed on grass in wet weather. PE kit consists of t-shirt, sport shorts, gym shoes or trainers.

We aim to do a lot of outdoor learning throughout the year so it is important that they have a warm, waterproof jacket with them each day.

Remember to put your child's name on all clothing and water bottles.

Thank you for your help and cooperation.

Curriculum News

In term 1 this year there will be a whole school focus on Rights Respecting Schools, with each class having a class charter, and in term 3 there will be a whole school focus on Eco and outdoor learning. We will have whole school learning walls in the hall.

Eco Garden

A huge thank you to Michelle Ferries and everyone at TESCO, Dobbies, Inverurie Rotary Club and our parent Mr. Mess for the amazing generosity of money, time and spirit in helping us create our Mrs Gullan eco garden. It looks amazing and we will be putting in our paths this term and hopefully fencing it off. We are looking to do a gardening club at lunchtime and if any parents would like to run/help with this please contact myself or the office.

End of term Service

Thank you to everyone who attended the end of term service and survived the 'heat!!' in the church. It was a lovely occasion and thanks to Mr. Groves for his excellent service and to all our musicians and singers and to Mrs Rowley for putting together our memories of the year.

Food Safety

Remember that Kellands is a nut free school.

After School/Lunchtime Clubs

Last year we ran a variety of afterschool/lunchtime clubs and we hope to do the same this year and possibly more. There will be hopefully, badminton, cross country, stay and play, tennis, Ukulele, choir, art, football Thursday (at Academy) and boys/girls at school and possibly science and

gardening. If you would like to help/run one of these clubs please contact the school, as we can't offer these clubs without your help and support. If you also have any ideas about new clubs again please contact myself or the office ASAP. Thank you.

Parent Volunteers

We really appreciate all the help that parent volunteers provide in all areas of school life. If you are interested in helping out at the school please contact the office and tell us which days you are available so we can update our records. Regular helpers will need to go through the PVG Disclosure process.

House Captains

Good Luck to our new House Captains who were introduced at assembly today.

They are:

URY

Ben Wilson
Natasha MacKenzie

KINKELL

Steven Strachan
Beth Morrison

HARLAW

Mikey Nicol
Abbie Killoh

BALQUHINE

Simon Hodgson
Kloey Barclay

Please don't hesitate to contact the Senior Management team or class teacher if you have any queries or concerns that we can help you with.