

Kingsclere CE Primary School Newsletter



January 2026 - Edition 6

January 2026 News

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope the New Year has begun positively for you and your families.

We began the term with an In-Service Training Day (INSET Day) for staff. Our Learning Support Assistants successfully completed their First Aid qualification, and teachers took part in training focused on Science, Religious Education, safeguarding updates, and a session from the School Library Service on how we can continue to nurture children's reading habits and interests.

There have been several enrichment activities in place to support core and foundation subject learning this month. Our Key Stage 2 choir attended the O2, Year 3 and Year 4 took part in a Prehistoric workshop to launch their Stone, Bronze and Iron Age history learning, and Year 1 and Year 2 enjoyed a Great Fire of London workshop provided by Trunk Theatre. School led clubs have also begun including football, dance, samba, karate, choirs and French.



Last week, we were delighted to welcome two new Learning Support Assistants to our team. Mr Jacob Hart, who recently completed his Master's degree in Philosophy, joins us with a strong desire to give back to Kingsclere, the school he once attended. We also warmly welcome Mrs Hayley Roach, who will be leading our outdoor learning provision following further training. Mrs Roach brings many years of experience working with children, and both she and Mr Hart have already made a wonderful start as part of our staff team. We said goodbye to Miss Anna Siatkowska who has worked as a Learning Support Assistant across the school and wish her well with her teaching qualification. We also say congratulations to Miss Anna Rose who has completed her Winchester University PGCE training block with us in Year 1 and wish her all the very best for her future teaching career.

Thank you for your continued support throughout January.



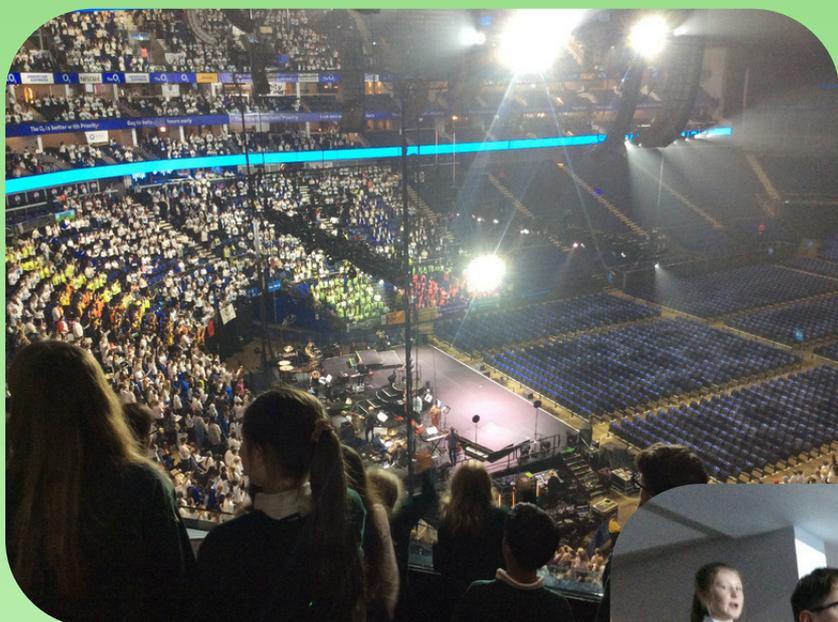
Kind regards,
Jo Messenger
Headteacher



Our Key Stage 2 Choir performing at the O2

Last week we took our KS2 choir to the O2 in London to take part in the incredible Young Voices Concert!

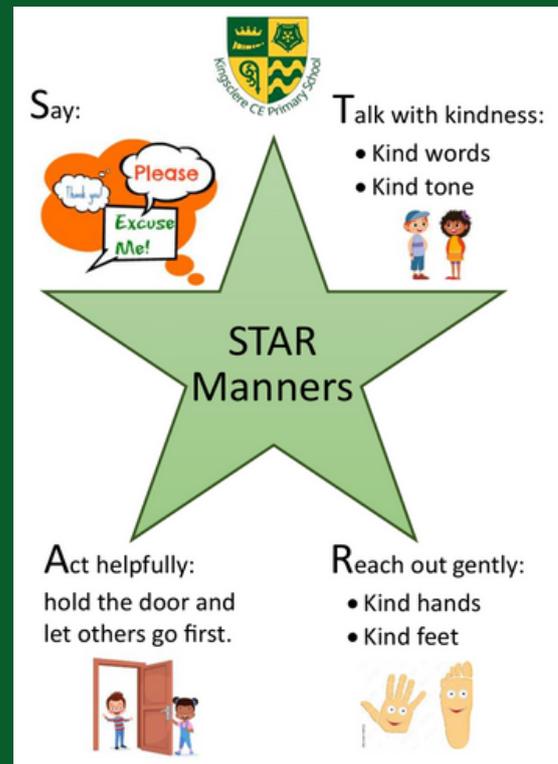
Despite being a grey, wet day everyone was full of high spirits and excitement. The fantastic collection of songs and dances were performed with enthusiasm, fun and friendship. The children wonderfully showed our school values throughout the day. Mrs Bowden shared that it was a pleasure to take the children to perform at the O2 and a joy to see this experience of a lifetime impact each and every one of them. A truly amazing day! Thank you to Mrs Bowden, Mrs Ambrose, Miss Walker, Mr Lennon and Mrs Green who supported at the event and also to Mrs Bowden, our Music Lead, for teaching all the songs to the children prior to the visit.



STAR Manners

This term we have introduced STAR Manners, a simple but powerful way of supporting children to consistently show excellent manners and kindness towards others.

We are already noticing a positive impact across the school and are incredibly proud of the children who demonstrate these values every day.

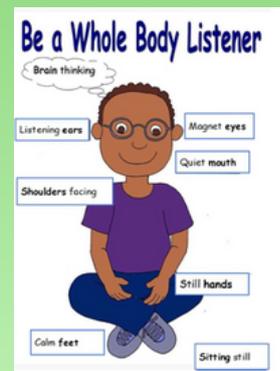


Oracy Project Updates

This term, we have been continuing to develop our whole-school approach to oracy, helping children become confident speakers and active listeners. Using the Oracy Framework, staff are supporting pupils to build strong communication skills across four key areas: physical, linguistic, cognitive and social and emotional.

Children are learning simple shared language and visual cues, such as 'magnet eyes' and 'listening ears', to help them understand what good speaking and listening look like. They are also practising different talk structures, including paired talk, trio groups, traverse talk and coaching onion to encourage everyone to take part.

Teachers are modelling high-quality talk and using 'talk tactics' to help pupils take turns, build on each other's ideas, and express themselves clearly. We are also using strand-specific praise so children know exactly what they are doing well.





Why Attendance Matters

We kindly ask families to avoid taking children out of school during the school term for holidays wherever possible. Every day in school really does make a difference.

What the Department for Education (DfE) says:

The Department for Education highlights the clear impact that absence has on children's learning. Pupils who attend regularly and have 95 - 100% attendance, have significantly higher odds of reaching the expected standard in reading, writing and maths compared with those whose attendance is between 90 - 95%.

Attendance and Wellbeing

Good attendance is strongly linked to children's positive wellbeing, confidence, friendships and overall enjoyment of school. When children attend consistently, they feel more settled, make better progress and are better prepared for the next stage of their education.

Thank You for Your Support

Thank you for supporting your child by helping them attend school every day they are well enough to do so. Together, we can give them the strongest foundations for future success.

School Awards

A huge well done to all the children who received awards last term in the following areas: English, Maths, STEM, School Values, Arts and Sports.



Staff nominated many pupils, and we are immensely proud of every child who shows resilience, determination and a positive attitude towards their learning.

Each week, we also celebrate children through a range of awards, including the Headteacher Award, Reading Reward, Courageous Advocacy, Times Table Rockstars, Class Attendance, and Tidiest Classroom. We truly value the effort and enthusiasm that children bring to school every day.



We would also like to extend our thanks to Elizabeth, who raised an impressive £180 through the Santa Fun Run in support of our school trim trail in Decemeber. Her enthusiasm and commitment are truly appreciated.

We are equally proud of Sebastian, our Motocross National winner, who has achieved an outstanding number of medals this season. His dedication, talent, and perseverance are an inspiration to us all.



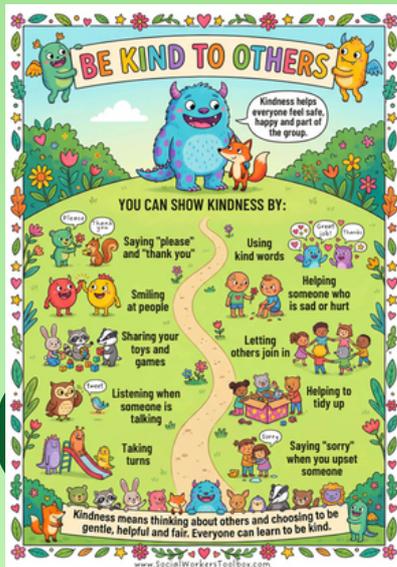
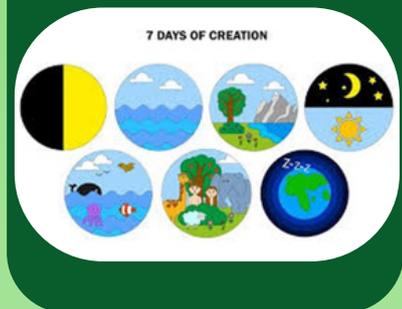
Collective Worship Focus – This Half Term

This half term, our Collective Worship has explored a range of themes that support our school vision for children at Kingsclere CE Primary. Our school vision is for children to be confident and thoughtful individuals with a love for learning. We also aim for all children who attend Kingsclere to show our school's core values of Love, Courage and Respect in all they do.

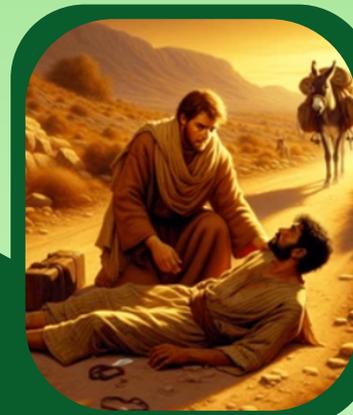
Themes we have explored together

Some of the themes this half term have included: Epiphany - and thinking about how every person matters. In our Collective Worship we reflected on the message of Epiphany and the importance of recognising the value of every individual. Children went on to consider how each of us contributes to our school community and how we can show respect and care for one another.

Another theme included: 'An Attitude of Gratitude' and thinking about the importance of caring for our world. We explored the concept of gratitude, drawing on the story of Creation to appreciate the beauty of the natural environment around us. Children were encouraged to think about our school grounds, our local community, and the wider national environment, and to reflect on the ways we can all play a part in looking after them.



Last week we thought about 'Choosing Kindness'. Through the story of the Good Samaritan, we examined how kindness is a deliberate choice we can make every day. Children discussed practical ways to show kindness to others, both within school and beyond.



Thank you School Leaders!

Alongside these themes, we have continued to celebrate the children's learning, behaviours, and the many ways they demonstrate our school values. Our School Leaders have played an important role in this, helping to count house points, organise the collection of Attendance Ted, present our Courageous Advocacy Cup, and award Mrs Titcomb's Tidiest Classroom Trophy, among other responsibilities.

Weekly Reflections and Prayers

We are thankful to all the children each week who share reflections from the week's Collective Worship and the class prayers being shared.

Thank you children for making our Collective Worship a very special time together.



Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) Programme – Hampshire

The Hampshire HAF Programme provides free holiday activities and healthy meals for children who are eligible for benefit-related Free School Meals. Sessions run during the Easter, Summer and Christmas holidays and offer a wide range of fun, enriching activities alongside a nutritious meal each day.

Families need to register with Hampshire County Council to receive a unique booking code before choosing activities. Once registered, parents can browse local providers, check availability in their area and book directly with the organisers.

Some providers may also offer additional places to other families at their discretion. The programme aims to support children's wellbeing, offer exciting holiday experiences and help families during school breaks.

Please click on the link for further information:



Holiday Activities and Food Programme (HAF) | Hampshire CTSH

These fully funded fun and educational activity sessions are to support low-income families. Children eligible for benefit...

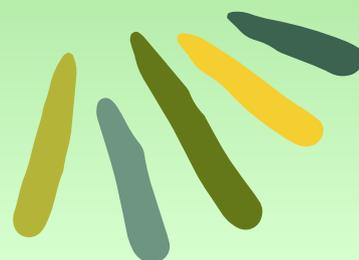
 connecttosupporthampshire.org.uk

Tesco Tokens

We are now approaching the end of the Tesco Tokens challenge and expect to hear soon whether we have been successful in securing a grant of £500, £1000 or £1,500.

Thank you to everyone who has supported us by placing a token in the box at Tesco's in Newbury. Your support is truly appreciated.

We are keeping our fingers crossed for the amount of funding we will receive towards our trim trail.





Times Tables Rock Stars – Supporting Your Child at Home

We continue to encourage all children in Years 3 to Year 6 to use Times Tables Rock Stars (TTRS) regularly at home. TTRS is a fun, engaging online platform that helps pupils build quick recall of their times tables through short, game-style activities. Just a few minutes of practice each day can make a significant difference to their confidence and fluency in maths.

Knowing their times tables securely supports children across the whole maths curriculum, from written calculations to problem-solving. TTRS adapts to each child's level, celebrates their progress, and helps them learn in a way that feels motivating and enjoyable.

We would be grateful if you could encourage your child to log in at home and spend a little time practising each week. Your support makes a real difference to their learning.

Log ins to TTRS are in your child's Home Learning folder. Please contact your child's class teacher if your child has misplaced their log in details. Thank you.

Children in Year 2 have recently been learning about multiplication and will be provided with a username and password for TTRS in the Summer Term.

Polite Request

A gentle reminder that trading cards (including football, Pokémon and similar collections) should not be brought into school for swapping during the school day. These can easily cause upset or distraction, and we want to keep playtimes calm and enjoyable for everyone.

If children are keen to swap cards, we're very happy to arrange occasional, supervised swap clubs. Any child who would like this opportunity can speak to Mrs Messenger, who will help organise a suitable time.

Thank you for your support in keeping our school environment positive and focused.

Hampshire SENDIASS at HPCN Get Togethers 2025-2026

Hampshire SENDIASS have agreed to join several HPCN Get Togethers across Hampshire in 2025. These sessions provide a supportive environment for parent peer support while SENDIASS offer:

- Confidential, impartial information, advice, and support on SEND-related issues.
- 1:1 guidance tailored to your personal journey, with real-time advice to support your young person (ages 0-25).

If you'd like to have a 1:1 conversation with SENDIASS, they'll be available at the following sessions:

- **06/11/2025, 10am – Fleet Get Together** - Fleet Town Football Club, Fleet Hampshire GU51 5FA
- **16/12/2025, 10am – Eastleigh Get Together** - St Francis Hall, Nightingale Avenue SO50 9JH
- **13/01/2026, 10am – Havant Get Together** - Horizon Havant , Civic Centre Road, PO9 2AY
- **27/02/2026, 10am – Alresford Get Together** - The Swan Hotel, 11 West Street, SO24 9AD
- **18/03/2026, 10am– Winchester Get Together** - Venue TBC
- **16/04/2026, 8pm – Evening Online Get Together** - Zoom Meeting ID: 890 6612 2644 Passcode: GT
- **07/05/2026, 10am – Fleet Get Together** - Fleet Town Football Club, Fleet Hampshire GU51 5FA
- **23/06/2026, 10am – Eastleigh Get Together** - Venue TBC
- **10/07/2026, 12pm – Lunchtime Online Get Together** - Zoom Meeting ID: 835 1332 0196 Passcode: GT



School Calendar Dates 2025 - 2026

Date	Event	What pupils should wear please or other information
Monday 9th – 13th February	E Safety Week Safer Internet Day Tuesday 10th February	
Monday 16th – 20th February	Half Term	
Tuesday 3rd March	Year 5 and Year 6 Winchester Science Centre	School uniform. Permission deadline 28.2.26. Lunch order by 31.1.26
Thursday 5th March	World Book Day	
Monday 9th March	Year R Autumn and Spring Birth, Heights, Weight and Hearing checks	
Monday 9th March	Year 6 Height and Weight checks	
Wednesday 11th March	Grounds Day	Outdoor clothing, coat, wellies and trainers.
Thursday 12th March	Parent/Carer Consultation	Please note we have changed one of the dates of the Parent/Carer Consultations from 17th March to 12th March as we have a moderation meeting with Basingstoke schools that has been arranged for this date. Parents will be able to book a Parent Consultation after half term - please look out for the letter about this. Thank you.
Tuesday 17th March	Parent/Carer Consultation	
Friday 27th March	Easter Service at St Mary's	
Friday 27th March	Last day of Spring term	
Monday 30th April – Friday 10th April	Easter Holiday	
Monday 13th April	Children return to school	
Tuesday 21st April	Year 3 and Year 4 Greek Day at Ufton Court	Permission deadline 31.3.26. Lunch order by 28.2.26

Monday 4th May	Bank Holiday	
Wednesday 6th May - Friday 8th May	School Book Fair	School Hall from 3.15 to 3.45
Monday 11th - Thursday 14th May	Year 6 SATS Week	
18th - 22nd May	Year 5 and Year 6 Residential	More details to follow
18th - 22nd May	Walk to School Week	
Tuesday 2nd June	Swimming Begins	Swimming suit, towel, flipflops
Monday 8th June	Year 6 Math Team to Marnel School	4 pupils attending
Friday 12th June	Sport Day	Year R + KS1 am @ 10am then picnic lunch followed by KS2 pm 13:00.
Friday 19th June	Back Up Sports Day	
Monday 29th June	INSET Day	
Monday 6th July	Last week of school teacher led club	Fee paying clubs later
Wednesday 8th July	Year 5 and Year 6 Performance - 1.15pm	Tickets on sale in June
Thursday 9th July	Year 5 and Year 6 Performance - 6.30pm	Tickets on sale in June
Monday 13th July	Year 3 and Year 4 Swimming Gala - 10.00 - 11.30am	Swimming kit and two towels
Tuesday 14th July	Grounds Day	Outdoor clothing, coat, wellies and trainers.
Wednesday 15th June	Year 5 and Year 6 Swimming Gala - 10.00 - 11.30am	Swimming kit and two towels
Wednesday 22nd July	Year 6 Leavers service at St Mary's Church - 9.30am	
Wednesday 22nd July	Last day of the Summer Term before the Summer	