



# KEMSLEY COURIER



Praise and Thank You!

W/C: Monday 9<sup>th</sup> February 2025

<b>Sycamore</b>	Mrs Hartley and Mrs D-H would like to commend Lilley, Harley, Damian, Willano and Lauren for their outstanding setting descriptions of Camp Green. Their work showcased a wide range of grammatical features and impressive vocabulary choices. They would also like to praise Maisey, Karemata, Willano, Oscar and Tanjim for the care and detail shown in painting their clay 'Day of the Dead' masks. <b>Writer of the Week:</b> Michael – for independently embedding his functional skills into his writing this week. <b>Maths Master:</b> George H – for his excellent understanding and hard work when dividing decimals by integers. <b>Star of the Week:</b> Isabelle – for being a kind and considerate member of Sycamore Class. <b>Dojo Champion:</b> Rayan
<b>Birch</b>	Mrs Donaghy and Mrs Fletcher would like to praise Paige and Peter & Kacper and Maddie for giving out the books so efficiently this week. We would also like to praise Caleb and Morgan for lovely writing to describe their Greek monsters. <b>Writer of the Week:</b> Amber, for showing great determination in her writing. <b>Maths Master:</b> Matthias, for always applying himself well in maths <b>Star of the Week:</b> Noah, for being a kind and happy member of the class. <b>Dojo Champion:</b> Emilia
<b>Ash</b>	Mr Green, Miss Filipovic, Miss Laming would like to thank: Josiah for being helpful to his peers at colouring club, Logan for helping his peers at after school club with the computers and Tabitha and Harry P for being fantastic working with Mikael in class on his first week with us. <b>Writer of the Week:</b> Emma for focusing in on her presentation and improving her written work. <b>Maths Master:</b> Harry B for showing a strong understanding in Maths with both perimeter and fractions. <b>Star of the Week:</b> Taylor for looking out for her peers and for helping them as and when she can. <b>Dojo Champion:</b> Christian
<b>Beech</b>	Mrs Mercer and Miss Spenceley would like to praise our classroom helpers this week: Joshua & Mollie, Grace & Chester, Amber & Ernie, Belkisa & Oscar W and Noa & Parker, Rosie & Arthur. They have done a fabulous job this week, keeping everything tidy and in order. <b>Writer of the Week:</b> Mariama for taking care in her presentation, making sure all her books are neat. <b>Maths Master:</b> Parker for trying his hardest in maths this week. <b>Stars of the Week:</b> Belkisa & Noa for being an amazing friend to everyone and a joy to have in Beech class. <b>Dojo Champion:</b> Joshua
<b>Maple</b>	This week, we would like to praise River for her excellent teamwork during lessons. We would also like to thank Lyle and Isabella, Timeea and Pearl, and Oliver-David and Paulsamuel for their hard work as monitors this week. <b>Writer of the Week:</b> Kit for his fantastic improvement in his writing, as well as his creativity when planning his acrostic poem. <b>Maths Master:</b> Siyana for her growing confidence in her ability to multiply and divide by 2. <b>Star of the Week:</b> Ava for her phenomenal dedication and determination in all of her learning this term. She has worked so hard & her confidence has grown so much. <b>Dojo Champion:</b> Amelia
<b>Willow</b>	Miss Hardy, Mrs Earney and Mrs Stan would like to praise Isobel, Dominic, Riley and Danny for showing enthusiasm for learning this week and working hard across a range of subjects. We would also like to praise Ruby, Dolcie-Mae, Holly and Mason for always caring for others and helping them both in class and on the playground. <b>Writer of the Week:</b> Dominic for being able to write sentences that start with a capital letter. <b>Maths Master:</b> Ayomiposi for showing a strong understanding of doubling. <b>Star of the Week:</b> Gabriel for showing good sitting on the carpet this week. <b>Dojo Champion:</b> Danny
<b>Oak</b>	Mrs Ambrose and Mrs Gaffney would like to send lots of praise to all of the amazing children in Oak class who have shown amazing learning achievements throughout the term. Well done Oak Class! <b>Writer of the Week:</b> Abie, for mark-making to create get well cards. <b>Maths Master:</b> Grace, for her fantastic examples and understanding of 1 less. <b>Star of the Week:</b> Charlotte, who has been trying extremely hard within all areas of her learning. <b>Dojo Champion:</b> Jack
<b>Cherry</b>	Mr Abrahams, Mrs Mackie, Miss Thrall and Mrs Pullen would like to say a special thank you this week to parents and carers who came in last Friday for our express event! It was a great experience, and so positive to see all the engagement and interaction between different parents/carers, and children. <b>Writer of the Week:</b> Isaac, for increasing his frequency of name writing over the last week. <b>Maths Master:</b> Florence, for improving her shape recognition and creation skills. <b>Star of the Week:</b> Daniel, for excellent engagement and consistent effort throughout the week.

## KEY DATES

**Mon 23<sup>rd</sup> Feb**

**Term 3 Begins**

**Y5 (and Y6)**

**Swimming Lessons**

**IRock Lessons**

**Weds 25<sup>th</sup> Feb**

**Y2 Forest School**

**Group 2**

**Thurs 26<sup>th</sup> Feb**

**YR Hearing &**

**Vision Checks**

**Mon 2<sup>nd</sup> Mar**

**Y5 Friendship Skills**

**Workshop**

**Tues 3<sup>rd</sup> Mar**

**Y1 Trip to Fenn**

**Bell**

## Message from the Head Teacher:

Dear Parents, Carers, Children and Staff,

Wow! How quickly time flies. It feels like yesterday since we were coming back from our Christmas break. It has been a wonderful term, with so much to celebrate. Our children have been working so hard to develop their foundational skills this term, especially their presentation, which has vastly improved across the school. Well done everyone! There has also been some incredibly impressive art produced this term too! This week children from Year 5 and Year 6 attended a sports festival at one of our sister schools, Copperfield Primary Academy, with Mrs Donaghy and Mrs Dixon. We are so proud of all of our children who attended as they were fantastic sports people and demonstrated excellent resilience. Well done! Today, we had a special visit from Gavin Robert, Chair of Trustees at REACH2, who stated how impressed he was with our school. I would like to say a special thank you to Lucy and Paakow (our Head Girl and our Head Boy) for leading an outstanding tour across our school!

## Governor Vacancies

Mr and Mrs Ewards have resigned from their roles as governors at Kemsley Primary Academy. I would like to take this opportunity to thank them both for all their hard work and many years of commitment to our school and I would like to especially thank Mr Ewards for being our Chair of Governors over the past few academic years. Mr Dendor (REACH2 appointed governor) has kindly stepped up as Chair of Governors for this interim period, until our governors meet at our next local governing body meeting. Following on from recent resignations from our governing body, we are now looking to appoint 2x parent governors and 2x co-opted governors. If you are interested in volunteering for this role, please contact the office at [office@kemsley-academy.org](mailto:office@kemsley-academy.org) We would love to hear from you!

Attendance currently stands at 93.94% and the class who have won attendance of the week is Year 6 with 97.04%. Well done!

We look forward to returning next term, where there will be several more opportunities for extraordinary experiences, including a whole 11before11 challenge – Colour Run – on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> April in the afternoon, with parents and carers invited to join us! We hope you can make it! 😊

Wishing you all a wonderful half-term  
Miss Homer  
Headteacher

# News from around Kemsley Primary Academy

## Year N:

Our book this week was "First Time Vet". It's a book all about the different forms of care that differing animals receive and the sorts of questions that pet owners ask about their animals' care.

In phonics this week, we spent time focusing heavily on the annunciation of different words, even using a mirror so that the class could see how their faces should look while they say different words. Our cherries particularly enjoyed this! In maths this week, we have been learning all about patterns. We spent time copying patterns, making our own patterns, and listening to pattern-related stories. At the end of the week, we will also be having a visit from a dentist and a firefighter in line with our topic for this term being people who help us!

It has been a great start to the calendar year, have a wonderful half-term break. See you on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> February, after half-term!

## Year R

Wow – what a busy and exciting term we've had! This term, the children learned all about everyday superheroes in our community. We welcomed a police officer, nurse, firefighter and dentist into school, and enjoyed a fantastic road-safety roadshow. These visits helped the children understand how different people keep us safe and healthy, and inspired lots of thoughtful questions and future aspirations.

Our next term's topic will be *We're on the Move!* 🚗 🚚 🇬🇧

Next term, we'll explore different journeys and types of transport. The children will talk about journeys they have taken and practise sequencing events using language such as *first*, *then*, and *finally*. Through stories, role play and hands-on activities, they will develop their communication skills and begin to understand how events happen in order. We will learn important safety skills such as how to crossroads safely, why we should wear seatbelts, how to stay safe around water and to recognising simple safety signs

We are excited for Oak Class to go on their first school trip to the *Rare Breeds Centre*, travelling by bus. The children will also enjoy a tractor ride, helping them see how vehicles are used in different environments. This links beautifully to our next topic, *At the Bottom of the Garden*.

## Year 1:

We have had a lovely last week of this term in Willow class. In literacy we wrote our own stories in the style of the *Selfish Crocodile*: our working text for this term. Next term we will begin with the story: *The Queen's Hat*. In maths this week we have been doubling numbers and using tens frames to add within 20. We have been able to use known facts to speed up our mental arithmetic skills which has been excellent to see. Within art we created our final pieces in the style of Kandinsky. We used lots of different colours which we mixed ourselves. Next term we will be completing DT lessons each week where we will learn how to create bridges. In RE we learnt about caring for our planet and how we need to ensure we recycle and reduce waste. Next term we will complete a philosophy unit where we explore our own views on creation.

In term 4 we will be studying London in our Geography lessons. We will explore animals, caring for the planet and plants in Science. In Maths we will explore measurement and subtraction/addition within 50. Our PE unit will be throwing and catching focusing on aiming. Within music we will be learning how to play the glockenspiels and in computing we will be coding using our knowledge of algorithms and instructions.

We hope all our children and families have a restful half term break.

## Year 2:

In Literacy, we have now completed our acrostic poems, and the children have enjoyed experimenting with language, descriptive vocabulary and structure. We also finished our unit on *Meerkat Mail*, where the class explored Sunny's adventures and practised using different writing features such as letter structure and adjectives. After half-term, we are excited to begin our new book, *Gorilla*.

In Maths, we have been consolidating our understanding of dividing by 2 and strengthening our recall of the 2 times table. The children have been working on applying these skills in a range of fluency and problem-solving activities. Next term, we will be continuing with multiplication and division, beginning with doubling and halving. In Science, we have continued exploring different habitats and how animals survive in their environments. This week, we took an exciting dive into the ocean habitat, discovering sea creatures, plants and the unique features that help them live underwater.

This week was Safer Internet Week, and the children took part in a live lesson that helped them understand what AI is and how to use it. They worked in pairs to discuss trusted adults, reliable sources of information and to create their own chatbot avatar. The children were thoughtful, sensible and showed a fantastic awareness of how to use the internet responsibly. In Art, we have now completed our still life work inspired by the artist Giorgio Morandi. The children have practised composition, shading and careful observation to create some beautifully detailed artwork. Next term, we will begin our Design and Technology unit, where we will be exploring bridges – investigating how they are made, what makes them strong and even designing and building our own.

## Year 3:

This week we have been rounding up all of our learning this term, consolidating our understanding of instructions and reviewing our understanding of multiplication. We have enjoyed learning about the Bronze Age this term and finished our exploration of Bronze Age Art in History as well as rocks and soils in Science.

This week we have been exploring Safer Internet Week and learning about how to stay safe online.

## Year 4:

In Ash class this week we have had a very exciting end to the term. We have finished off our History Anglo Saxons topic with some lovely fact files made about Anglo Saxon gods, what they are the god of and how they are symbolised. In Literacy we finished off our advertisement posters: with Ash class advertising an early 20<sup>th</sup> century railway line similar to one found in our chosen text of 'The Railway Children' everyone included some lovely persuasive writing about the train, the destination, slogans and even included some discounts!

In Maths, we finished off our learning of length and perimeter and moved onto fractions which is a topic we will continue our learning with after half term. We have solidified a good understanding of both fractions and mixed fractions that we will be able to develop further next term. In Science we evaluated our sound experiment from last week to focus on what went well and if we were to do the test again how would we make it more accurate and reliable. In Art this week we finished off our Vivienne Westwood inspired miniature clothing for our Mini-Mes. We used recycled fabric and different forms of embellishments to make them unique. In Computing, we joined an online live lesson that taught us all about AI programming and how they make the AI as reliable as possible. Next Term our overarching Geography topic is Spain and our class text is *Charlottes Web* by E.B. White. We have achieved some fantastic work this term and Ash class seem to be going from strength to strength. I hope you all have a restful half term and come back ready and raring to go.

## Year 5:

The class really enjoyed swimming this week. They all attempted a 25m swim and then were allowed to have free time playing on the floats.

They also loved designing an Ancient Greek monster, as part of our writing lessons. We ended up with some terrifying creatures!

This week, we have finished the maths unit on multiplication and division, and we will be returning to fractions after half term. We have also finished our learning about Ancient Greeks, and after half term we will be moving onto the geography of the coastline.

Don't forget that we will continue swimming on the first day back after half term.

## Year 6:

As Term 3 draws to a close, Sycamore Class can proudly look back on a busy, exciting, and hard-working start to the year. From new learning challenges to special celebrations, it's been a term full of achievements, teamwork, and memorable moments.

As we head into Term 4, we'll keep getting ourselves ready for the end-of-KS2 SATs in May. In Literacy, we're going to dive into the text *Clockwork* by Philip Pullman. During the first week back, we'll be working towards writing a diary entry from the point of view of Karl, the main character. In Maths, we'll start the term by exploring fractions, decimals, and percentages, and learning how they link together. It's a great chance to build confidence with equivalents and practise applying them in different contexts. Our Geography topic for Term 4 will be 'Blue Planet', and we've got lots of exciting learning ahead. We'll be exploring the different layers of the ocean, discovering what makes each one unique and which creatures live there. We'll also be researching the Great Barrier Reef, finding out why it's so special and how we can help protect it. Later in the term, we'll learn about Ellen MacArthur, her incredible ocean-sailing achievements, and how she's helping people think differently about caring for our planet. To consolidate our learning we have our class trip to the London Aquarium, if you haven't signed your child up for this trip, please do so on Arbor.



## **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)**