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10th January 2025 Newsletter Number: 16

Dear Parents and Carers

Happy 2025!

I hope this year's Christmas holiday provided you with a welcome change of routine and a chance to enjoy some family time. Thank you very much to so many parents who sent in gifts and cards for staff, which were very much appreciated.

At the end of last term, the children in Rabbits and Hedgehogs also performed brilliantly in their nativity. I am sure that all the parents who were able to attend enjoyed the performances, and again my grateful thanks to Miss King, Miss Hutchins and the rest of the team who helped prepare the children so well.

The spring term is an important one for all the children to push on in their learning and make progress and they have settled quickly to their work this week. Our attendance was hit in the run up to Christmas with so many bugs and colds tearing through both children and staff alike so please could I ask for your support in ensuring that your children attend school regularly and are punctual – remember our aim is to close the gates at 9am every morning.

If ever you have a concern or worry about any aspect of your child's education please do not hesitate to contact his/her class teacher in the first instance or speak to myself, Miss Eggleston or Mrs Morgan on the gate each morning.

Many thanks, in anticipation of your support, and I'm looking forward to a brilliant 2025 at Kings Worthy.

New Faces

We would like to welcome Mrs Haynes to our Year 1 team. She will be teaching in the new, 1HW on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays, taking over from Mrs Coleman. Mrs Garlick has also joined our after-school club team. The children are already familiar with her as she also works in our school kitchen.

Thank you to the children who have already spent time with our new additions and for making them feel so welcome.





We will also be joined by five new student teachers who will be with us until Easter from the University of Winchester. Miss Morris will be joining Miss Hutchins in Hedgehogs; Miss Thompson will be with Mrs Haynes and Mr Watton in 1HW; in 3S, Miss Brown will join Miss Singleton; Miss O'Shea will be joining Miss Dabill in 4D; and Miss Bowman will be with Mrs Holloway in 6H.

I am sure all of the children will help give them a warm Kings Worthy welcome when they start next Tuesday.

Year 6 Outdoor Morning

The cold did not stop Year 6 from enjoying their outdoor morning on Tuesday this week! The morning had a STEM focus where the children were completing the Squashed Tomato Challenge. The children were introduced to the problem of farmers in Nepal struggling to transport their produce down the mountainside to sell at a market. The children had to design a system that could transport the largest quantity of tomatoes down an imaginary mountainside in 2 minutes and then back up the mountain to repeat the process. The children came up with some very creative and effective designs and the adults were really impressed with their strong teamwork.

Emmy: "Although it was quite challenging, it was also very fun to do!"

Raf: "I like how we spent the morning outside because it was nice to not do guided reading."

James: "It was a great time to work together and share ideas to make something different."

Alma: "It was great fun because it was fun trying different things and working with other people that aren't on our tables."



<u>Coats</u>

Temperatures look set to remain chilly over the next week so please could I ask that you continue to send your children in with coats and other appropriate winter wear such as hats and gloves - at break and lunch time they are allowed to take them off when they get warmed up from running around. Please do ensure that everything continues to be named.

Year Group Newsletters

Year group newsletters will be distributed the week commencing **13**th **January**.

Extra-Curricular Activities

A reminder that our school-run extra-curricular clubs commence week beginning **13th January**.

Inset Day

A reminder that our next **Inset Day** will take place on **Friday 24**th **January**.



Lunchtime Supervisors

We are on the hunt for lunchtime supervisors to join our amazing team – if you are interested then please pop into the office for information.

Maths Shed

What an exciting second half term we have had reporting on Maths Shed! It was a serious battle but here are our half-termly winners who will receive either the class trophy or a prize! Well done to all of the winners! Can **you** make it the top next week?

<u>Classes</u> 1 st Place – 5S 2 nd Place – 2B	
3rd Place – 2MS <u>Individuals</u>	Hattis Shrid
1 st Place – Ben S., Year 5	
2nd Place – Lynden, Year 4	
3rd Place – Isobel, Year 5	

Spelling Shed

A fantastic start to the new year from 5S, who are holding on tight to their number 1 position. Year 4 have also done a fantastic job this week, with 4R just narrowly beating 4D to take second position on the board. Congratulations to our individual spellers of the week too. Fantastic work – well done!



Phonics for Parents

Phonics is an extremely important aspect of children's learning as it can help with so many different areas. We would like to invite all parents to an informal phonics information session on Thursday 30th January at 9:05am. Although it is open to everyone, it would be most useful for those who have children in Years R-2. During this session you can find out more about the phonics scheme we use in school, some resources that you may find helpful to support your child/ren at home and an opportunity to ask any questions you may have around the teaching of phonics. If you would like to attend, please fill out the quick Microsoft Form so we can ensure we have enough handouts.

https://forms.office.com/e/FfpMEFqHP7

Parking

Please can I ask those of you that drop your children to school each morning to show care and consideration to others. Please try to avoid parking on double yellow lines around the school as well as mounting curbs. I know it is incredibly tricky to find space when dropping the children to school. One way to avoid this is perhaps park a little further away and have a brisk 5-10 minute walk each morning (which I know many of you already do). Thank you for your support in this matter.

Charity Corner

Thank you as always for your kind donations to our Christmas Appeal for our local Food Banks. Many families will have had a better Christmas holiday as a result!



(Miss Miller and Mme Miller)

May we take this opportunity to thank you for all your generous donations to charity events at our school during 2024!

Staff promise - Christmas Craft

Annabelle and five of her friends enjoyed an exciting morning creating and painting Christmas crafts in the run-up to Christmas. It was lovely to listen to their joyful squeals of delight!







"This is so much fun!" (Sofia)

"Oh, look! Are we painting those?" (Annabelle)

"Thank you for inviting me, Annabelle!" (Lucy)

Christmas Card Competition

We had a great response to our first in-house multicultural and multilingual Christmas card competition!

Here is a selection of entries across the school:



Certificates and prizes will be given out next week!

(Mme Miller)



Extra Curricular Activities

You can now view all your child's assigned clubs on Arbor, you can access this information by clicking on activities and then clubs (Arbor > Activities > Clubs). Please ensure adults are aware if your child will not be attending a club on a particular day.





Jamie Dodson	
Headteacher	