



Kingskerswell

Church of England Primary School

Achieve, Believe and Create Together

Jeremiah 29:11.

For I know the plans I have for you, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.



A MESSAGE FROM MRS STRACHAN

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we approach the end of the autumn term and look forward to the festive season, I want to take this opportunity to reflect on what has been a truly rewarding and busy term.

Our pupils have worked incredibly hard, showing resilience, creativity, and kindness in everything they do. From academic achievements to sporting successes and artistic performances, it has been wonderful to see their talents shine. I am especially proud of the way our school community has supported one another, fostering an environment where every child feels valued and encouraged to reach their potential.

As we enter the Christmas season, I want to thank you—our parents and carers—for your continued support. Your partnership is vital in helping us provide the best possible education and care for our children. I also extend my gratitude to our dedicated staff, whose commitment and passion make our school such a special place.

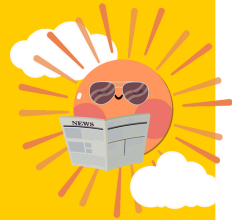
Finally, I wish you all a joyful and restful holiday. May this festive period bring peace, happiness, and time to create cherished memories with loved ones. We look forward to welcoming everyone back in the new year, ready for another exciting term of learning and growth.

Warmest wishes,
Karen Strachan

Headteacher

ACHIEVEMENTS

We love celebrating the children's achievements, both in and out of school.



AR MILLIONAIRES

Sullivan P
Coen M



Percy E – Player contribution
Olive M – Orange award, Gymnastics
Molly T – Orange award, Gymnastics
Amelia R – Learn to Swim Stage 2
Rosealie C – Silver medal (beam)
Gymnastics
Poppy O-J – 5 x medals, Paignton Swimming Club
Evie F – Blue award, Gymnastics
Isla R – Learn to Swim Level 6 certificate
Sofia G – 100 metre Swimming badge and Blue award, Gymnastics
Freddie P – Green belt, Martial Arts

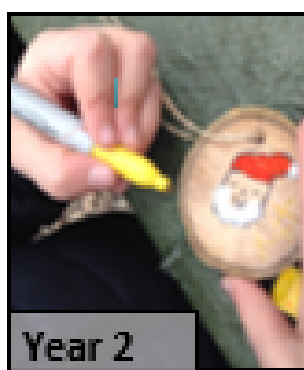




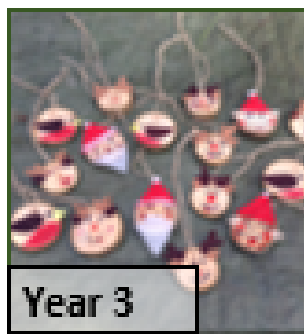
Year 1



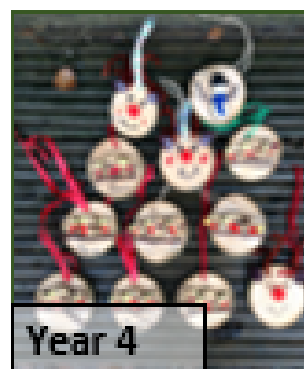
Foundation



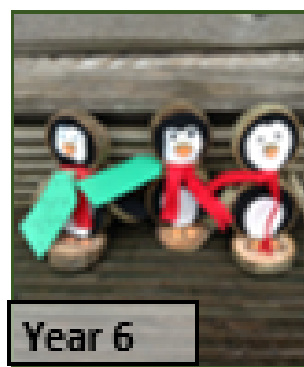
Year 2



Year 3



Year 4



Year 6

Forest School

Foundation Stage have been busy making clay decorations.

Year 1 have made Stick Santa inspired by the story of Stick Man.

Year 2 have used a bow saw for the first time to make a wooden Christmas decoration which they decorated with pens.

Year 3 have used a bow saw for the second time and decorated their wooden decoration with felt.

Year 4 used a bow saw to cut their wooden cookie and made Christmas decorations using smaller wooden discs to create a 3D design.

Year 5 & 6 have worked as a team to saw and construct wooden penguins using bow saws, drills and hammers.

CHILDREN IN NEED



On Friday 14th November, children and staff celebrated and fundraised for BBC Children in Need by donating a £1 to wear their best spotty or Pudsey inspired outfit.

The day was a huge success and we raised an amazing **£500!**

Thank you for your kind donations and support for such a worthy cause.



HOUSE POINTS



GOODRINGTON - 3,841,650
HOLLICOMBE - 2,841,650
MEADFOOT - 2,635,936
BABBACOMBE - 2,521,035



MEADFOOT - 388,018
HOLLICOMBE - 292,608
GOODRINGTON - 222,386
BABBACOMBE - 218,774



VALUES IN ACTION

Our values this term:
Love & Friendship and Joy



Theme: "From Darkness Came Light"

1 John 4:26. God is love, and anyone who lives in love is living with God and God is living in him.

Proverbs. 27:17. As iron sharpens iron, so a friend sharpens a friend

Ethos Leaders

The leaders enjoyed reading Bible stories to children in the library during lunch-time. There was a lovely buzz in the room!



Open the Book

Heather and Sandra visited Reception to retell the story of the First Christmas.



Remembrance Sunday

The Remembrance service at St. Mary's took place on Sunday, 9th November. It was well attended by many from our community and wreaths were laid at the War Memorial to commemorate those who sacrificed so much for their country.



The season has been full of joy with the KS1 and KS2 nativities, Christingle, the KS1 crib service, the carol service, and our choir putting on a Christmas medley of songs for the members of Kerswella Care. Wow! What a lot of festive cheer!





Koala Class

EYFS



Crocodile Class



Diwali

In November, we learned about Diwali - the festival of light. We learned about how this is celebrated around the world. We made some rangoli patterns, diwa lamps and took part in a dance workshop to retell the story of Rama and Sita.



Remembrance Day

We made poppy stones to take to the memorial in Kingskerswell and observe the two-minute silence.



Space



We had a visit from the planetarium, where we learned about the solar system and stories about the different constellations.

Christmas



We wrote and posted letters to the North Pole.

'Open the Book' came to visit us to retell the Christmas story.





Platypus Class

YEAR 1



Snowy Owl Class

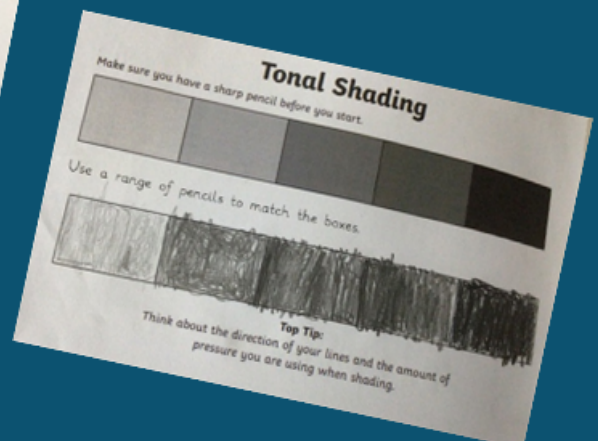
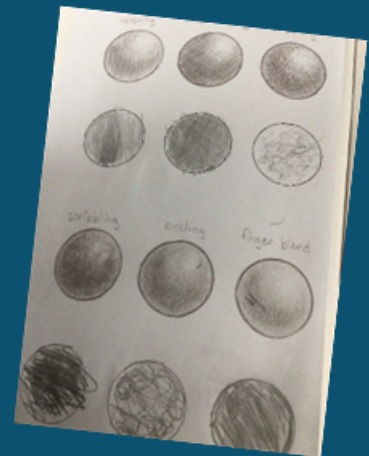
KS1 Crib Service

Year 1 led the KS1 Crib Service at St Mary's Church on Tuesday 16th December. They worked hard to learn their lines and to practise their acting. They enjoyed singing two traditional carols, Little Donkey and Away in a Manger as well as a song from this year's Nativity, Here We Are. They did a great job in front of a lot of parents and carers!

Thank you to parents and carers for your support with learning lines, walking to the church and attending the service.



In art this term we have drawn our self-portraits and have explored sketching techniques. We used a range of pencils from 'H to B' and learnt that 'B' pencils are softer and darker.





Toucan Class

YEAR 2

Science - Teeth



Polar Bear Class



This term in Year 2 our focus in Science has been humans, specifically learning about how we look after our teeth by brushing them twice a day and eating the appropriate foods. The children were lucky enough to receive a visit from Lisa at the Peninsula Dental Social Enterprise. She introduced us to Geoffrey the Giant who reminded us of the importance of taking care of our teeth. The children each received a dental goodie bag with their very own toothbrush starter kit.



Puffin Class

YEAR 3



Penguin Class

History Exhibition – Skara Brae Projects



This term, we have been learning about the Ages. We have looked at the Stone Age, Bronze Age and Iron Age. We have researched a significant place known as Skara Brae in the Orkneys. For homework we researched and created projects that we placed in an exhibition for parents and carers. We really enjoyed sharing our work with our friends and family.



"I enjoyed making my project and learning about Skara Brae, and I also learned that my nana had been there too." Darcie in Puffin Class
"I enjoyed carving my stone with my dad just like they did in the Stone Age." Reef in Puffin Class





Red Panda Class

YEAR 4

Design & Technology – Moving Orangutans



Giraffe Class

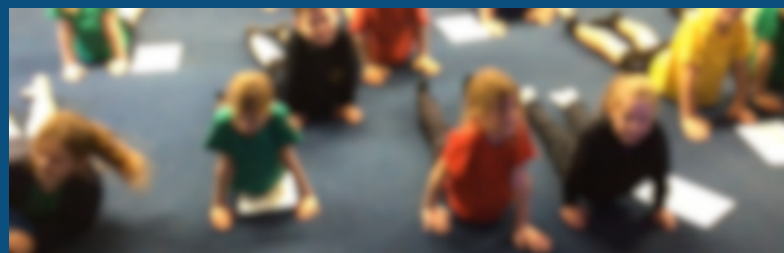


This term's D&T focus has been on pulleys. The children worked in pairs to research, design and make a moving Orangutan using a simple pulley mechanism. They evaluated their finished project, marking against the design criteria and giving it a star-rating.



PE - Netball and Yoga

Lily and Jack from EXeter FC club took the children for Netball this term. The children worked on improving their attacking, defending and shooting skills. They also focused on developing strategies to make space and to work collaboratively to improve their team game. The last PE session involved a Christmas-themed team challenge to build the best snowman with the catchiest name.



Year4 enjoyed their yoga sessions this term.



Tiger Class



Rhinoceros Class

YEAR 5 & 6

Network Rail Safety Talk



Ocelot Class



This half term, Year 5 and 6 enjoyed a fascinating rail-safety workshop delivered by Network Rail. During the session, we explored the different types of rail crossings, the dangers found on and around the railway, and the risks posed by electrical overhead lines. Most importantly, we learnt the steps everyone should take to stay safe near train tracks.

We also discovered some remarkable facts to help us remember why rail safety matters so much.

The session ended with a clear and powerful message that we all agreed to remember:

Stay safe. Stay alert.

Stay off the tracks

Did you know that a train can weigh as much as 80 elephants?

And at top speed, some trains can travel at up to 125 mph – around three times faster than Usain Bolt can run!

With that much weight and speed, trains cannot stop quickly, which is why it is vital to treat the railway with respect.



SPORTS



Back in October, we were visited by Oli Adams, a professional and competitive surfer. We all took part in a fitness circuit during the morning, which at times was quite tough! Oli then spoke to the whole school about his surfing career and the obstacles he has overcome. It was very inspiring, and children were able to ask him questions. As a result of all the sponsorship, we have raised a fantastic £1800! This will be spent on our PE resources and equipment for the whole school to use. Well done to everyone who raised money and thank you for your support at home!

Our Year 3/4 and 5/6 Football Teams have been super busy playing at home and away in football matches against local schools. Year 3/4 beat Gatehouse in the first round of the Knockout Cup.

Our Year 5/6 A Team have been playing in numerous games, recently beating Blackpool and Bradley Barton. Our Year 5/6 B Team also went on to win a game against Blackpool Primary School.

At the EFL Utilita Kids Cup football tournament, the Year 5/6 team played brilliantly and came runners up in the tournament. Well done all!





Our Year 5/6 Girls Football Team have played a couple of games this half term. It was a very cold morning at South Devon College where the girls played several games against local schools in Paignton. They won one game, drew one and lost a couple.



Despite their efforts, the girls lost against Rydon who were just a bit stronger at driving in goals. Millie and Iona performed brilliantly at our match against Canada Hill, saving some cracking goals. Both teams were drawing 2-2 until the last 4 minutes when Canda Hill scored 4 consecutive goals! Good effort all.



Our Netball A and B Team played a friendly match against Rydon Primary school. The girls from both teams were excellent at defending and supported each other to drive the ball up the court. The A Team drew 5-5 and the B Team won 6-1. Well done!

WRAP-AROUND

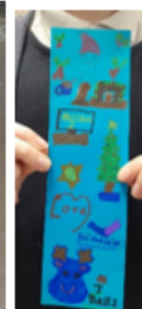
There is always have a book corner available for children to have some quiet time!



We had our 'Wrap-Around's Got Talent' this half term. The children had a great time showing their interesting skills and laughing along :D



It had been quite festive December with lots of Christmas themed activities. It doesn't matter how old you are, children love masking-taping the hall floor!



We have now introduced some healthier options into Breakfast Club and have pancake free days.

It is nice to see children trying new things 😊

We have had 2 food tasting sessions this half term, 'Red' and 'Green'. Well done to our adventurous children who have tried new and interesting foods!



We wish you a very Merry Christmas!

Mrs Vine and the Wrap-Around Team 😊

ESPAÑOL

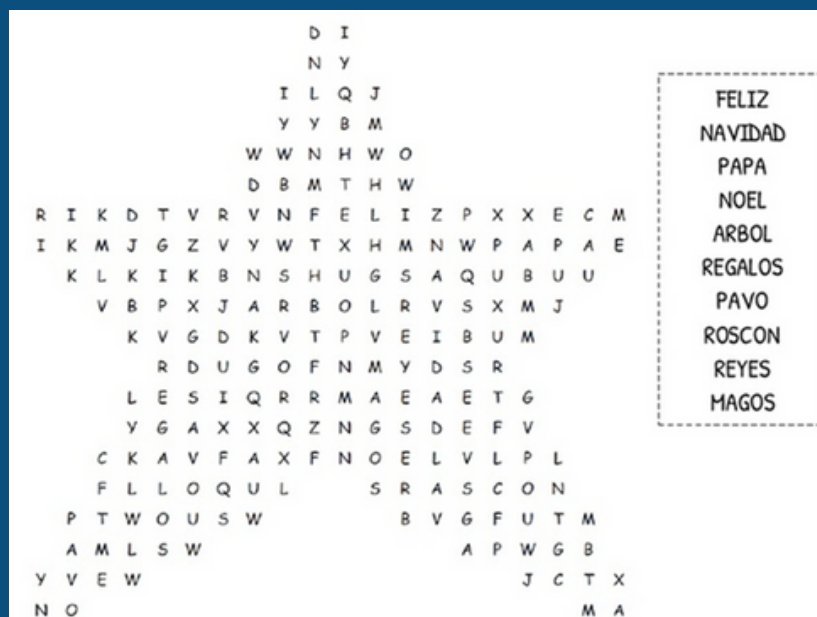
Our first Pen Pal letters are here!



The children were very excited to read the messages and learn about their new friends from Jesús María San Agustín School. We will keep writing and sharing news with them during the year.

Remember that you can visit our shared blog to see more activities and posts from both schools — [just click here](#) to go to Escuelas Twin. Here you can find other sections, such as “Know your name in Spanish”, “Spanish word of the week” and “Games” to enjoy while you learn.

Also, as it is Christmas time, we have a present for you!
Enjoy this word search and try to find some Christmas vocabulary in Spanish.





12 Days of Fire Safety

Safe decorations – Inspect fairy lights and decorations and remove any that are damaged or have frayed wires. Ensure exterior lights are plugged into an RCD device. Avoid daisy-chaining and overloading sockets.

Candle safety – Keep candles away from decorations, curtains, and never leave them unattended. It's safer to use LED candles.

Christmas trees – Keep real trees watered and away from heat sources to prevent fires. If you own an artificial tree, make sure it is fire retardant certified.

Cooking caution – Most accidental house fires start in the kitchen. Stay alert while cooking – never leave ovens or hobs unattended, and drink in moderation.

Check on loved ones – Complete an Online Home Fire Safety Check at www.ohfsc.co.uk.

Fireplace safety – Use a guard, ensure chimney is thoroughly swept, and fit a carbon monoxide alarm. Make sure there is a suitable distance between decorations and fireplace and only burn suitable fuel sources.

Test your alarms – Ensure smoke and carbon monoxide alarms are working and that you have at least one smoke alarm on each level of your home. Never remove batteries from a smoke alarm.

Escape routes – Keep exits clear of clutter, decorations and gifts. Plan and practise your escape plan with family and friends.

Buy safe gifts – Choose UKCA or CE-marked or registered products from reputable retailers and online marketplaces.

Night-time routine – Turn off decorations and appliances before bed; don't leave devices charging overnight.

When away from home – Switch off appliances and unplug decorations before going out or away.

Smoking safely – Smoke outdoors, use ashtrays, and keep away from emollient creams or products.



MENTAL HEALTH & WELLBEING

As we approach a very busy time of year, that comes with its own set of challenges amongst the excitement and celebrations. It is good to stop and take a moment to think about managing our own mental health and wellbeing, so that we can support our children through the emotional rollercoaster that is the Christmas holiday.

What with the changes in routine, family trips away and the everyday excitement that comes with opening an Advent Calendar and waiting for Christmas Day, Christmas for a child's stress regulation systems can be really challenging.

Here are a few tips to remember for yourself, so that you are regulated and available to support your child:

Christmas Mental Health Reminders

set realistic expectations

remember to practice self-care

balance social obligations

acknowledge your feelings

reach out

limit comparison

give yourself grace

If you do find you are struggling with Behaviours that Challenge in your children or with your own Mental Health here are some places you can find support: <https://parentingsmart.place2be.org.uk/>
<https://www.youngminds.org.uk/parent/parents-helpline/>



GOVERNING BOARD NEWS



The members of the Governing Board would like to wish all our families and staff a

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

May you all have a relaxing time this Christmas break.

KKPS Governing Board

BUCKET LOADS OF TALENT!



Beth and Harry C made their teachers a beautiful Christmas wreath. Thank you to two very talented children.



Thank you Miss Vine for decorating our windows in Giraffe Class!



Kingskerswell Primary School PTFA

Have you considered offering to help our school PTFA? We are always looking for new committee members and volunteers.

The PTFA is a registered charity – it is a group of volunteers comprising of parents, teachers and friends of the school. We raise money for extra items and facilities to support children's development and enhance their learning.

To achieve our funding aims, we organise a variety of events throughout the year, such as Discos, Seasonal Fayres, Frozen Pop Friday - as well as many others.

The PTFA works closely with the school to understand fundraising priorities and agree a main aim, as well as supporting ad-hoc purchases throughout the year. We have supported a variety of different requests over the years, including:

* Playground equipment * Lighting and sound equipment * School trips * Year 6 leavers' hoodies * Forest School equipment * Visits and gifts from Father Christmas * New Starters packs *

All funds raised directly benefit children at school, so even if it's buying an ice-lolly on Frozen Pop Friday or donating items for the seasonal fayres – every little helps.

You may be reading this and think you can't commit to joining the committee, but still want to help when you can? Then PTFA Lite is for you!

We have a dedicated WhatsApp group, where any small jobs that need completing will be added. If you can help that's great, if not - next time! No pressure, just help when you can. If this is of interest to you, please email your name and mobile phone number to: PTFA@kingskerswell.devon.sch.uk

Please keep a look out for our newsletter, which is circulated at the end of each half-term and check our Facebook page for updates.



ATTENDANCE UPDATE 3.09.25 – 18.12.25

Well done on
keeping up
your good
attendance!

Attendance percentage	
Reception	96.7%
Year 1	96.7%
Year 2	95.1%
Year 3	95.2%
Year 4	96.2%
Year 5	96.7%
Year 6	96.5%
National	95.3%
Local Authority	95.4%

**WELL
DONE**



Is there anything
you would like
included
in our newsletter?

NUT FREE SCHOOL



THANK YOU

Please do not send your child(ren) to school with snacks that contain nuts. As a school promoting the health and wellbeing of all children, we would please ask that children bring in healthy snack choices, such as chopped up fruit or vegetables. Thank you for your support with this.



SAFEGUARDING

Worried about a child's safety?

If you are concerned about the safety of a child in Devon and want to speak to someone, or if you are a child worried about your own safety, contact our Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) on 01392 388428, 01803 208100 (if the child lives in Torbay) or email mashsecure@devon.gov.uk and give as much information as you can.

If a child is at immediate risk, contact the police on 999.

Contact Information

Kingskerswell C of E Primary School

Coffinswell Lane, Kingskerswell, TQ12 5HN

01803 873398

admin@kingskerswell.devon.sch.uk





COMMUNITY NOTICE BOARD



Subject: Thank You - Harvest Donation

Hello,

On behalf of all of the team at THAT Foodbank, I wanted to take this opportunity to say a massive thank you for your harvest donation that was received at the Foodbank on 7th November 2025.

All of your wonderful donations will help to support individuals and families, not just in Newton Abbot, but across the whole of the Teignbridge District.

We want to thank you for your generosity and hope that you will continue to support us in the future. If you would like any more information about our work, and how you can get involved, please let us know and we will be happy to discuss this with you.

Thank you once again,
Joe Downes
Foodbank Manager

THAT Foodbank



THAT Food Bank (Charity Number: 1146610) 8 Queensway House,
Queensway, Newton Abbot. TQ12 4BA
Tel: 01626 437310.
email: office@thatfoodbank.com
Web: www.thatfoodbank.com

St Mary's Kingskerswell

Kingskerswell Parish Church-
St.Mary's
Part of The Three Wells Mission
Community
VICAR: Michael Wilkie

Three Wells Churches Office, Church
End Road, Kingskerswell, TQ12 5LD
Vicarage: 01803 875248
Office: 01803 873006

admin@w3church.co.uk
Website: www.ackchurch.org.uk/

Facebook
<https://www.facebook.com/The-Three-Wells-Mission-Community-106678921001432/>

The choir singing for our community at the parish hall during a Kerswella event.

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY CLUBS

AMAZING DISCOUNTS AVAILABLE!

Exwick Sports Hub

9.30am - 3.30pm

Monday 22nd & Tuesday 23rd December

Friday 2nd January

AGES 5-14

THE ACTIVITIES
Match Mania World Cup, FA Cup, Champions League, Goalkeepers & Strikers, Football Fever

BOOK TODAY

EXTERCCT.ORG