

23rd Oct 25

KEPS Courier



Success Through Teamwork

A Message from Mr Thompson

As autumn starts to take hold and the weather turns wetter and colder, a half term break is most definitely needed. It's been a busy and energetic start to the year, and I think I've even managed to remember everyone's name! Please bear with me as I continue to learn about life at KEPS—thank you for your patience and cheeriness at the school gate, which has made settling in such a pleasure.



As we wrap up this half term, it's been wonderful to see our pupils so engaged in their learning. Their enthusiasm, resilience, and determination to improve have shone through in every classroom. What's been especially encouraging is how they've begun to truly embody and put into action our **KEPS values**—showing **resilience, respect, collaboration, independence, reflectiveness, and curiosity** in all they do. The effort they've put in has been truly commendable, and we're proud of the progress they've made.

It was also lovely to meet so many of you at this term's Parents' Evenings. Hearing such positive feedback about your children's experiences and progress was heartening. Thank you, as always, to our fantastic and dedicated staff who make all of this possible.

We'd like to take a moment to highlight the importance of **punctuality and attendance**. Every minute of the school day matters. If a child is just 5–10 minutes late each day, they could miss over **16 hours of learning** across the year—equivalent to more than **three full school days**. Arriving on time helps pupils settle into their routines and make the most of every learning opportunity.

Next half term, we hit the ground running! Year 5 will be heading off to Lesson House for their Geography field trip, and Ash and Oak classes will begin six weeks of cricket sessions with the Somerset Cricket Board. And before we know it, the Christmas vibes will be upon us, with Beech class preparing and presenting their Christmas nativity.

We wish you all a restful and relaxing half term break and look forward to welcoming everyone back on **Monday 3rd November**.

Kind regards

Mr T



Sporting Success at KEPS



Congratulations to our Netball team for their fantastic performance at the recent **CLP Netball Tournament** held at Huish Academy.

Competing for the first time in a formal setting, the team displayed outstanding teamwork, enthusiasm, and determination throughout the event. Their unity and commitment led to noticeable improvement as the tournament progressed, making us incredibly proud of their efforts and sportsmanship.



We are thrilled to celebrate **Jack's outstanding achievements in swimming** this season. Demonstrating incredible skill, determination, and versatility across all swimming disciplines, Jack has earned an impressive 16 medals—a true testament to his hard work and commitment to the sport.

We are incredibly proud of him and look forward to seeing what he accomplishes next!

Well done, Jack!



Sporting Dates for the Diary

18th November - Girls' Football Tournament - Huish Academy 3G Astro Pitch 4-5.30pm

2nd December - CLP Year 5 & 6 Basketball Tournament - Huish Leisure 4-5.30pm

Beech Class Nativity

The wonderful children from Beech class will be performing their Nativity play for their parents and carers on **Thursday 11th December 2025 at 5.30pm - Save the Date!**

More details to follow.



After School Clubs

The After School Clubs for Autumn Term 2 are now on Wisepay and available to book. Please log in and book as normal.



Day	Club	Open to	Taken by	Location	Cost for Half Term	Max Number
Monday	Dodgeball	Yr 4 - 6	Mrs Cleasby	School Hall	£21.00	15
Tuesday	Christmas Crafts	Yr 1 - 6	Mrs Carson	Willow Class	£14.00	12
Tuesday	KS2 Sports	Yr 3 - 6	Mr Thompson	School Field	£15.00	25
Due to two CLP Sports Events being held on Tuesdays, KS2 Sports Club will not run on 18th Nov or 2nd Dec, as will plan to enter KS2 teams into these events - this has been reflected in the price.						
Wednesday	Cricket	Yr 3 - 6	Somerset County Cricket Club	School Field	FREE due to Grant received by KEPS	20
Thursday	Choir	Yr 2 - 6	Mrs Sowter & Mrs Colton	School Hall	ongoing	

Please be aware that there will be no After School Clubs on the last week before Christmas - w/c 15th December.

Autumn Term PTA Fundraising Events

Weds 12th Nov - PTA School Disco

Fri 14th Nov - Ash Class Cake Sale

Fri 21st Nov - Christmas Bingo and Raffle at the Community Centre

Fri 5th Dec - Secret Santa

Fri 5th and Sat 6th Dec - Christmas Wreath Making Workshops at the Church Rooms
- see kepspta.co.uk/events to book

School Governor Vacancy

KEPS has a vacancy for a Co-opted Governor – could this be you?

The position is open to anyone with suitable qualities – you do not have to be a parent or staff member at the school.

If you are interested in applying, please email sfaull@keps.school or contact the school office.

Dates for your Diary...

24th October - INSET DAY

31st October - Closing date for Secondary School Applications

3rd - 5th November - Year 5 Leeson House Residential

13th November - PFSA Drop in session at KEPS

3rd December - Time TBC - KEPS Choir singing at Christmas Celebration at HEA

5th December - Time TBC - KEPS Choir at Christmas Fair at KE Community Centre

8th December - KEPS Choir singing at Wells Cathedral

11th December - Christmas Jumper Day

11th December - 17.30pm - Beech Class Nativity

12th December - Christmas Story Day

(Children come to school in PJs for an afternoon of stories and hot chocolate)

16th December - School Christmas Lunch

19th December - Last day of Autumn Term

Class Updates

The below links are for each class, these will take you to the KEPS website for their updates.

Preschool [Pre School Updates | Kingsbury Episcopi Primary School](#)

Beech Class [Reception/Year 1 - Beech Mr Bell | Kingsbury Episcopi Primary School](#)

Willow Class [Year 1/2 - Willow Mrs Carson | Kingsbury Episcopi Primary School](#)

Ash Class [Year 4/5 Ash - Mrs Cleasby | Kingsbury Episcopi Primary School](#)

Oak Class [Year 5/6 Oak - Mrs Lane | Kingsbury Episcopi Primary School](#)



Safeguarding

Our Designated Safeguarding Leads (DSL) are **Mr Thompson** and **Mrs Carson**.
Our safeguarding governor is **Mr Simon Faull**.

If you have concerns about your child at home or school, contact the office to book an appointment. Alternatively, if you are worried about a child or young person who could be in danger, please contact Children's Social Care on 0300 123 2224, by email at childrens@somerset.gov.uk or the police.

You can contact the police directly by dialling 101 and they will discuss with Children's Social Care what action should be taken. In an emergency always contact the police by dialling 999. If you would like to speak to a social worker outside office hours, please phone the Emergency Duty Team (EDT) on 0300 123 2327.

Amazing Work!

Leading up to their exciting trip to the Tutenkhamun Exhibition on Thursday 23rd October, Oak class have been learning about Ancient Egypt. Here are some examples of the amazing work they have been doing!



Many children at KEPS love taking part in the **BBC 500 Words** competition and work hard each year on their entries!

This year's competition is already open, so if your child wishes to enter, they can do so via the following link...

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/500-words>

Good Luck!

Online Safety

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about AGE-INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

"Inappropriate" means different things to different people. What's acceptable for one age group, for example, may be unsuitable for a slightly younger audience. Online, young people can chance upon inappropriate content in various ways – from pop-up ads to TikTok videos. The increasingly young age at which children become active in the digital world heightens the risk of them innocently running into something that they find upsetting or frightening. Trusted adults need to be able to help children be aware of what to do if they're exposed to age-inappropriate content.

SOCIAL MEDIA

Age-inappropriate content is easily accessible through many social media platforms. TikTok, for instance, is hugely popular with young people but is arguably best known for clips featuring sexualised dancing or profanity. Some social media users also express hate speech or promote eating disorders and self-harm, which could cause lasting damage to a child's emotional and mental health.

GAMING

Gaming is an enjoyable source of entertainment, but many popular titles can expose children to inappropriate material such as violence, horror, gambling or sexually explicit content. Playing games unsuitable for their age risks normalising to children what they are seeing. Some games also include in-game chat, where other (usually older) online players often use language that you probably wouldn't want your child to hear or repeat.

STREAMING

The range of video streaming services available online means that users can find almost anything they want to watch on demand. Children are therefore at risk of viewing TV shows and movies which contain nudity, drug and alcohol abuse, explicit language and extreme violence. Unfortunately, these streaming platforms can't always determine that it's not an adult who's watching.

ADVERTS

Online adverts frequently include age-inappropriate content: usually gambling and nudity or partial nudity, although adverts for alcohol or e-cigarettes are also common. Some search engines also feature adverts that are responsive to your search history: so if you've recently looked up a new horror movie, shopped for lingerie or ordered alcohol online, then the ads appearing on screen could reflect this the next time your child borrows your device.

Advice for Parents & Carers

TALK IT THROUGH

Embarrassment or fear of getting into trouble can make it difficult for children to talk openly about age-inappropriate content they've watched. Remind your child they can always come to you if they're troubled by something they've seen online, without worrying about consequences. Before offering advice, discuss what they saw, how they felt and how they came to find the content in question.

CAN WE HAVE A CHAT?

CONNECT, DON'T CORRECT

If your child's been particularly distressed by exposure to content that wasn't suitable for their age, it's important to offer guidance to prevent them from repeating the same mistake – but it's equally vital to help them deal with the emotions that the situation has raised. You could tell them about any similar experiences you might have had at their age, and how you dealt with it.

BLOCK, REPORT, CONTROL

After discussing the problem, you and your child can take action together. This could include blocking any inappropriate sites and reporting any content which violates a platform's rules. To further safeguard your child online, set up parental controls on internet-enabled devices that they use. This will significantly reduce the chances of your child being exposed to age-inappropriate content in the future.

GET SPECIALIST HELP

Age-inappropriate content can potentially have a negative impact on a child's mental health, which is sometimes displayed through changes in their behaviour. If the problem becomes more severe, you might consider reaching out to a mental health professional or an expert in this field who can provide you and your child with the proper support.

STAY CALM

Even though it is obviously difficult to stay rational in a situation where your child has been put at risk, it's essential to think before you react. Your child may well have hesitated to open up to you about watching inappropriate content for fear of the consequences, so being calm and supportive will reinforce the notion that it would be easy to talk to you about similar issues in the future.

Updated Attendance Policy – Important Information for Parents

As part of our statutory responsibilities, we have updated the **KEPS Attendance Policy**. The full policy is available on the school website and we encourage all parents to read it carefully.

Key Updates to Note:

1. Unauthorised Absences and Penalty Notices

Unauthorised absences include:

- Arriving after registration closes
- Term-time holidays without approval
- Absences without a valid explanation

If a pupil has **10 or more unauthorised sessions** (equivalent to 5 days) within a rolling 10-school-week period, the school is required to consider issuing a **penalty notice**.

Penalty notices are issued **per parent, per child**, and carry a fine of **£160** (or **£80 if paid within 21 days**). Repeat offences may lead to prosecution.

2. Changes to Signing In/Out Procedures (Effective After Half Term)

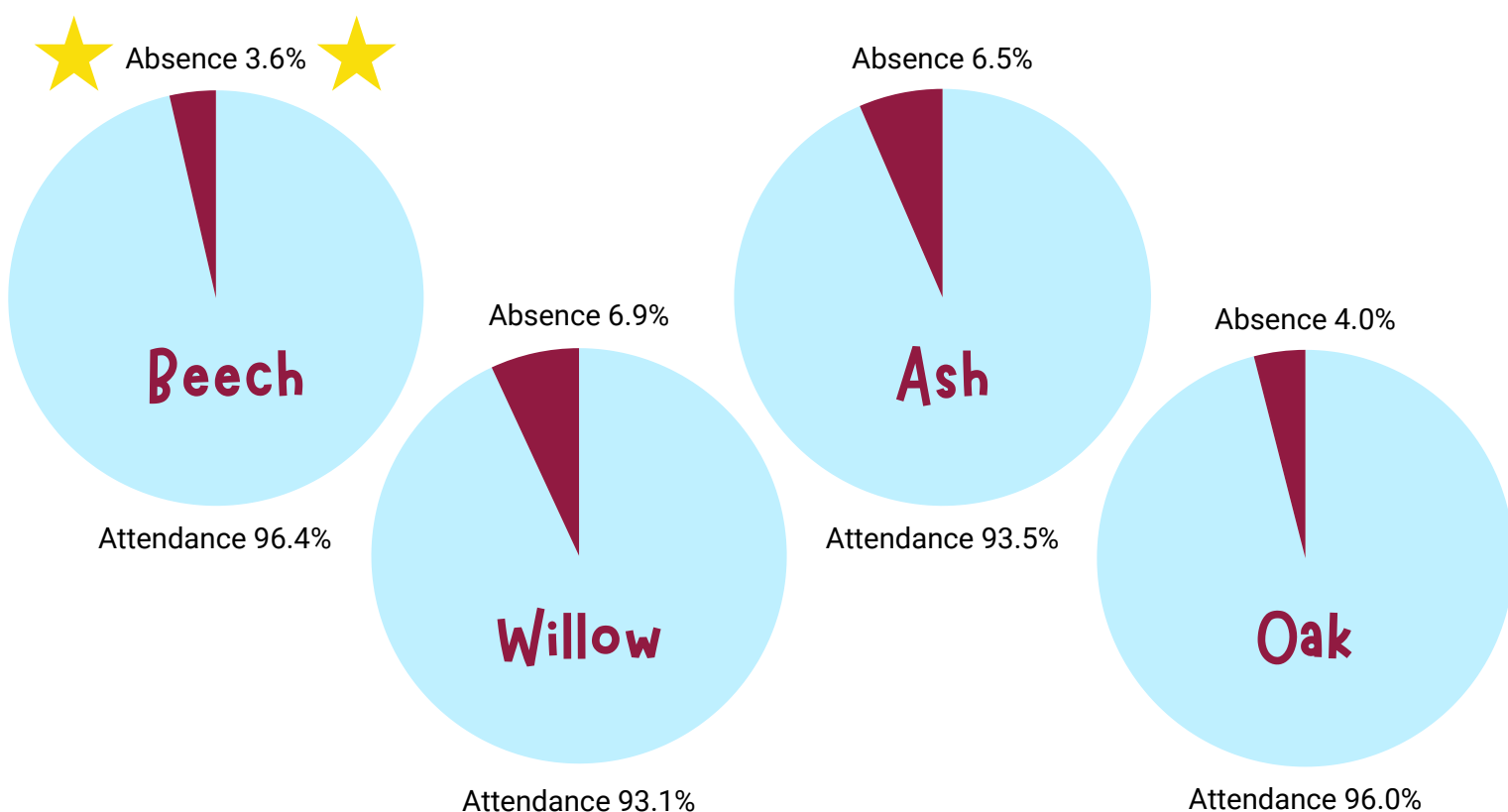
To support accurate attendance recording and safeguarding:

- Pupils arriving after the gates close at **9:00am** must be signed in by a parent or guardian at the school office.
- This includes late arrivals due to medical appointments.
- Parents must also sign their child out at the office if collecting them during the school day.

These changes are being introduced to ensure we meet statutory guidance and continue to prioritise **safeguarding and punctuality**.

If you have any questions or need further clarification, please don't hesitate to contact the school office.

KEPS Class Attendance Figures so far This School Year



School Tours

Is your child starting school in September 2026?

The deadline for Primary School applications is **15th January 2026**. Even though our Open Events have passed, we still welcome prospective parents and children to explore our wonderful school ahead of admissions for September 2026.

Come and meet our dedicated staff, see our vibrant classrooms in action, and discover what makes Kingsbury Episcopi Primary such a special place to learn and grow. Please **call 01460 240507** or **e-mail office@keps.school** to register interest.



'Tuning into Kids' Course

**Dates for the Tuning into Kids course
run by Victoria Gould – PFSA**

Tuesday 4th November - Tuesday 9th December
9.30-11.30 at Somerton Library

If you are interested in joining,
please contact the school office
and we will pass your details to the organisers



Wraparound Provision

The Willows Childcare provides a wraparound provision. The hourly rate is £6.00 and available to all children either on a regular or ad-hoc basis. For more information contact The Willows Childcare on: Nic 07557 952 753 / Jackie 07909 005 066

Facebook: The Willows Childcare
Email: Jackie@thewillowschildcare.co.uk

Breakfast Club from 07.30 until 09.00 Monday to Friday.
Breakfast served until 08.10 (extra 50p charge).
After School Club operates from 15.30 until 17.30 Monday to Thursday only.

PE Days for 2025/26

Please send your child/children to school in their PE kits on PE Days. PE kits should be burgundy shorts/black leggings/tracksuit bottoms, white house coloured t shirt. A school jumper, cardigan or KEPS PE hoody (hoody is optional).

PE days for 2025/26 are:

Monday – Beech and Willow
Tuesday – Ash & Oak



School Calendar for 2025/26

Success Through Teamwork



Somersexton
Council

KEPS School Terms and Holidays 2025/2026 Academic Year

September 2025						October 2025						November 2025								
M		1	8	15	22	29	Mo			6	13	20	27	M			3	10	17	24
Tu		2	9	16	23	30	Tu			7	14	21	28	Tu			4	11	18	25
W		3	10	17	24		We		1	8	15	22	29	W			5	12	19	26
Th		4	11	18	25		Th		2	9	16	23	30	Th			6	13	20	27
F		5	12	19	26		Fr		3	10	17	24	31	Fr			7	14	21	28
Sa		6	13	20	27		Sa		4	11	18	25		Sa		1	8	15	22	29
Su		7	14	21	28		Su		5	12	19	26		Su		2	9	16	23	30
December 2025						January 2026						February 2026								
M		1	8	15	22	29	M			5	12	19	26	M			2	9	16	23
Tu		2	9	16	23	30	Tu			6	13	20	27	Tu			3	10	17	24
W		3	10	17	24	31	W			7	14	21	28	W			4	11	18	25
Th		4	11	18	25		Th		1	8	15	22	29	Th			5	12	19	26
F		5	12	19	26		F		2	9	16	23	30	F			6	13	20	27
Sa		6	13	20	27		Sa		3	10	17	24	31	Sa			7	14	21	28
Su		7	14	21	28		Su		4	11	18	25		Su		1	8	15	22	
March 2026						April 2026						May 2026								
M		2	9	16	23	30	M			6	13	20	27	M			4	11	18	25
Tu		3	10	17	24	31	Tu			7	14	21	28	Tu			5	12	19	26
W		4	11	18	25		W		1	8	15	22	29	W			6	13	20	27
Th		5	12	19	26		Th		2	9	16	23	30	Th			7	14	21	28
F		6	13	20	27		F		3	10	17	24		F		1	8	15	22	29
Sa		7	14	21	28		Sa		4	11	18	25		Sa		2	9	16	23	30
Su	1	8	15	22	29		Su		5	12	19	26		Su		3	10	17	24	31
June 2026						July 2026						August 2026								
M		1	8	15	22	29	M			6	13	20	27	M		3	10	17	24	31
Tu		2	9	16	23	30	Tu			7	14	21	28	Tu		4	11	18	25	
W		3	10	17	24		W		1	8	15	22	29	W		5	12	19	26	
Th		4	11	18	25		Th		2	9	16	23	30	Th		6	13	20	27	
F		5	12	19	26		F		3	10	17	24	31	F		7	14	21	28	
Sa		6	13	20	27		Sa		4	11	18	25		Sa	1	8	15	22	29	
Su		7	14	21	28		Su		5	12	19	26		Su	2	9	16	23	30	

Key:

- School Holiday
- Bank Holiday
- Term Time
- Inset Days

Term dates summary:

Term 1: 02 September – 24 October 2025 (39 days)
Term 2: 03 November – 19 December 2025 (35 days)
Term 3: 05 January – 13 February 2026 (30 days)
Term 4: 23 February – 02 April 2026 (29 days)
Term 5: 20 April – 22 May 2026 (24 days)
Term 6: 01 June – 22 July 2026 (38 days) **TOTAL = 195**

Bank and public holidays 2025/26

Christmas Day	25 December 2025	Easter Monday	06 April 2026
Boxing Day	26 December 2025	May Day Bank Holiday	04 May 2026
New Year's Day	01 January 2026	Spring Bank Holiday	25 May 2026
Good Friday	03 April 2026	Summer Bank Holiday	31 August 2026

Academy, Free Schools, Foundation & Voluntary Aided schools can set their own term dates and may differ from ours. Please check with the individual schools for their term dates.