



# KEMSLEY COURIER



Praise and Thank You!

W/C: Monday 19<sup>th</sup> January 2025

<b>Sycamore</b>	<p>Mrs Hartley and Mrs D-H would like to commend Miles, Damian, Ronnie, Lauren, Lilley and Paakow for their excellent teamwork and responsibility in helping to get out and safely tidy away the wall apparatus during gymnastics this week. Well done for setting such a positive example! They would also like to congratulate Tanjim, Isabelle, Maisey and George H for producing fantastic self-portraits in art. Your creativity and attention to detail were impressive.</p> <p><b>Writer of the Week:</b> Lilley for an excellent informal letter written from the viewpoint of Stanley, based on our class text <i>Holes</i>. She demonstrated an excellent understanding of character and voice.</p> <p><b>Maths Master:</b> Miles for his strong understanding and hard work when converting metric measures.</p> <p><b>Star of the Week:</b> Ayobami for showing remarkable courage and determination in PE by conquering his fears and climbing to the very top of the wall equipment. What an achievement!</p> <p><b>Dojo Champion:</b> Charlie</p>
<b>Birch</b>	<p>Mrs Donaghy and Mrs Fletcher would like to praise Aiyla, Freya, Michelle and Devon for their help around the class this week. We would also like to say thank you to Ella for helping to clean the vocabulary wall.</p> <p><b>Writer of the Week:</b> Harley, for making a huge effort to improve his work by writing more in History lessons.</p> <p><b>Maths Master:</b> Amber, for working extremely hard on her mental maths.</p> <p><b>Star of the Week:</b> Thomas, for always working so hard to always improve his learning,</p> <p><b>Dojo Champion:</b> Devon</p>
<b>Ash</b>	<p>In Ash class this week Mr Green, Miss Filipovic and Miss Laming would like to praise the whole class for how tremendously they have done on their spellings and their times tables both on TTRS and on the baseline assessment we did. It is fantastic to see the progress made by the class and all of their hard work paying off.</p> <p><b>Writer of the Week:</b> Dele - for his fantastic use of fronted adverbials and possessive apostrophes.</p> <p><b>Maths Master:</b> Frankie - for growing in confidence when multiplying by 10 and 100.</p> <p><b>Star of the Week:</b> Taylor - for pushing herself to improve quality and quantity of work and always being a positive presence in class.</p> <p><b>Dojo Champion:</b> Sophie</p>
<b>Beech</b>	<p>We are so proud of Mrs Spenceley's group, who go out for Maths and English — they have all worked so hard this week and produced some truly amazing work. Their dedication, focus and brilliant attitudes have really shone through.</p> <p><b>Writer of the Week:</b> Joel for his fantastic diary entry based on <i>The Lion King</i>.</p> <p><b>Maths Master:</b> Chester for his brilliant use of bead strings.</p> <p><b>Star of the Week:</b> Harry for his amazing perseverance in Art.</p> <p><b>Dojo Champion:</b> Amber</p>
<b>Maple</b>	<p>We would like to praise and thank the whole class for their enthusiasm for their reading this week. They have all made the decision to sit and read their books at the end of the day and we have loved their enthusiasm and they have all been so excited to listen to our reading for pleasure book as well.</p> <p><b>Writer of the Week:</b> Ava for her determination to improve her writing and for working incredibly hard this week.</p> <p><b>Maths Master:</b> Evelina for her perseverance as we have explored recognising, making and adding equal groups together.</p> <p><b>Star of the Week:</b> Vlada for her continued effort and hard work during lessons and her determination to succeed in her spellings tests this week.</p> <p><b>Dojo Champion:</b> Amelia</p>
<b>Willow</b>	<p>This week Miss Hardy, Mrs Earney and Mrs Stan would like to praise Annabelle A, Rophe, Mason, Arthur and Rosabelle for showing an improvement in their participation within lessons by putting their hand up more to answer questions. We would also like to thank Indie, Amelia, Dolcie-Mae and Hattie for always ensuring our classroom looks tidy by picking up any pencils and rubbers that have been left out on the tables.</p> <p><b>Writer of the Week:</b> Annabel N for showing aspiration when writing her sentences.</p> <p><b>Maths Master:</b> Serenity for being able to use a number line to 20.</p> <p><b>Star of the Week:</b> Indie for showing resilience when challenged within her learning.</p> <p><b>Dojo Champion:</b> Ayla</p>
<b>Oak</b>	<p>This week in Oak Class, Mrs Ambrose and Mrs Gaffney would like to praise some wonderful achievements, Delilah, for her fantastic blending and segmenting during phonics. Aiden, for his brilliant counting and subitising skills and Abie, for working incredibly hard to improve his pencil control. We would also like to say a big well done to all the children for completing their rainbow challenges so beautifully this week.</p> <p>Super work, Oak Class! 🌈👏</p> <p><b>Writer of the Week:</b> Jak B, for his fantastic efforts to be independent within his writing.</p> <p><b>Maths Master:</b> Maxwell, for his fantastic subitising and representing amounts this week.</p> <p><b>Star of the Week:</b> Lucy, for brightening up everyone's week, helping everyone and making us all laugh.</p> <p><b>Dojo Champion:</b> Nancy, you have been a superstar all week.</p>
<b>Cherry</b>	<p>A special thank you to Bella and Florence for continually helping Artie settle in, making sure he always has someone to play with during choosing time.</p> <p><b>Writer of the Week:</b> Lennie for his enthusiasm toward mark-making throughout the week.</p> <p><b>Maths Master:</b> Isaac for his confidence and accuracy during Maths this week.</p> <p><b>Star of the Week:</b> Artie for settling in extremely well and making new friends</p>

## KEY DATES

**Children's Survey (REAch 2) & Assessment Week**

**Mon 26<sup>th</sup> Jan**  
Y5 (& Y6 non-swimmers) swimming lessons

**Tues 27<sup>th</sup> Jan**  
Eco-Council Litter Pick 1:45pm

**Weds 28<sup>th</sup> Jan**  
Y5/Y6 Football Match at Richmond (leaving 12:45pm)

**Thurs 29<sup>th</sup> Jan**  
PC Matt visits YR & YN (Topic learning)

**Fri 30<sup>th</sup> Jan**  
Y2 Forest School (Group 1)

## Message from the Head Teacher:

Dear Parents, Carers, Children and Staff,

Firstly, I would like to say a tremendous well done to children in Year 3 to Year 6 for working so hard on their new spelling programme, Spelling Shed. We have seen a fantastic improvement in the children's spelling scores, with most children achieving 10/10! This is amazing especially since Spelling is the area that many of our children find most challenging in their writing and their Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling assessments. Well done everyone! I am also pleased to see a continued improvement in our children's timetable results too – especially Year 4, who are working ever so hard to learn all time tables to 12x12 and recall them accurately. Well done everyone, especially Ash class! Finally, a special well done to our youngest children, Year N to Year 2, who continue to work hard to secure their understanding of their phonics – this is really coming through well in your reading and your writing! Well done!

Presentation as a school is vastly improving and there is a real consistency showing in this. It therefore makes choosing one child for presentation of the week, incredibly difficult, so I asked Mr Green for this help! This week's presentation award goes to Taylor: *'She is taking pride in her work across the board. Her handwriting has improved massively and with this has come a real sign of dedication to how her work looks. It has been fantastic to see and she should be just as proud as we are!'*

Due to the poor weather conditions on Wednesday, we had to postpone our Eco-Council litter pick, so this will now be taking place on Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> January at 1:45pm-2:30pm. Parents are welcome to join us for this. Please see further dates for next week below:

## Key Dates

**Children's Survey – (all REAch2 schools are completing this survey) and Assessment Week**

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

**27.01.26 – Eco Council Litter Pick 1:45pm (Parents Welcome)**

**28.01.26 – Y5/Y6 Football Match at Richmond School (leaving 12:45pm)**

**29.01.26 – PC Matt visit YR & YN**

**30.01.26 – Y2 Forest School (Group 1)**

**Attendance currently stands at 93.94% and the class who have won attendance of the week is Year R with 99.6%. Well done!**

Wishing you all a relaxing weekend,

Miss Homer

Headteacher

# News from around Kemsley Primary Academy

## YN Express Event Friday 6<sup>th</sup> February at 9am

### Year N:

This week our book was "Real Superheroes". It is a story about all of the real-life superheroes that help us all the time, like doctors, nurses, and firefighters. We discussed as a class how people can be superheroes in real-life through the ways they serve our community. We also spoke about which of the real-life superheroes the children would like to be. The class has also had a lot of fun making their very own puppets throughout the week, complete with facial features, hair, and outfits.

In Phonics this week, we played "odd one out" where the children need to find the one picture that does not rhyme with the other two. They have shown great enthusiasm and improvement in this game since it was last played. In Maths this week, we have been learning how to label different amounts. The class spent time building on their knowledge and application of labelling amounts.

Next week, we will be reading "Brush your teeth, Max and Millie", where we will learn all about how important it is to brush our teeth, everyday!

## YR Express Event Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> February at 2pm

### Year R

This week, the children have been learning all about the important people in our community who help us—with a special focus on dentists and how they look after our teeth. We also shared and explored the story Alan's Big Scary Teeth, which the children absolutely loved! It sparked lots of great conversations about caring for our teeth and why it's important to visit the dentist. Our story this week also led to some lovely discussions about what it means to be a good friend. The children have been practising using their listening ears, taking turns, and thinking carefully about how their actions can make others feel.

We talked about how important it is to notice when our friends are feeling upset and how we can help them feel better by being kind, gentle, and thoughtful.

We have several exciting events coming up this term that we are delighted to share with you:

-Thursday 29th January:

We will be welcoming PC Mathew Ongley into school to speak with the children.

-Tuesday 3rd February – Express Event:

We would love for you to join us for our Express Event, where the children will be proudly sharing their phonics skills. We will also demonstrate how phonics is taught in school to support children's early reading and writing development.

-Wednesday 4th February:

Mrs Butcher a nurse by profession will be visiting the children.

-Thursday 12th February:

David Hopkins from the Fire and Rescue Service, will be speaking to the children about fire safety.

-Friday 13th February:

We have two special visitors on this day:

A visitor from Kent County Council speaking to the children about road safety.

A dentist who will teach the children about oral hygiene and how to look after their teeth.

We are really looking forward to these fantastic experiences and know the children will enjoy them too.

## Y1 Express Event Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> February at 2pm

### Year 1:

Week 3 of the term has flown by in Year 1. We have been busy in Literacy exploring and describing the Isle of Blowynose as we have started our new book Jack and the Flum Flum Tree! Next week we will continue describing using our sentences to get ready for a long write on Friday. In maths we have learnt how to use a number line to 20. We recognised how to jump along the line in preparation for our addition and subtraction work next week.

We had a fantastic science lesson on Wednesday with Mrs Earney where we explored birds and their features. Next week we will be comparing amphibians and reptiles. In art we explored colour mixing and made different tints and tones using white and black paint. Finally, in our PSHRE lesson we explored challenges when facing a goal and the people who can help us to achieve something. It was very interesting to hear the children's aspirations and dreams. We will continue looking at our goals in next week's PSHRE lesson. We hope you have a wonderful weekend.

## Y2 Express Event Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> February at 2pm

### Year 2:

In Literacy, we have been creating non-chronological reports about meerkats. The children have been exploring a range of interesting facts about their habitats, diet, behaviour, and how meerkats work together as a family group. We have also spent time looking closely at the features of a non-chronological report so that the children can begin planning and writing their own informative pieces with confidence.

In Maths, we have started our unit on multiplication and division. This week, the children have been focusing on recognising and making equal groups, using practical equipment and pictures to help them understand how equal groups link to repeated addition and early multiplication. They have enjoyed working collaboratively and explaining their reasoning to one another.

In History, we continued learning about significant individuals from the past by exploring the life of Neil Armstrong. The children asked thoughtful questions about space travel and were fascinated to discover how different space exploration was in the 1960s. We also watched the moon landing footage, which helped bring our learning to life and sparked lots of curiosity about life in space.

In Computing, we continued researching our chosen artist and linking this to our science learning on light. The children explored how light behaves and how shadows are made and changed, experimenting with different materials and light sources to make careful observations and predictions.

## Y3 Express Event Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> February at 2pm

### Year 3:

This week, the whole class worked incredibly hard on writing their diary entries based on *The Lion King*, and the results were outstanding. The children showed wonderful creativity, imagination and a great understanding of the story — we were so impressed with what they produced.

In Maths, the class have done brilliantly with their learning of the 3, 4 and 8 times tables, showing growing confidence in recalling facts and applying them in different problems. Their enthusiasm and resilience have really shone through. In our History learning, the class have been fantastic in their research on the Amesbury Archer, gathering information, asking thoughtful questions and showing real curiosity about the past. In Science, we will be experimenting with soil next week, exploring different types, their properties, and how soil is formed. This hands-on enquiry will help deepen their understanding of the world beneath our feet.

## Y4 Express Event Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> February at 9am

### Year 4:

In Ash class this week we have created posters based on different aspects of Anglo-Saxon life to compare with both modern day and also with the Roman era. We had to use secondary sources to find the information and present it in our teams on a poster. We have started to look into how to write biographies; we have researched famous individuals again finding facts and putting these into biographical sentences. We have started to gather information on the author of our class text 'Edith Nesbit' as we look to use her as a subject for our biography we will be writing next week. In maths we have pushed through our lessons on factor pairs and have started to look into multiplying and dividing by 10 and 100. The year 4 pupils have really grasped this topic well so far and have grown in both confidence and speed to solve these problems. In French we have continued to solidify our vegetables vocabulary we have learnt. Whilst in PSHRE we have been continuing to look at our Dreams and Goals topic by discussing what it feels like when things do not go to plan or when we feel like giving up. We hope that these discussions will aid us in becoming more independent, perseverant and resilient moving forwards.

## Y5 Express Event Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> February at 9am

### Year 5:

We have had some great work this week in both writing lessons and History, where we have been learning huge amounts about Ancient Greece. This week we have particularly been learning, this week, about the difference between Sparta and Athens. In maths we have finished fractions and moved on to multiplication and division. In Science the class have been looking at the properties of materials, such as magnetism and conductivity. We are very lucky to have BBC micro bits in year 5, which are mini computers that can be programmed to react to certain conditions. We were able to programme them to make a noise when a material was conductive. This has been a great addition to our Science learning this term. Swimming has been going very well so far, and the children are really enjoying the sessions.

Don't forget, swimming on Monday and NO PE kit on Tuesday.

## Y6 Express Event Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> February at 9am

### Year 6:

I can't believe we are already halfway through Term 3 – time is certainly flying! As we move into Week 4 next week, the children will be completing their termly practice SATs papers in Reading, Arithmetic, Reasoning and SPaG (spelling, punctuation and grammar). These assessments will be spread across the week. I am really looking forward to seeing how much progress the children have made since their previous tests.

In Maths, we will be continuing our work with decimals. At the start of the week, the focus will be on adding and subtracting decimals, before moving on to multiplying and rounding decimals later in the week. In Science, we will be carrying out our investigation into how the distance of a light source from an opaque object affects the size of its shadow. The children have already planned their investigation and are very excited to put it into practice. Please could children bring their torches into school again on Monday to support this learning. During History lessons, we will be researching the different Maya gods, exploring what they looked like, their characteristics and the powers they were believed to possess.

Finally, a reminder that early morning sessions run from 8:00–8:30am for those children who were invited by letter at the end of Term 2. Please ensure children arrive promptly at 8:00am so they can make the most of these sessions.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support.

## 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 (POSTPONED DUE TO WEATHER)

23.01.26 – Y2 Forest School (Group 1)

### Week 4

#### **Assessment Week**

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

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

28.01.26 – Y5/Y6 Football Match at Richmond School (leaving 12:45pm)

29.01.26 – PC Matt visit YR & YN

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

04.02.26 – Nurse Workshop for YR & YN

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

05.02.26 – Y6 Mexican Night 4pm-6pm

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

06.02.26 – Y2 Forest School (Group 1)

#### **Express Events Week**

Mon 2<sup>nd</sup> Feb – Y3 Express Event (2pm)

Tues 3<sup>rd</sup> Feb – Y6 Express Event (9am)

Tues 3<sup>rd</sup> Feb – YR Express Event (2pm)

Weds 4<sup>th</sup> Feb – Y4 Express Event (9am)

Weds 4<sup>th</sup> Feb – Y1 Express Event (2pm)

Thurs 5<sup>th</sup> Feb – Y5 Express Event (9am)

Thurs 5<sup>th</sup> Feb – Y2 Express Event (2pm)

Fri 6<sup>th</sup> 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**

10.02.26 – Y5/Y6 Football Match at Kemsley (2pm kick-off) Parents Welcome

11.02.26 – Y5/Y6 Football Match at Kemsley (2pm kick-off) Parents Welcome

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

12.02.26 – Fire and Rescue Service Workshops (all years)

13.02.26 – Y2 Forest School (Group 1)

13.02.26 – Road Safety Workshops for YR, Y1 & Y2 (TBC)

13.02.26 – Dentist Workshop for YR & YN

13.02.26 – Final day of Term 3



## **Academic Year 2025 - 2026**

### **Term Dates**

#### **Term 1**

Monday 1<sup>st</sup> September – Friday 17<sup>th</sup> October

**(Staff Inset Day 1 – Monday 1<sup>st</sup> September – School Closed)**

**All children apart from New Reception Class to return on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2025**

**New Reception Class to start school on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2025**

#### **Half-Term**

Monday 20<sup>th</sup> October – Friday 24<sup>th</sup> October

#### **Term 2**

Monday 27<sup>th</sup> October – Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December

#### **Half-Term**

Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> December – Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> January

#### **Term 3**

Monday 5<sup>th</sup> January – Friday 13<sup>th</sup> February

**(Staff Inset Day 2 – Monday 5<sup>th</sup> January – School Closed)**

#### **Half-Term**

Monday 16<sup>th</sup> February – Friday 20<sup>th</sup> February

#### **Term 4**

Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> February – Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> April

**(Good Friday Bank Holiday – Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> April – School Closed)**

#### **Half-Term**

Monday 6<sup>th</sup> April – Friday 17<sup>th</sup> April

#### **Term 5**

Monday 20<sup>th</sup> April – Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May

**(May Day Bank Holiday – Monday 4<sup>th</sup> May – School Closed)**

#### **Half-Term**

Monday 25<sup>th</sup> May – Friday 29<sup>th</sup> May

#### **Term 6**

Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June – Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> July

**(Staff Inset Day 3 – Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June – School Closed)**

**(Staff Inset Day 4 – Monday 20<sup>th</sup> July – School Closed)**

**(Staff Inset Day 5 – Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> July – School Closed)**