

School News – Spring 1 term – February 2026



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 come to the end of the first half of the spring term, I want to take a moment to celebrate the many ways our school community has continued to live out our values of Trust and Hope. These values guide and shape us, helping our children grow with confidence as they build their futures.

Throughout this half term, Trust has been evident in the way pupils have worked together—whether supporting one another in class projects, collaborating in group learning, or showing increasing independence and responsibility around school. We have seen children place trust in their peers, in staff, and in themselves as learners, and this has been reflected in the resilience and determination they've shown.

Hope has shone through in so many aspects of school life. From the enthusiasm children have brought to new topics, to the optimism they've demonstrated when tackling challenges, there has been a real sense of looking forward and believing in what can be achieved. Events such as our curriculum focused trips, enrichment activities, and celebration assemblies have highlighted the amazing progress pupils are making and the exciting possibilities ahead.

Together, these values have helped create a positive, nurturing environment where every child is encouraged to grow, contribute, and dream big. We are incredibly proud of how our pupils are embodying Trust and Hope each day, laying strong foundations for the future they are building.

As we head into the half-term break, we wish all our families a restful and enjoyable week. We hope you have time to relax, recharge, and spend quality moments together. We look forward to welcoming the children back, refreshed and ready for the exciting learning ahead.

Warm regards,
Karen Strachan

Head teacher

ACHIEVEMENTS

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



Ellie D – Indigo Award – Gymnastics
Ellie D – Silver medal for floor routine and participation medal for gymnastic competition
Ellie D – Stagecoach Record of achievement for 1 year award
May D – Piano Certificate of achievement Primer A
Phoebe S – Swimming Certificate – Goldfish 3
Ralph W – Swimming Certificate – Stanley 1 Award
Ryan M – Water skills 3 swimming certificate
Evie F – Horse riding rosette
Frazer H – Top Trainer KK Colts
Poppy OJ – The Harris Shield U10 girls 200m medley
Poppy OJ – Girls 10 and under 4x1 Individual Medley
Poppy OJ – Various swimming medals
Leo H – Green belt and yellow and green belt
Peaches OJ – The Les Stevens Imp Award
Fred H – Netball League Medal
Margot C – Level 3 swim badge
Margot C – Gymnastic participation medal
Margot C – 2nd Place for floor routine
Margot C – Haldon Night Race (Running in the dark) 1Km
Gabriella BG – Level 4 swimming certificate
Alfie P – Level 4 swimming certificate
Myla P – 20 metres swimming certificate
Isabel C – South Devon school of gymnastics level 1 certificate of achievement
Isabel C – Star of the week certificate
Bethany S – Swimming Medals
Bethany S – Penn Inn Trophy 50m Back
Bethany S – County Cup 100m Back
Bethany S – Pavillion Cup 100m Breast
Bethany S – Boyle Rosebowl 50m Free
Bethany S – Coral Waldoock Cup 100m free
Bethany S – Silver Jubilee 1977 Cup 100m
Bethany S – Omega Trade Frames Trophy Best Female

FOREST SCHOOL

Foundation



Year 1

This term the children at forest school having been orienteering around the school grounds.



Year 2

Foundation Stage have been on a quest to help the witch from Room on the Broom to find her belongings.



Year 3

Year 1 have been using dots on a map to find and identify natural objects.

Year 2 have been using letters and number co-ordinates to find facts on The Great Fire of London.



Year 4

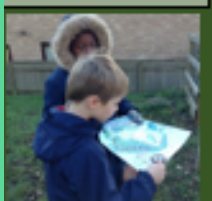
Year 3 have been learning to use 4 figure co-ordinates to find facts about Volcanoes.

Year 4 have been learning to use 4 figure co-ordinates to find facts about Maya Gods.

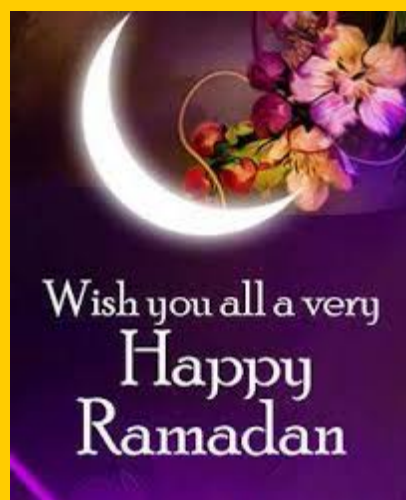


Year 5/6

Year 5 & 6 used 6 figure co-ordinates looking for facts on mountains and had a quiz at the end of their session.



Wishing our Muslim families a Happy Ramadan!



HOUSE POINTS



AR

HOLLICOMBE - 1,835,298
MEADFOOT - 1,678,736
BABBACOMBE - 1,580,971
GOODRINGTON - 1,225,088



HOLLICOMBE - 402,264
MEADFOOT - 391,546
GOODRINGTON - 371.627
BABBACOMBE - 368 - 784



VALUES IN ACTION

Our Values for
Spring 1 term -
Trust & Hope: Building a Future



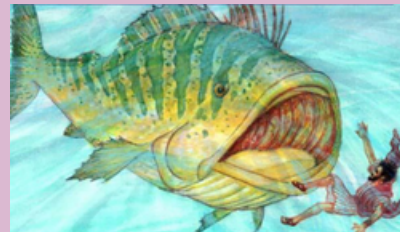
Proverbs 28:26

Those who trust in themselves are fools,
but those who walk in wisdom are kept safe.



Sandra and Heather visited Year 2 to retell the story of Jonah the Groaner. There was a lot of complaining going on! 'Arrrrr..!'

The leaders also paid a visit to Penguin class to retell Noah's Ark.



Holocaust Memorial Day 2026

On Tuesday, 27th January, we remembered Holocaust Memorial Day. We explored this year's theme 'Bridging Generations', which is a call-to-action. A reminder that the responsibility of remembrance doesn't end with the survivors - it lives on through their children, their grandchildren and through all of us.

Wed, 18 Feb 2026 – Thu, 2 Apr



Season of Preparation: Lent

As we start the season of Lent, why not try out our 40 Acts of Kindness on the next page.



Parent Guide

How can I use this with my children?

Encourage your child to be kind during Lent with these 40 acts of kindness. Challenge your child (or the whole family) to carry out the acts of kindness described here (or adapt them to better suit your family).

How does this help my children's learning?

Showing appreciation of others around them and carrying out some self-less acts can help your child understand the world around them and support their social skills.

Ideas for further learning:

Why not create a list of things you can do together to support your child being kind to themselves and others every day?

40 Acts of Kindness for Lent

<input type="checkbox"/> Pick up litter.	<input type="checkbox"/> Leave a happy note for someone to find.
<input type="checkbox"/> Bake a treat for a friend.	<input type="checkbox"/> Feed the birds in your garden or local park.
<input type="checkbox"/> Donate outgrown clothes to a charity shop.	<input type="checkbox"/> Say thank you to someone for being kind.
<input type="checkbox"/> Make your bed without being asked.	<input type="checkbox"/> Offer to help with a household chore.
<input type="checkbox"/> Tell someone a funny joke to make them smile.	<input type="checkbox"/> Ask your teacher if you can sharpen the colouring pencils for them.
<input type="checkbox"/> Do something kind for someone you love.	<input type="checkbox"/> Help with dinner preparations by setting the table without being asked.
<input type="checkbox"/> Leave a dish of water out for the wildlife in your garden.	<input type="checkbox"/> Leave a thank you note for your delivery person or bin collectors.
<input type="checkbox"/> Give a compliment to someone today.	<input type="checkbox"/> Help make breakfast for your family.
<input type="checkbox"/> Tidy away toys after playing with them.	<input type="checkbox"/> Let your parent/carer have a lie-in and read a book in bed until they wake up.
<input type="checkbox"/> Write a list of things you are grateful for.	<input type="checkbox"/> Try to be kind to your siblings.

40 Acts of Kindness for Lent

<input type="checkbox"/> Say thank you to someone who helps you.	<input type="checkbox"/> Learn a new skill and share it with a family member.
<input type="checkbox"/> Donate something to a local food bank (check their requirements first).	<input type="checkbox"/> Give a family member or friend a hug.
<input type="checkbox"/> Leave a positive note in a library book.	<input type="checkbox"/> Smile at everybody you meet today.
<input type="checkbox"/> Hold the door open for someone.	<input type="checkbox"/> Call a family member for a chat.
<input type="checkbox"/> Invite someone to play in the playground.	<input type="checkbox"/> Let someone go in front of you in a queue.
<input type="checkbox"/> Help unpack the shopping.	<input type="checkbox"/> Plant something.
<input type="checkbox"/> Say hello to everyone you see.	<input type="checkbox"/> Paint rocks and hide them for others to find.
<input type="checkbox"/> Do a favour for someone.	<input type="checkbox"/> Use kind words all day.
<input type="checkbox"/> Help someone do something they need help with.	<input type="checkbox"/> Write a list of the kind people in your life and thank them.
<input type="checkbox"/> Donate something to a local animal shelter (check their requirements first).	<input type="checkbox"/> Write a thank you note to a friend you appreciate.

OUR NEW COMMUNITY MURAL

Nic George Art

[Click here to
visit Nic's
Facebook page.](#)



Nic and the Ethos Leaders with the completed mural.

Nic George, a local artist and a previous member of staff at KKPS, was commissioned to create a mural for the corridor outside our library. The children were asked to draw their favourite buildings in the community which were then used to design the mural.

There was an amazing buzz during the two days it took to complete and we now have a fabulous mural of a community that we feel very proud to be a part of!





Koala Class

EYFS



Crocodile Class

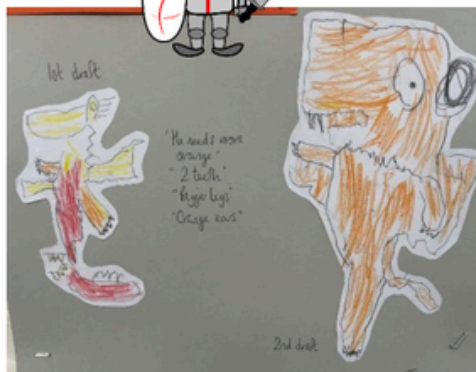
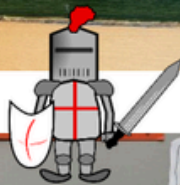
KNIGHTS, CASTLES AND DRAGONS

Knights, Castles and Dragons!

In Reception, we have been learning about knights, castles and dragons in our topic this term.



We have learned about all the main parts of a castle and have enjoyed building them in the junk modelling area, outdoors and with small construction like Lego. Lots of children have made castles, swords and shields at home. Lots of others have been to visit local castles and shared what they have learned with the rest of the class.



Growth Mindset

We used a growth mindset to attempt drawing Zog, before looking carefully at our work and redrafting it to improve our work.



Platypus Class

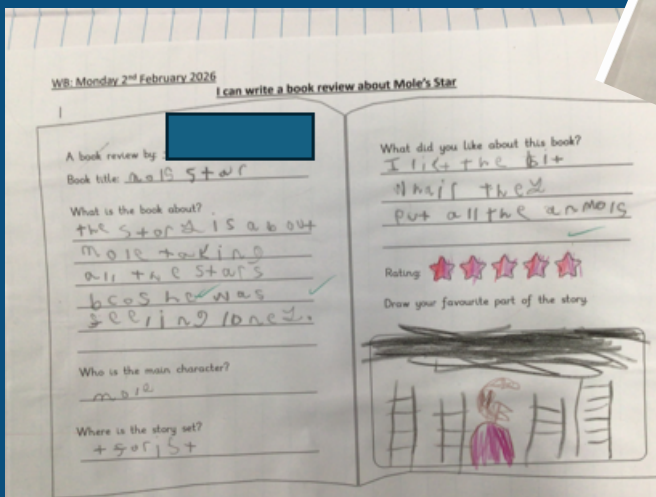
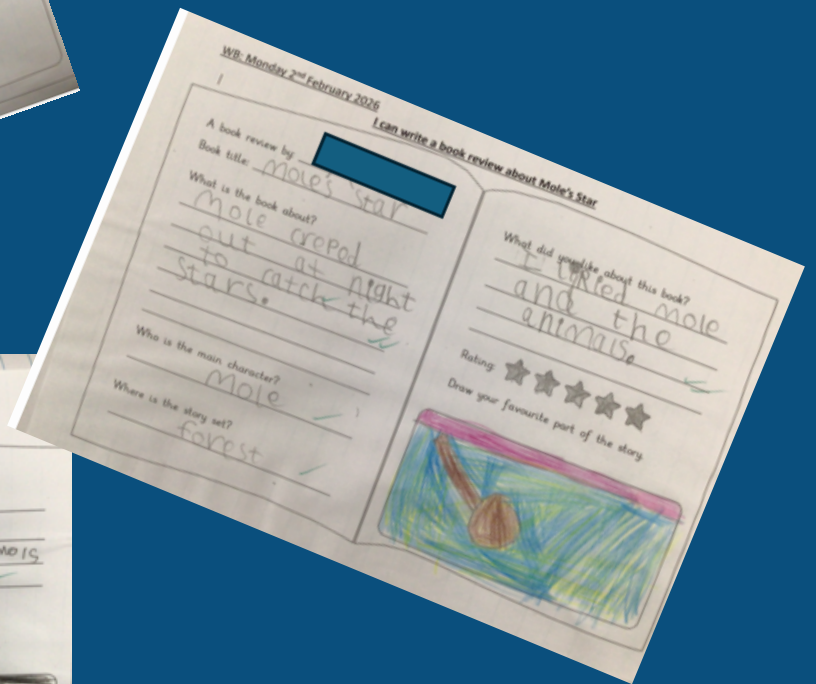
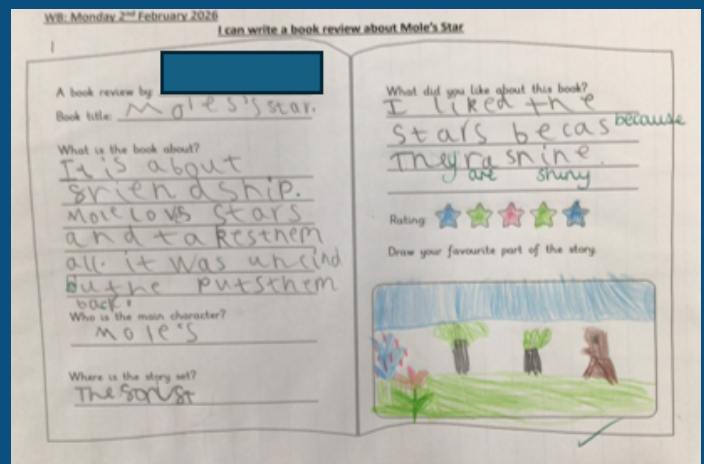
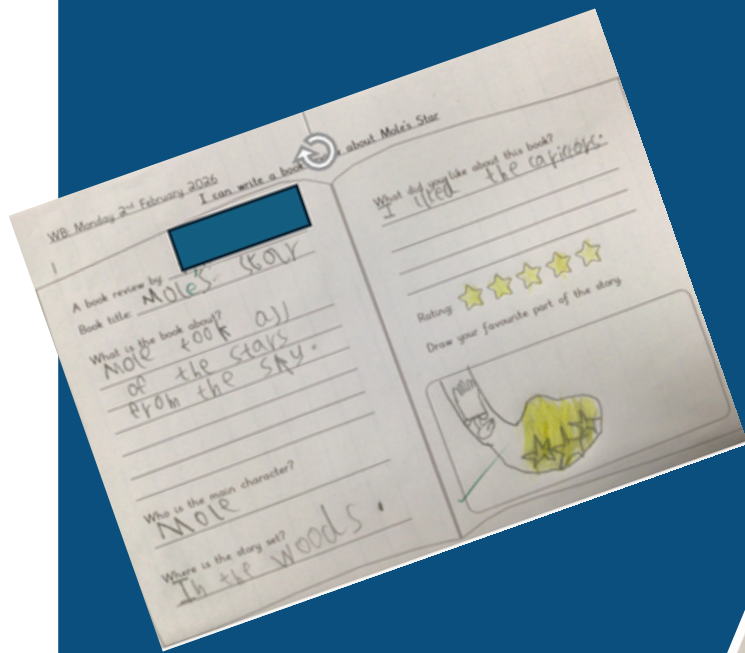
YEAR 1



Snowy Owl Class

English learning – Mole's Star

This half term, Year 1 have been reading Mole's Star, written and illustrated by Britta Teckentrup. We have enjoyed learning lots of new facts and information about moles, exploring a story that lots of us had never read before and imagining what we might wish for if we saw a shooting star. All the children have written a book review of Mole's Star, shared their favourite parts of the story and given it a rating out of 5 stars. Linking this learning to our Design Technology learning, we have started to design backgrounds to create moving pictures. Each picture will have an animal or a star that can move around the picture using a slider. We have also taken part in some role play as some of the different animals from the story.





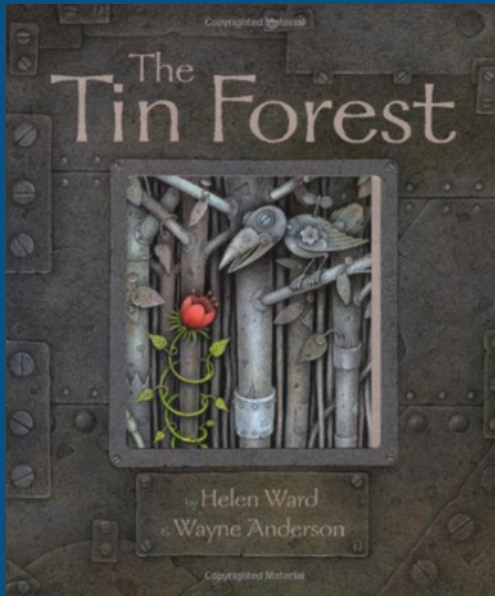
Toucan Class

YEAR 2



Polar Bear Class

THE TIN FOREST

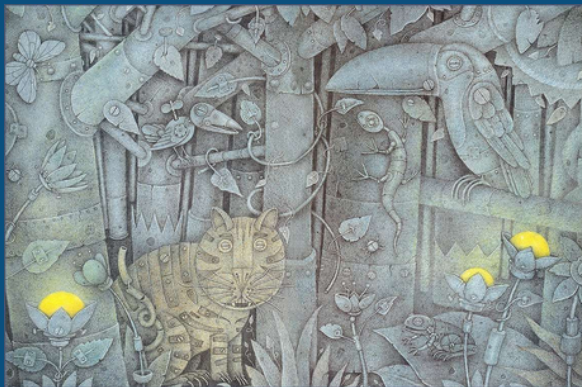


In Year 2 this term, we have been exploring the story of 'The Tin Forest' by Helen Ward and Wayne Anderson. The children have enjoyed listening to the story and predicting what might happen next. We have been concentrating on improving our descriptive writing. Last week, children were thinking of some brilliant adjectives to describe a forest. We listened to different forest sounds around the world and then used this to inspire our writing. Children considered what they could see, hear and what they might touch in a forest to write their descriptions. Some of the noun phrases we came up with as a class were:

"rushing, shimmering water flowing down the river"

"tweeting, chirruping birds sitting in a tree"

"rough, hard rocks on the damp ground"





Puffin Class

YEAR 3



Penguin Class



Year 3 - Roman Stunning Start

This term we are learning about the Romans. To get our topic started, we have been making Roman helmets. We watched Horrible Histories Rotten Romans and also created our own Roman army. We are very excited about our trip to the Royal Albert Memorial Museum in February, where we will be taking part in lots of amazing Roman activities.



Jewish Zoom Visitor – Wednesday 28th January

Year 3 have been learning about Judaism this term, and they were excited to be joined by Sheila, who is a member of the Jewish community. Sheila explained how she lives her life and follows Judaism. She talked about visiting the synagogue and how she prays. She spoke to the children about the sacred readings from the Torah and described how she celebrates Shabbat each week with her family.

The children enjoyed listening to her and were also able to ask her questions.





Red Panda Class

YEAR 4



Giraffe Class



Religion & Worldviews - Reverend Wilkie's Visit

This term, Year 4 have been exploring the big question: "What kind of world did Jesus want?" As part of their learning, they were visited by Reverend Wilkie, who helped the children understand the role of evangelists and what it means to be "fishers of people" in today's world. Together, they discussed how sharing kindness, compassion, and good news can make a positive difference in modern communities. The children also learned about the work of the Leprosy Mission, exploring how their dedication to helping others reflects the values Jesus taught.



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Science: Sound & Ears - Nurse-Kay's Visit

Year 4 had an exciting science session this term as they learned all about sound and how our ears work. We were delighted to welcome nurse Kay who talked to the children about the different parts of the ear and how sound travels through them. She also explained why listening to loud noises for long periods of time can damage our hearing. The children were fascinated when Kay used a special camera to show the inside of her ears and Miss Hutchens' ears! On the screen, we could clearly see the thin membrane of the eardrum, which helps us hear by vibrating when sound reaches it. It was a brilliant hands-on experience that brought our science learning to life.



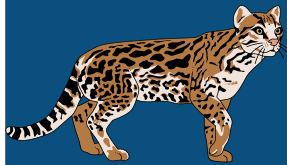


Tiger Class

YEAR 5 & 6



Rhinoceros Class



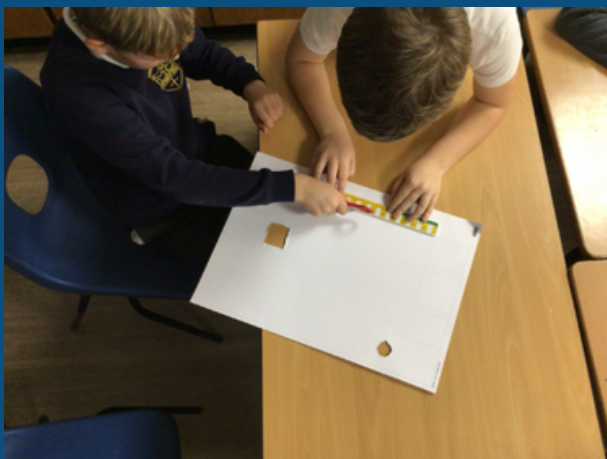
Ocelot Class

LIGHT & MOUNTAINS

Years 5 and 6 have been fully engaged in a range of practical, hands-on learning opportunities this half term.

In science, as part of their topic on light, pupils designed and built their own periscopes to investigate how light travels in straight lines and how mirrors can be used to reflect light rays. They explored real-world applications of this concept, such as the use of periscopes in submarines, and tested their designs to see how effectively they worked.

In geography, pupils deepened their understanding of mountains by creating their own three-dimensional models. These models were carefully constructed to match the contour lines shown on a map, helping pupils to visualise changes in height and landform shape. To complete their work, pupils added appropriate map symbols and produced a clear key, developing both their mapping skills and their attention to detail.



SPORTS & CLUBS

This half term, we have been super busy playing football, as we have entered into all league and cup competitions this year. Our Year 5/6 teams have played against many other local schools, as have our netball teams who have recently played against Chudleigh Knighton. We have some rearranged games for after half term once the weather improves! The girls are gaining more confidence the more they play and are defending brilliantly.

Our girls football team played on a challenging surface against Blackpool Primary school back in January. They kept good possession of the ball throughout the game, attempting many shots. The final score was 4-1 to Blackpool. The girls also played Rydon in the football league. Rydon started off well, scoring 2 goals but Kingskerswell fought back making it 2-1 by half time. Despite some amazing saves by Livvy, the game finished with a 4-1 win to Rydon. Great effort girls!



Exeter City have been in every Wednesday this half term, working with Year 3 and Year 5. Year 3 have been learning how to play Tag Rugby and Year 5 have taken part in the Joy of Movement programme which encourages the enjoyment of physical activity and healthy, active lifestyles through fun, play-based movement.

Our KS1 football club with Exeter City has been a success and will continue after February half term. There are still spaces left in this club if children want to try it out. A list of other after-school clubs can also be found on the school website.



The Year 5/6 boys A and B football team have played against Rydon and Bradley Barton recently. The A team scored 6-1 against Rydon, with all goals being scored by Charlie! The B Team did equally well, winning their match with 4-1. Bradley Barton remains undefeated as they beat both the A and B team in their games. For the Bradfords Community Cup (formally known as the Doel Cup), the boys topped their group but unfortunately did not accumulate enough points in the cup seeding to progress to the final. Well done all!

We are bringing back our Kingskerswell Half Marathon!

From the end of February, children who want to participate, will be running a mile around our Daily Mile track each week with their class teacher and peers.

Their final mile will culminate on the school field where all children will be given a medal.



Spring Term 2 Afterschool Clubs

KS1 Football Club-Exeter City- Wednesdays 3:30pm-4:30pm

[Exeter City Community Trust](#) | [After School Clubs](#) | [Shop](#) | [Ablar](#) ★

KS1 Singing Club- Mondays- 3:30pm-4:15pm

[KS1 Singing Club – Fill out form](#) ★

KS1 Painting and Drawing Club- Thursdays 3:30pm-4:15pm

[KS1 Drawing and Painting Club – Fill out form](#) ★

KS2 Tag Rugby Club-Saints Southwest- Thursdays 3:30pm-4:30pm

[KS2 Tag Rugby Club-Saints Southwest – Fill out form](#) ★

KS2 Board Games- Tuesdays 3:30pm-4:30pm

[KS2 Board Games Club – Fill out form](#) ★

KS2 Girls Football Club- Thursdays 3:30pm-4:30pm

[KS2 Girls Football Club – Fill out form](#) ★

Recurring Clubs

EYFS/KS1 'Good to be Me' Club-Thursdays 3:30pm-4:30pm

KS2 Netball Club-Tuesdays 3:30pm-4:30pm

Year 3 and 4 Football Club-Mondays 3:30pm-4:30pm

Year 5 and 6 Football Club- Tuesdays 3:30pm-4:30pm

KS2 Drama Club-Mondays 3:30pm-4:30pm



Click the star next to the club you would like to sign up for.

If a form is 'closed' it means the club is full.

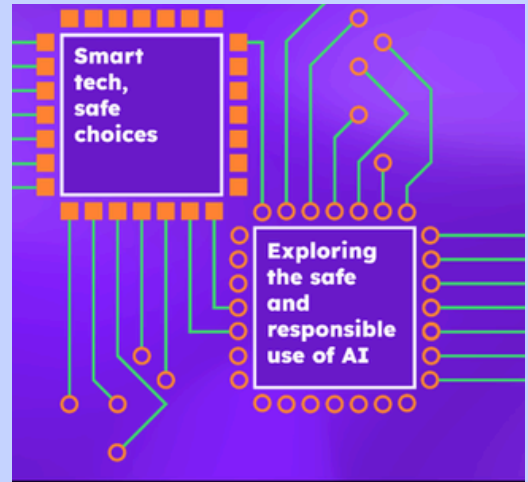


SAFER INTERNET DAY 2026

On Tuesday 10th February 2026, we celebrated Safer Internet Day in school. Celebrations and learning were based around the theme 'Smart tech, safe choices – Exploring the Safe and Reasonable use of AI.'

Everyone's talking about AI and with many children and young people hearing about and using AI online, it's important they have the skills and confidence to make safe choices when they are using smart technology.

This Safer Internet Day we explored the impact of AI on all our lives, looking at how AI can be used for good and giving advice and guidance that empowers people to use AI safely and responsibly.



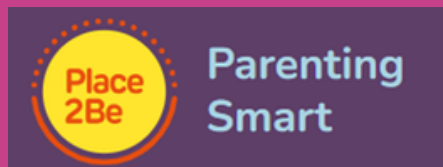
if you would like to support your child in conversations around keeping safe online please use the following links:

<https://saferinternet.org.uk/guide-and-resource/parents-and-carers>

<https://saferinternet.org.uk/safer-internet-day/safer-internet-day-2026/top-tips-for-parents-and-carers>



MENTAL HEALTH & WELLBEING



This half term we have marked Children's Mental Health Week in school by learning about how to look after our Mental Health and what can affect it. We have also been thinking about how 'Belonging' is important and can help us to have positive mental health as part of this year's chosen theme. This theme is chosen by the mental health charity Place2Be, who organise the week.

Place2Be have a Parenting Smart site where you can search for tips and support videos about a range of parenting challenges that can affect yours and your child's mental health and wellbeing.

You can find it here: <https://parentingsmart.place2be.org.uk/>

The local charity ParentKind are also running free parent webinars this year.

You can find the details of these here:

<https://www.parentkind.org.uk/your-pta-expert/parent-webinars>

Parentkind



ATTENDANCE UPDATE

3.09.25 – 6.02.26

Attendance percentage

Reception	96.6%
Year 1	96.0%
Year 2	95.4%
Year 3	95.2%
Year 4	96.3%
Year 5	96.6%
Year 6	96.2%
National	94.8%
Local Authority	94.9%

**WELL
DONE**



Have
your say!

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



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/>

