



Sycamore	Mrs Hartley & Mrs D-H would like to praise George H, Harley and Karamata for their hard work in their reading session this week. They would also like to praise Ronnie & Miles for working well collaboratively during their paired write in literacy this week. A huge well done also goes to Lauren, Miles, Kelsie, Ronnie, Eli, Oliver & Isabelle for their fantastic start on Spelling Shed this week - gaining points and rewards already! Writer of the Week: Wilburn for independently generating a bank of informal language to support his letter writing this week. Maths Master: Bentlee for applying his knowledge of co-ordinates to read and plot points in the four different quadrants. Star of the Week: Lucy for always giving every task set her full focus; demonstrating the school values of resilience and positivity. Dojo Champion: Eli
Birch	Mrs Donaghy and Mrs Fletcher would like to praise Kacper for keeping the exercise books tidy after lessons. Also, Ella, Jaden, Archie M and Noah for their support in the classroom. We would also like to praise Aiyra, Henry, Freya, Emilia and Melda for their hard work in History this week. Well done also to Georgie for completing some impressive learning this week! Writer of the Week: Morgan, for an excellent plan for his non-chronological report. Maths Master: Maceo, for his dedication to understanding converting fractions. Star of the Week: Jaden, for working so hard to improve his handwriting and presentation. Dojo Champion: Matthias
Ash	Mr Green, Miss Filipovic and Miss Laming would like to praise Ronnie, Ayomide, Harry B, Tabitha and Emma for pushing themselves to achieve their target on the climbing apparatus. We would also like to praise the whole class on their ability to use the equipment safely, sensibly and always looking to push themselves to the best of their abilities. Writer of the Week: Harper for being a role model with her written work and helping her peers with their own. Maths Master: Mollie for mastering her times tables and understanding multiples of 0. Star of the Week: Ronnie for overcoming his fears and pushing himself across all his work. Dojo Champion: Logan
Beech	Mr Lines and Miss Spenceley would like to say a huge thank you to Year 3 for being so brilliant on our Lion King trip. Your excellent behaviour, enthusiasm and maturity made the day truly special. Several members of the public even commented on how wonderfully you represented our school, which made us incredibly proud. Well done, Year 3! Writer of the Week: Teddiee for his brilliant work in identifying what is a clause and what is a phrase in a sentence. Maths Master: Noa for her brilliant work in Year 4's lesson and challenging herself to complete Year 4 Maths! Star of the Week: Grace for her incredible focus this week. Dojo Champion: Belkisa
Maple	Miss Patston and Mrs Dixon would like to praise and thank Oliver S, Tia, Ella, Evelina and Pearl for working incredibly hard in their lessons and during their reading with Mrs Dixon this week. We would also like to praise Polly-Anna for reaching the super star! Writer of the Week: Oliver S for his exploration of opinions and events in our story as we have written a diary entry this week. Maths Master: Poppy for identifying the faces, vertices and edges on 3D shapes. Star of the Week: Lucy for trying incredibly hard in all of her learning, she has been trying her best to focus on her work and her handwriting. Dojo Champion: Pearl
Willow	Miss Hardy, Mrs Earney and Mrs Stan would like to praise Ariana, Indie, Dolcie-Mae and Annabelle A for showing perseverance in their writing this week when writing instructions. We would also like to praise Dominic and Mason for their hard work during our phonics sessions. Writer of the Week: Rophe for writing a detailed set of instructions including verbs. Maths Master: Riley for beginning to recognise numbers within 20. Star of the Week: Dolcie-Mae for always showing aspiration and trying hard in her learning. Dojo Champion: Ruby
Oak	Mrs Ambrose and Mrs Gaffney would like to praise Lucy, Eliza, Delilah and Aiden for their perseverance towards their letter formation and sentence writing. We would also like to extend our praise to Jack and Azaylia for their team work to create using the stickle bricks. Writer of the Week: Riley for fantastic efforts within his homework, writing about his favourite memories of Christmas. Maths Master: Jack D for explaining the concept of Zero. Star of the Week: Grace for confidently showcasing her phonics knowledge by recognising sounds & blending them together to form words in front of the class.
Cherry	Mr Abrahams, Mrs Mackie, Miss Thrall and Mrs Pullen would like to say a very special thank you to Archie and Lennie for always following classroom rules and being excellent role models in the class. Writer of the Week: Levi, for his enthusiasm towards mark making activities during the week. Maths Master: Daniel, for his engagement and improvement in using his fingers to show numbers. Star of the Week: Bella, for continuing to improve her self-regulation and helping Artie settle in.

KEY DATES

Children's Survey (REAch 2)

Mon 19th Jan
Y5 (& Y6 non-swimmers)
swimming lessons

Weds 21st Jan
Eco-Council Litter Pick 1:45pm-2:30pm

Fri 23rd Jan
Y2 Forest School (Group 1)

Mon 26th Jan
Y5 (& Y6 non-swimmers)
swimming lessons

Fri 30th Jan
Y2 Forest School (Group 1)

Message from the Head Teacher:

Dear Parents, Carers, Children and Staff,

We have had another amazing week here at Kemsley! On Monday, Birch class went swimming for the first time with a few of our Y6 children – Mrs Donaghy commented on how impressed she was with the children for their behaviour as well as their attention and focus during their swimming lessons. Well done! The children will continue with these lessons for next 9 weeks. Last Friday, a small group of Y2 children took part in their first Forest School session – due to Storm Goretti, the children had to shelter inside the school hall – but they still enjoyed their session, especially the hot cocoa! On Wednesday, our Year 3 children travelled to London to visit the Lyceum Theatre and watch The Lion King! The children had an absolutely amazing time, with one child commenting, 'It was the best day ever!' I would like to say a very special well done to the children for their exceptional behaviour, outstanding listening and attention and fantastic manners. It was so lovely to hear that members of the public were so impressed by you that they took the time to compliment you to the adults. Well done Beech Class, we are very proud of you all! A special thank you extends to Mrs Hartley for all her hard work organising and leading the trip on Wednesday and a special thank you to Mr Lines, Miss Spenceley, Miss Coleman, Mrs Steadman, Mrs Pullen and Miss Hardy for supporting with this school trip too.

This week Y3-Y6 have began a new spelling scheme: Spelling Shed and I am pleased to say they have made a fabulous start on this new programme! Well done! Please ensure you have your child's log in for Spelling Shed, which was sent home earlier this week. If you cannot locate it, please do let your child's teacher know.

Next week, if your child is in YR, Y1, Y2, Y3, Y4 or Y6 they will be completing the Children's Survey, which is a survey for our trust REAch2. All 65 of our trust schools will be completing this survey. Mrs Donaghy, our computing lead, kindly completed a dry run of this survey with her class (Y5) this week to iron out any technical or logistical issues that other classes may encounter with the survey. I would like to say a special thank you to Mrs Donaghy and Year 5 for their help with this and thank Mrs Donaghy for her hard work scheduling timetables for our technology, links and QR codes so that each class can complete the survey with ease. Thank you!

Key Dates

Children's Survey – all REAch2 schools completing this

19.01.26 – Y5 (and Y6 non-swimmers) Swimming Lessons

21.01.26 - Eco-Council Litter Pick – 1:45pm-2:30pm

23.01.26 – Y2 Forest School (Group 1)

Attendance currently stands at 93.9% and the class who have won attendance of the week is Year 4 with 97.41%. Well done!

Wishing you all a relaxing weekend,

Miss Homer

Headteacher

News from around Kemsley Primary Academy

YN Express Event Friday 6th February at 9am

Year N:

This week our book was "Koala makes the right choice". This is a story about choices and consequences. We spoke about what the right choices are we can make regarding looking after ourselves and others, including making the right choice about the types of foods we eat and how the right way to treat our friends and people around us. In Phonics this week we have played rhyming bingo in which the children needed to find 2 words that rhyme; they all did so well at this! In Maths this week we have looked at the number 3 and how we can show it using objects and our fingers.

We have made our home corner into a police station this week based around our topic "Who helps me?". The children have all loved dressing up and participating in pretend play all taking their police role very seriously!

Next week we will reading "everyday superheroes" where we will learn all the people in the community that can help us and what their role is!

YR Express Event Tuesday 3rd February at 2pm

Year R

This week in Oak Class, the children have been building on their previous learning by using their understanding of zero to find amounts up to five, including zero. Through a range of interactive games and hands-on activities, they explored numbers to five in fun and meaningful ways. The children enjoyed counting, matching, and comparing quantities, which helped to strengthen their confidence with early number concepts. It has been wonderful to see their enthusiasm as they applied their knowledge during play and problem-solving tasks.

Our story this week was *Burglar Bill*, which linked perfectly to our topic 'Everyday Superheroes' and helped us learn about the important role the police play in keeping us safe. The story sparked lots of thoughtful discussions about rules and behaviour, both in the classroom and in the wider community. We talked about why it is important to follow rules and listen to the adults around us, and the children shared their ideas about how rules help everyone stay safe and happy. We also explored the concept of right and wrong, including why we should never take things that do not belong to us. It was wonderful to see the children engaging so well with these conversations and showing a growing understanding of fairness and respect.

Y1 Express Event Wednesday 4th February at 2pm

Year 1:

This week has been very busy in Willow class, with monitoring plant growth and colouring mixing! Within literacy we wrote our final set of instructions. We were able to use verbs and write them in order to provide a cure for the King's orange fever.

In maths we looked at numbers within 20 and composed these in different ways such as with base 10 and tens frames. We had a lovely science lesson where we learnt about animals. We identified mammals as animals with fur and recorded the growth of our plants overtime.

Furthermore, in our art lesson we had lots of fun discovering which primary colours when mixed together make a secondary colour. We had music with Mrs Earney this week where we continued learning our song about the sea. Next week we will have PE on Monday again and will continue with our gymnastics lesson. Thank you for those who supported their children to do their homework, it was lovely to see some amazing phonics work!

Y2 Express Event Thursday 5th February at 2pm

Year 2:

We've had a wonderful week in Year 2, full of exciting learning across all subjects! In literacy, the children have completed their diary entries based on the events in *Meerkat Mail*. They worked hard to include feelings and time words to make their writing interesting and personal. Next week, we will begin a new unit on non-chronological reports, focusing on the mongoose family. The children will learn how to organise information into sections, use headings and subheadings, and include fascinating facts. In maths, we have finished exploring 3D shapes. The children enjoyed identifying shapes in real life and learning about faces, edges, and vertices. Next week, we will start our topic on money. We will be recognising coins and notes, making amounts in different ways, and solving problems involving money. It would be great if you could support this at home by talking about coins and notes during everyday activities. In history, we learned about the four journeys made by Christopher Columbus. The children labelled maps to show his routes and discussed why his voyages were so important. They were fascinated by the idea of exploration and how it changed the world. In art, we explored the work of Giorgio Morandi and looked at how he used shapes and shadows in his still-life paintings. The children experimented with creating their own compositions using simple objects and shading techniques.

Y3 Express Event Monday 2nd February at 2pm

Year 3:

This term, we have been exploring *The Boy with the Bronze Axe* by Kathleen Fidler in depth during our reading lessons. The children have shown fantastic understanding of the characters, themes and the Bronze Age setting, and they've really enjoyed diving deeper into the world of Skara Brae. We will be using everything we've learned from the book to support our diary writing next week, where the children will imagine life through the eyes of the characters and bring the Bronze Age to life in their own words.

In Maths, we've been focusing on multiplication and have worked through equal groups, using arrays, and identifying multiples of 2, 5 and 10, as well as exploring sharing and grouping to build a strong foundation for more complex multiplication and division. Over the next few weeks, we will be moving on to multiplying and dividing by 4, learning the 4 times-table, then progressing to multiplying and dividing by 8 and learning the 8 times-table to deepen the children's understanding and confidence.

In Science this term, we are learning all about fossils and soil. The children will explore how different types of soil are formed and investigate their properties through hands-on experiments. This topic gives us a great opportunity to develop our scientific enquiry skills.

Y4 Express Event Wednesday 4th February at 9am

Year 4:

This week in Ash class we have been finishing our diary entries from the perspective of Peter from our class text 'The Railway Children' the class have been fantastic in adapting their writing style to write in first person from a different character's perspective. Next week we will be moving onto writing biographies. In Maths we have been solidifying our knowledge of 9, 11 and 12 timetables and developing our understanding of multiplying by 1 and 0. Next week we will be looking into factor pairs and then multiplying by 10, 100 and 1000.

In History we have been looking into Anglo Saxons and whether we would consider 'Alfred the Great' great or not so great. We used different primary and secondary sources to gather information and make our judgements. In PE we have continued to use the climbing apparatus and introduced more equipment to move across and over in different ways. Ash class have excelled in pushing their minds and bodies past their previously believed limits. In French we have moved onto our new unit of vegetables as we develop our understanding of new vocabulary. In Science we have been moved on to learning all about the inner workings of the ear and how we hear sounds. We have completed our first week of Spelling Shed which has developed our understanding of the etymology of our spelling list and their meanings. We hope this will improve our progress with spelling for our test on Monday.

Y5 Express Event Thursday 5th February at 9am

Year 5:

This week we have spent a lot of learning time about Ancient Greece. In writing we are writing a non-chronological report about the Greek gods and in History we have been examining the lifestyle and culture of Ancient Greece. This topic is something which really interests the children, and this can be seen in their enjoyment of the subject.

First week of swimming went very well, and the class really behaved very well and enjoyed every moment of it. I am looking forward to seeing their progress throughout the next few weeks. Don't forget we no longer have PE on a Tuesday, but children may wear their PE kit on a Monday for swimming.

Y6 Express Event Tuesday 3rd February at 9am

Year 6:

Firstly, I would like to say well done to all the children for another week of hard work!

Next week we will be moving on to working towards writing a setting description on Camp Green Lake from our class text *Holes*. At the beginning of the week, we will be looking at the structure and features of a setting description and will then move on to looking at figurative language (similes, metaphors, alliteration & personification) to support our writing further. In maths we will be continuing with our work on plotting & reading co-ordinates in the four different quadrants. We will use this knowledge to help us answer reasoning questions before moving on to translation & reflection.

As you are aware, children are now able to access the Spelling Shed app and have been given their log in details to practice their weekly spellings at home. Please can you encourage and support your child in playing on this app. Spellings will be tested every Monday morning.

Our PE day this term will now remain on a Tuesday, please can all children come to school in their full PE kits on a Tuesday.

Key Term Dates

Week 1

05.01.26 – Staff Inset Day (School Closed)

06.01.26 – Term 3 begins – School Open

08.01.26 – Additional IRock Session from Term 2

09.01.26 – Y2 Forest School (Group 1)

Week 2

EXTRA-CURRICULAR CLUBS BEGIN

12.01.26 – Y5 (and Y6 non-swimmers) Swimming Lessons Begins

13.01.26 – Governors Meeting (LGB) – 4:30pm-6:30pm

14.01.26 – Y3 Trip to The Lion King

15.01.26 – Spring Census Day

16.01.26 – Y2 Forest School (Group 1)

Week 3

19.01.26 – Y5 (and Y6 non-swimmers) Swimming Lessons

21.01.26 - Eco-Council Litter Pick – 1:45pm-2:30pm

23.01.26 – Y2 Forest School (Group 1)

Week 4

Assessment Week

26.01.26 – Y5 (and Y6 non-swimmers) Swimming Lessons

30.01.26 – Y2 Forest School (Group 1)

Week 5

Children's Mental Health Week & Express Events Week

02.02.26 – Y5 (and Y6 non-swimmers) Swimming Lessons

05.02.25 - C8 Pupil Parliament – 2x Y6 pupil attending PM – Copperfield Primary Academy

05.02.26 – Y1 & Y2 Cricket Workshop (Swallows) – Parents will be informed if their child is attending.

06.02.26 Non-School Uniform Day – Children's Mental Health Week

06.02.26 – Y2 Forest School (Group 1)

Express Events Week

Mon 2nd Feb – Y3 Express Event (2pm)

Tues 3rd Feb – Y6 Express Event (9am)

Tues 3rd Feb – YR Express Event (2pm)

Weds 4th Feb – Y4 Express Event (9am)

Weds 4th Feb – Y1 Express Event (2pm)

Thurs 5th Feb – Y5 Express Event (9am)

Thurs 5th Feb – Y2 Express Event (2pm)

Fri 6th Feb – YN Express Event (9am)

Week 6

Safer Internet Week

09.02.26 – Y5 (and Y6 non-swimmers) Swimming Lessons

10.02.26 – Safer Internet Day

12.02.26 – Sports Multi-Skills Event (Y5/Y6) 10am-2pm - Parents will be informed if their child is attending.

13.02.26 – Y2 Forest School (Group 1)

13.02.26 – Final day of Term 3



Academic Year 2025 - 2026

Term Dates

Term 1

Monday 1st September – Friday 17th October

(Staff Inset Day 1 – Monday 1st September – School Closed)

All children apart from New Reception Class to return on Tuesday 2nd September 2025

New Reception Class to start school on Wednesday 3rd September 2025

Half-Term

Monday 20th October – Friday 24th October

Term 2

Monday 27th October – Friday 19th December

Half-Term

Monday 22nd December – Friday 2nd January

Term 3

Monday 5th January – Friday 13th February

(Staff Inset Day 2 – Monday 5th January – School Closed)

Half-Term

Monday 16th February – Friday 20th February

Term 4

Monday 23rd February – Friday 3rd April

(Good Friday Bank Holiday – Friday 3rd April – School Closed)

Half-Term

Monday 6th April – Friday 17th April

Term 5

Monday 20th April – Friday 22nd May

(May Day Bank Holiday – Monday 4th May – School Closed)

Half-Term

Monday 25th May – Friday 29th May

Term 6

Monday 1st June – Tuesday 21st July

(Staff Inset Day 3 – Monday 1st June – School Closed)

(Staff Inset Day 4 – Monday 20th July – School Closed)

(Staff Inset Day 5 – Tuesday 21st July – School Closed)