

# Kingsclere CE Primary School Newsletter

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October 2025 - Edition 3



## October 2025 News

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have had a busy and rewarding first half term, full of learning and community spirit - from Harvest Festivals and football competitions to Year 6 Bikeability, oracy training, reading challenges, maths competitions and great learning across foundation and other core subjects.

A big thank you to our PTA team and everyone who supported the cake sale yesterday - together we raised £250! The children also loved Break the Rules Day, with plenty of colourful hair and fun outfits on display. We are delighted to welcome our new PTA Committee: Miss Kim Dumelow (Chair), Mrs Emma Evans (Vice Chair), Mrs Laura Bell (Secretary), and Dr Kate Fleming (Treasurer). A special thank you to Mrs Beccy Preston (our previous Chair), Mrs Claire Ellis (our previous Secretary) and Mrs Read for their fantastic contributions and for their continued support. It's also been lovely to see so many new faces join the PTA at the AGM, your enthusiasm and community spirit are greatly appreciated. We're excited for the year ahead and all the wonderful events to come!

We're delighted to welcome Miss Anna Rose to our team! She is a PGCE student teacher who will be working alongside Miss Hollie Randall as part of her teacher training. Miss Rose will be with us until the end of January 2026.

Our roof works are nearly complete! Over half term, the hall windows will be replaced, and the scaffolding will start to come down. Thank you for your patience this term navigating around the scaffolding on the school site!

We hope all the children enjoy a restful half term. Thank you for your continued support.

Kind regards,  
Jo Messenger  
Headteacher



## New Year R Open Days for children starting school in September 2026

We have started welcoming prospective parents to our Open Day tours whose children start Reception in September 2026. The Open Days are a great opportunity to see the school in action and learn more about life at Kingsclere CE Primary. If you have a new child starting in 2026 and would like to join us for a tour, please contact the school office on 01635 298583 or email [adminoffice@kingsclere.hants.sch.uk](mailto:adminoffice@kingsclere.hants.sch.uk) Our next Open Days are:

**Friday 7th November 2025, 09:30 – 11:00**

**Tuesday 18th November 2025, 13:30 – 15:00**



## Junior Road Safety Officers (JRSOs)

We were really pleased with how well our new JRSOs took part in their training last week. Well done to Bella, Ethan, Flo, and Olive! The children explored a range of questions linked to road safety, and we're really looking forward to seeing them lead whole school learning and activities on this important life skill over the coming year.



## Bikeability

It was great to see our Year 6 children taking part in their Bikeability training this week. They learned how to stay safe on public roads, develop their bike control, and build their road awareness. Despite the dreadful weather, the children showed fantastic resilience and enthusiasm throughout!





## Reading Challenge!

We're really enjoying seeing the children's Reading Challenge photos! The aim of the challenge is to encourage a love of reading, and we'll also be awarding a special prize for the most inspirational reading photo or drawing. Deadline for entries is Thursday 13th November.

Children can explore a wide range of books through:

- our school library
- their reading scheme books
- the SORA online reading app, which offers a fantastic selection of fiction, non-fiction, and even magazines for all year groups!

And to get things started... our teachers have already begun the Reading Challenge themselves!



## Reading Challenge for all year groups!

**Let's celebrate reading in all the wonderful places it can happen!**

### Your mission:

Find a fun, cosy, or unusual place to read - then show us!

### You can either:

- Take a photo of yourself reading in that place and upload it to Seesaw.
- Draw a picture of where you read and upload it on Seesaw or bring it in to school to share.

Places could include, under a blanket, in the garden, with a pet! Be as imaginative as you can! Let's see how many different places we can read in this term! We'll celebrate your creativity in Collective Worship, our school bulletin and newsletters! Because reading can happen anywhere... where will YOU read next?



## Harvest Festival

We were really proud of all the children's involvement in our Harvest Festival. We celebrated our Harvest Festival at St Mary's Church, where the children performed songs and readings with great confidence to a congregation of family and friends. The children shared Harvest poems, a rap and prayers, while Year 5 and 6 impressed us with their geographical enquiry work exploring, 'Is there enough for everyone in the world?' Despite the rain on the walk to church, spirits remained high! We were also very grateful for the many generous donations children made to the West Berkshire Foodbank. Thank you to all Kingsclere CE Primary School families for their kindness.

Mrs Bowden and I were also incredibly proud of the children who attended the Sunday Harvest Festival at St Mary's. The children shared a school Harvest song, read poems and a prayer and represented the school brilliantly - well done children!



## Anger Management Support for Children

We know that all children experience strong emotions at times, and learning to manage anger can be a real challenge. The NSPCC has put together some helpful advice and strategies for parents to support their children in understanding and coping with anger. At school we also support children in using the Zones of Regulation to help them manage their emotions, including anger. Please click on the link on the right for further information.



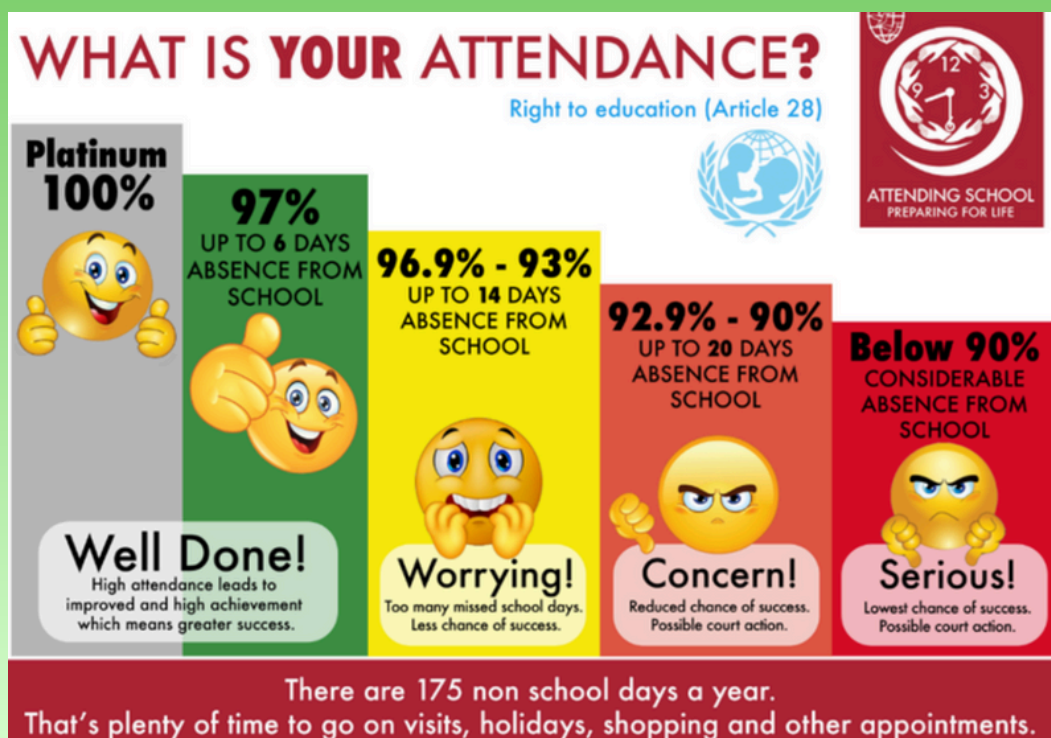


# Attendance and Punctuality

## Attendance and Penalty Updates:

There have been some new updates to our Attendance Policy in line with the Department for Education guidance. Where a parent takes a term-time holiday but deliberately seeks to avoid the issuing of a Penalty Notice, for example, by declaring only eight or nine sessions (four or four and a half days) of absence on a Leave of Absence Form (LOAF), or by arranging a holiday to coincide with an INSET day so that only eight sessions are recorded as 'G' coded (unauthorised holiday) absence, a Penalty Notice may still be issued, even if fewer than ten sessions of absence are declared.

Where no LOAF form has been submitted, and it is evident that a parent has attempted to avoid penalty action through partial or undeclared absence, a Penalty Notice will be issued.



## Illness



Please see the NHS guidance about 'Is my child too ill for school?' We encourage all parents and carers to support us in maintaining high attendance expectations for your child. The NHS guidance link is useful to know when a child is too ill for school. Pupils shouldn't miss school on a precautionary basis and can normally attend with a mild cough or cold, unless they have a fever or diarrhoea or vomiting.

## Tesco Grows Stronger

We have been informed by some parents that the token voting scheme for Kingsclere CE Primary School has not yet been set up in Tesco. We were originally told by Tesco that this would begin in October 2025. We have contacted them for an update and are awaiting confirmation of when the token scheme will be displayed in store.

In the meantime, please continue to collect the tokens. Our aim is to secure funding to replace our school Trim Trail. We have a collection pot in school where you or your child can drop off any tokens, and once the token pots are available in store, we are happy to add them on your behalf.



### Polite Reminder: Parking Near School

We've recently been in contact with the police regarding some parking concerns outside the school. We've noticed that a few cars have been parking on the zigzag lines. Please remember that parking on these lines is illegal and can create a serious safety risk for children and families crossing the road.

We kindly ask all parents and carers to avoid parking on the zigzag lines to help keep everyone safe. Thank you for your continued support and cooperation.



### Thank You for Helping Keep Our Children Safe

You may remember from last month's newsletter that some local residents had shared concerns about the safety of children travelling along North Street before and after school.

We're very pleased to share that one of those residents recently got in touch to say how much improvement they've noticed. They were really impressed to see children taking extra care, following the Highway Code, and travelling safely through the village.

A big thank you to all our children, parents, and carers for helping us keep everyone safe on their journeys to and from school.

# Kingsclere CE Primary School



*'Hand in hand we learn, we grow, we soar.'*



*Wrap around  
care available  
every day!*



*Termly  
grounds day  
for all year  
groups*



*Use of our pool in the  
summer term*



*Close links  
with the  
community*



*Engaging learning for all*



*Opportunities to perform  
and compete*



## OPEN DAYS

**Friday, 7th November 2025 – 09:30 to 11:00**  
**Tuesday, 18th November 2025 – 13:30 to 15:00**

Please contact the school to book an open day or a private tour during the school day.

**01635 298583**

**[adminoffice@kingsclere.hants.sch.uk](mailto:adminoffice@kingsclere.hants.sch.uk)**

**[www.kingsclereprimary.com](http://www.kingsclereprimary.com)**



SCAN ME

Mrs Joanna Messenger - Headteacher

Kingsclere CE Primary School, Ash Grove, Kingsclere, Newbury, RG20 5RE



# **Saturday 8th November**

Location: Kingsclere CE Primary School, Ash Grove

## **Tickets**

Adults £7.50 Children £5  
Preschool children - FOC

# **Kingsclere Fireworks**

Gates open: 16:30

**TICKET ONLY EVENT**

All funds raised go to Kingsclere CE Primary School

for



Photo Credit: Gareth Martin

## **Tickets Are On Sale NOW for Kingsclere Fireworks Festival!**

Don't miss out on this incredible event!

- 🎫 Get your tickets today in person at Raj & Monica,  
Swan Street Stores

Gates open at 16:30 – food and drinks available.

Fireworks begin at approximately 18:00

Let's come together and make this event unforgettable!



## School Calendar Dates 2025 - 2026

Date	Event	What pupils should wear please or other information
Monday 27th – 31st October	Half Term	Children return to school on Monday 3rd November.
Friday 7th November	New Year R Parents Tour 09:30 – 11:00	
10th – 14th November	Anti-Bullying Week and Monday 10th - Odd Socks Day	All children are invited to wear odd socks on 10th November.
Friday 14th November	Children In Need Day	
Tuesday 18th November	New Year R Parents Tour 13:30 – 15:00	
Wednesday 19th November	Grounds Day	
Thursday 20th November	Parent Consultation Evening 15:45 – 18:45	
Thursday 27th November	Parent Consultation Evening 15:45 – 18:45	
Tuesday 16th December	Infants Nativity Performance 09:30 – 10:30	
Wednesday 17th December	Infants Nativity Performance 09:30 – 10:30	
Thursday 18th December	Christmas Jumper Day	
22nd December – 2nd January	Christmas Holiday	
Monday 5th January 2026	INSET Day	
Tuesday 6th January	All children back to school	
Wednesday 21st January	Young Voices O2	
Monday 9th – 13th February	E Safety Week Safer Internet Day Tuesday 10th February	
Monday 16th – 20th February	Half Term	
Thursday 5th March	World Book Day	

Wednesday 11th March	Grounds Day	
Monday 30th April – Friday 10th April	Easter Holiday	
Monday 13th April	Children return to school	
18th – 22nd May	Year 5 and Year 6 Residential	
Monday 25th – 29th May	Half Term	
Friday 12th June	Sport Day	
Friday 19th June	Back Up Sports Day	
Monday 29th June 2026	INSET Day	
Wednesday 22nd July	Last day of the Summer Term before the Summer holiday begins on 23rd July	