



KEMSLEY COURIER



Praise and Thank You!

W/C: Monday 26th January 2025

Sycamore	Mrs Hartley and Mrs D-H would like to congratulate the whole class on the fantastic resilience and positivity you have shown this week while completing your practice SATS papers. You have all made outstanding progress, and we couldn't be prouder of each and every one of you! Writer of the Week: George G for successfully embedding semicolons in his writing this week. Maths Master: Harley for his strong understanding of place value and decimals. Star of the Week: Bentelee for demonstrating excellent behaviour during break times, overcoming his fear of heights in PE, and showing continued effort and focus in class. Dojo Champion: Kelsie
Birch	Mrs Donaghy and Mrs Fletcher would like to praise Peter and Jaden for sticking pictures into books. We would also like to praise the whole class for their resilience when taking three practise Kent test this week. Writer of the Week: Isaac, for some excellent writing in Science. Maths Master: Archie M, for working hard on multiplication. Star of the Week: Archie s, for his positive attitude towards his learning. Dojo Champion: Effy
Ash	In Ash class this week Mr Green, Miss Filipovic and Miss Laming would like to praise: Arlie, Frankie, Darcey, Ayomide, Emma, Bailey-Jay, Harley and Ronnie for their fantastic work in our SPaG of the day working really hard on their cursive letter formation within their sentences. A massive improvement has been made which is fantastic to see. Writer of the Week: Ayomide for massive improvements in his written work for his biography. Maths Master: Sophie M for pushing past her presumed limits with 3-digit division in maths. Star of the Week: Ivy for her kind and caring nature always supporting and looking out for her peers. Dojo Champion: Taylor
Beech	Mr Lines and Miss Spenceley I would like to say a huge thank you to the children for their brilliant attitude and hard work throughout the week. A special thank you also goes to Bethany and Rosie, who have been especially helpful in keeping our classroom tidy and sorting out the colouring pencils — your teamwork has made a big difference! We have been so impressed with everyone's focus, enthusiasm and maturity. Writer of the Week: Eden working hard and really focusing on his time adverbials. Maths Master: challenging himself to answer reflection questions in our lessons. Star of the Week: Rosie for always working so hard and finding time to help those around her. Dojo Champion: Joshua
Maple	This week Miss Patston and Mrs Dixon would like to praise and thank the daily readers for their hard work and determination to succeed. They have all worked very hard this week during their reading. Writer of the Week: Poppy for her presentation and pride in her work this week, she has blown us away with how hard she's been working on her presentation and handwriting. Maths Master: Lyle for his enthusiasm for his maths this week as we have explored multiplication and using the symbol. Star of the Week: Isabella for her continued effort to follow the school rules, her focus on handwriting and presentation you have worked extremely hard this week. Dojo Champion: Evelina
Willow	This week Miss Hardy, Mrs Earney and Mrs Stan would like to praise Dolcie-Mae, Hattie, Mason and Dominic for working hard on their presentation this week. We would also like to thank Isobel, Ruby and Alice for helping others during challenges this week especially in Science. Writer of the Week: Annabelle A for starting to re-read her writing to see if it makes sense. Maths Master: Amelia for being able to compare numbers to 20 using mathematical symbols. Star of the Week: Arthur for always participating in our lessons answering questions. Dojo Champion: Ronnie-Mae
Oak	Mrs Ambrose and Mrs Gaffney would like to give a big well done to Riley, Delilah, Eliza, Jackson, Maxwell, Charlotte and Aiden for working so hard to improve your handwriting and for blending sounds together to create words. We are so proud of your perseverance and the progress you have all shown. We would also like to give a special thank you to Akin, who has been an absolute superstar this week and very helpful others and around the classroom. Writer of the Week: Arlo, who has been working on his grapheme recognition and letter formation. Maths Master: Theia for confidently showing multiple ways to represent numbers. Star of the Week: Jackson for his fantastic Lego model of a fire station. Dojo Champion: Lucy
Cherry	Mr Abrahams would like to say a special thank you to Mrs Mackie, Miss Thrall, and Mrs Pullen for all of their help each day in preparation for every activity that needs planning and adjustment. Cherry class benefits greatly from having such amazing and dedicated members of staff! Writer of the Week: Artie, for improving his engagement with his mark-making. Maths Master: Archie, for remembering to show his numbers on fingers. Star of the Week: Florence, for making new friends, consistent engagement during lessons, and becoming much more vocal this week.

KEY DATES

Children's Mental Health Week

Mon 2nd Feb
Y5 (& Y6 non-swimmers)
swimming lessons

Weds 4th Feb
Nurse Workshop
YR & YN

Thurs 5th Feb
Y1/Y2 Cricket
Workshop (am)
Y6 Mexican Night
4pm-6pm

Fri 6th Feb
Non-School
Uniform Day

Fri 6th Feb
Y2 Forest School
(Group 1)

Message from the Head Teacher:

Dear Parents, Carers, Children and Staff,

I would like to extend special praise this week, to all the Y5 and Y6 children who participated in the football game at Richmond School on Wednesday. Our children played extremely well as a team, proudly scoring 13-0 (boys) and 7-0 (girls). Beyond their victorious wins, our children demonstrated compassion, respect and humility, shaking hands with the other teams at the end of each match, without being prompted to do so by staff. Our children were humble champions, and their exceptional manners were complimented by staff from both schools. Well done Team Kemsley, we are very proud of you.

Key dates for next week:

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 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)

Attendance currently stands at 93.91% and the class who have won attendance of the week is Year 6 with 98.15%. Well done!

Wishing you all a lovely 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 "Brush your teeth, Max and Millie". It is a story which teaches us about how we can learn lessons from our friends, and how important it is to be a good role model for those around us! In phonics this week, we have started to learn about onset, so the children have learnt about the initial sounds of lots of different words! In Maths this week, the class has been exploring different shapes as well as discovering how to describe the positions of items. Cherry class has taken to these both very well.

Nursery has been playing class catch throughout the week, developing stronger gross-motor, as well as social, and self-regulatory skills. They have been learning the importance of communicating readiness to their peers in class during group activities, learning to ask the next person if they are ready to catch the ball, *before* throwing the ball.

Next week, we are reading "Topsy and Tim go to the doctor". This book is all about Tim's first visit to the doctor and will show the class some of what they can expect to see when they go to the Doctor's.

YR Express Event Tuesday 3rd February at 2pm

Year R

This week in Oak Class, the children have been developing their understanding of numbers from zero to five and exploring the many practical ways these numbers can be represented. The children were encouraged to use both counting and subitising to check and explain their representations, helping them build confidence in recognising small quantities quickly and accurately. Our key vocabulary this week was emergency, uniform, help, rescue, support and services, all closely linked to our termly theme 'Everyday Superheroes'. We focused specifically on the important role of firefighters within the emergency services. The children were fascinated when learning about what firefighters do and how they help to keep people safe. We explored situations where we might need help from a firefighter and discussed the different ways they can support us in an emergency. The children also learned which number they should ring—999—if they ever needed urgent help. Our writing this week was wonderfully creative and linked to our learning about firefighters. The children made silhouette pictures, using a range of chalk colours to blend and create a fiery background effect. Once their artwork was complete, the children wrote about their understanding of what a firefighter does. Their writing included recognising the correct number to ring in an emergency (999) and describing the many different ways firefighters help to keep people safe. This activity allowed the children to combine expressive art with purposeful early writing, helping them develop both their fine-motor skills and their understanding of people who help us.

We were also very fortunate to welcome PC Matthew Ongley and our local PCSO Jez into Oak Class this week. Their visit gave the children a wonderful chance to build on their real-life experiences and made a meaningful connection to last week's learning about the Police and how they help keep our community safe. It was a memorable experience that really helped bring our 'Everyday Superheroes' topic to life!

A few reminders for next week:

Our express event will be taking place on Tuesday 3rd February, the children are very excited to sharing their phonics skills with you all.
On Wednesday 4th February Mrs Butcher, a nurse by profession, will be visiting the children.

Y1 Express Event Wednesday 4th February at 2pm

Year 1:

This week in Willow class we have been very busy with our practical learning. We completed some brilliant artwork on Tuesday recreating Kandinsky's concentric circles. We also classified animal figures on Wednesday demonstrating our strong understanding of mammals, birds and fish.

Within our literacy lessons this week we have been focusing on describing and lengthening our sentences using 'but' and 'and'. We did an extended piece of writing on Friday where we used our senses to describe, you will be able to see this piece of work in your children's books at our express event next Wednesday 4th February. In maths this week we have completed our place value within 20 unit where we compared numbers using mathematical symbols. We were able to also use phrases greater than, less than and equal to. Next week we will move onto addition and subtraction within 20. Finally in our History lesson this week we compared life today to the life that Florence Nightingale and Mary Seacole lived. We looked at advances in nurses' equipment and also medical transportation. We will be creating artwork themed on nurses in our express event with all that can attend, we hope to see you there.

Y2 Express Event Thursday 5th February at 2pm

Year 2:

This week, we have been working very hard to complete our non-chronological reports about meerkats. The children have learned many interesting facts and have been practising how to organise information clearly. Next week, we will begin exploring poetry, and the children will have the exciting opportunity to write their own acrostic poem based on meerkats as well.

In mathematics, we are continuing our work on multiplication. We have been learning how to use arrays, how to recognise equal groups, and how to share and group objects to solve problems. The children have been building confidence by using practical resources and explaining their mathematical thinking.

In science, we have started our new topic on habitats. This week, we learned what a habitat is and why animals live in places that suit their needs. Next week, we will be learning about the polar habitat and exploring why some animals are well adapted to survive in such cold environments, while others are not.

In PE, we have been developing our movement skills through gymnastics. The children have been practising travelling in high and low positions and exploring different ways of moving safely and creatively across the apparatus. They have also been working on important skills such as communication, cooperation and teamwork. The class has shown great enthusiasm and enjoyed using the equipment to challenge themselves.

Y3 Express Event Monday 2nd February at 2pm

Year 3:

In Maths, the children have now completed their work on multiplication and have been practising the 2, 4 and 8 times tables. We've been especially impressed with how confidently they have been using bead strings to show their understanding. This week we have focused on spotting patterns and applying the commutative law - the children have demonstrated great reasoning in their explanations. In English, we have been working on instruction writing and have made a brilliant start on our class write. The children have worked hard to include time adverbials and imperative verbs, and their contributions have been thoughtful and creative. We are also very excited to welcome parents into school next week for our Art Afternoon, where the children will have the chance to show off their creativity and skills.

Well done, Year 3, for another week of brilliant learning, enthusiasm and effort. We are very proud of you all!

Y4 Express Event Wednesday 4th February at 9am

Year 4:

This week in Ash Class we have been finishing off our biographies about Edith Nesbit. The class have adapted really well to quite a challenging style of writing and should be incredibly proud of how hard they have worked. Next week we are moving onto our new topic of advertisements. In Maths we have been looking into multiplication and division to a higher level with the class developing their understanding of multiplying and dividing 3-digit numbers by 1-digit numbers. This again has been a challenge they have undertaken with great determination. Linking their hard work from their continued times tables practice through into our Maths learning has benefitted them massively.

In Science this week we have been looking at the pitch of sounds and how that is affected by the object making the noise. This involved us comparing different sound waves to judge the pitch based on each wavelength. In Computing we have been looking at how we can add hyperlinks into PowerPoints for different effects. We began to create working contents pages and quizzes with our new skill. In PE we continued to push ourselves to new limits with every single member of Ash class climbing up and over one of the A-frames in the hall - this was done through building confidence in our own climbing ability and through fantastic displays of teamwork and support across the board.

Y5 Express Event Thursday 5th February at 9am

Year 5:

In year 5 we have had a busy week completing practice Kent Tests. The children have been excellent and shown resilience and positivity during the tests. On top of this we have completed a science experiment, testing thermal insulation and we have continued to work on long multiplication in Maths. The class has also enjoyed using clay in art lessons. We are following the work of Gaudi, who is famous for his amazing sculptures. Gaudi's work centres around the shapes and colours of nature, and we are trying to replicate this in our own designs. In History, we have been discussing how the Ancient Greeks developed democracy.

Remember, swimming is on Monday as usual.

Y6 Express Event Tuesday 3rd February at 9am

Year 6:

Firstly, I would like to say a huge well done to all the children for their hard work and mature attitude during their practice SATs papers this week. We are extremely proud of the fantastic progress they have made from their starting points. Well done, Sycamore Class!

As we move into Week 5, we will be continuing our literacy work on *Holes* by Louis Sachar. The children will be working towards writing a setting description of Camp Green Lake, using their prior learning of expanded noun phrases, sensory detail, and figurative language (including similes, metaphors, personification, and alliteration). In maths, we will be continuing our work on decimals. The children will learn how to add, subtract and multiply decimals before moving on to multiplying and dividing by 10, 100 and 1,000. In history next week, we will be learning how to read the Mayan number system and using it to solve calculations. In science, we will be exploring refraction—how light changes direction when it moves from one medium to another—and we will investigate this through a practical experiment. Finally, a reminder that our Express Event will take place on **Tuesday 3rd February at 9:00am** in the school hall. We will also be holding our **Mexican Night on Thursday 5th February 4pm-6pm**. If you haven't already done so, please sign your child up on Arbor.

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

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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

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 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)