

13th Feb 26

KEPS Courier



Success Through Teamwork

A Message from Mr Thompson

As we reach the half-term break, it offers a welcome chance for everyone to recharge their batteries. The recent wet weather has certainly presented us all with a number of challenges, and I want to thank you for your patience and support throughout. We hope our pupils enjoy a well-earned rest over the coming week.



This week we were delighted to welcome Jackdaws Music to KEPS for a brilliant brass workshop with Ash Class, which culminated in a super performance for the rest of the school. Opportunities like these continue to enrich our pupils' learning, and it has been wonderful to see them excel.

Our pupils continue to demonstrate and uphold our school values of being resilient, respectful, collaborative, independent, reflective, and curious in everything they do. This was underlined by our swim team, who won the Huish CLP Swimming Gala—an excellent achievement!

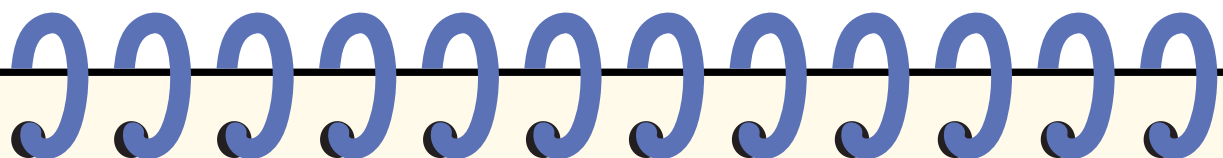
As we look ahead, we would like to remind families of our school uniform expectations, particularly around footwear. Pupils should be wearing smart black school shoes each day. Trainers should only be worn on PE days. Thank you for your support in helping pupils arrive ready for learning and representing the school with pride.

Wishing you all a fantastic half term. We look forward to seeing everyone back on Monday 23rd February.



Warmest wishes,

Mr T



Dates for your Diary...

16th - 19th February - Spring Half Term (returning to school on Monday 23rd Feb)

5th March - World Book Day - Details to follow

18th & 19th March - Parents Evening

20th March - Local Community Day - Details to follow

KEPS Orchard Club – Wraparound Care

Following the closure of The Willows Childcare, we are now managing the wraparound childcare provision directly within the school.

As you know Mrs Nic Bullock is still running the club for KEPS, along with new support of Mrs Tha Sylvester.

All bookings from now on are to be made and payed for via WisePay and we ask that you contact the school office for any matters regarding Orchard Club going forward. If you are paying via Childcare Vouchers, please note this at the end of each of your bookings. Should you have any questions regarding the new process please do not hesitate to contact us.

Please make sure your places are booked in via Wisepay in advance - many thanks!

Maypole Dancing

Children from KEPS will once again be taking part in the **Maypole Dancing at Kingsbury May Festival on Monday 4th May** this year.

We will need 16 children to take part. If your child wishes to be part of this wonderful community event, please log onto Wisepay and sign them up for the Maypole Dancing After School Club on Tuesdays, starting after Half Term.

We look forward to seeing you there!



A Morning of Music!

As part of their Year of Brass project, on Wednesday 11th February, we welcomed Jackdaws Music to KEPS. Ash class worked with three brass musicians to create a soundscape for a story all about the Sun, Earth and Water helping a seed to grow. The pupils received a 45 minute workshop where they created and rehearsed their soundscapes before a performance to the rest of the school.



Sporting Dates for the Diary

10th March - Cross Country 2 - Huish Academy 3 - 4pm
 24th March - Cross Country 3 - Huish Academy 4pm start
 16th June - Yr 5/6 Rounders Tournament - Huish Academy 4 - 6pm
 29th June - Yr 3/4/5/6 CLP Athletics - Huish Academy 2 - 4pm



After School Clubs

The After School Clubs for Spring term 2 are on Wisepay and available to book. Please log in and book as normal.

Day	Club	Open to	Taken by	Location	Cost	Max Number
Monday	KS2 Sports Club	Yr 3 - 6	Mr Thompson	School Field	£18 / Half Term	25
Tuesday	KS1 Sports Club	Yr R - 2	Mr Thompson	School Field	£12 / Half Term	20
Due to two CLP Sports Events being held on Tuesdays, KS1 Sports Club will not run on 10th March or 24th March, as we will plan to enter teams into these events - this has been reflected in the price						
Tuesday	Maypole Dancing	Yr 3 - 6	Mrs Withers & Mrs Colton	Playground	£18 / Half Term	16
We will require the 16 pupils taking part in Maypole Dancing to perform at the Kingsbury May Festival on Monday 4th May						
Tuesday	Sewing Club	Yr 1 - 6	Mrs Carson & Ms Buckland	Willow Class	£18 / Half Term	20
Thursday	Choir	Yr 2 - 6	Mrs Sowter & Mrs Colton	School Hall	ongoing	40

Swimming Champions!

We are proud to say we have been crowned the 25/26 Huish CLP Swimming Champions!

A huge well done to our brilliant squad who represented the school with fantastic teamwork, determination, and spirit throughout the competition. We couldn't be prouder! **Congratulations, team!**



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.

KEPS Preschool Update

Recently, we've had role play vets, picnics and tea parties. We have used playdough with cutters, knives to chop and scissors to develop fine motor muscles.

We've been out in the rain and mud, exploring the sand and practising our self care skills, putting on coats and boots. Also using different media for mark making.





Safer Internet Day

Top Tips for Parents & Carers



For parents and carers

AI technology is increasingly part of all our lives, so this Safer Internet Day we are starting a conversation about how to use it safely and responsibly. Use these top tips to help keep you and your loved ones safe online.

Enjoy going online together and talk regularly about your family's online lives

The internet is amazing and can help us all to access information and entertainment. Spend time online with your child to understand how they are using technology and talk together about the good and the bad parts of being online. Talk about your own experiences and find other opportunities to get the conversation started, like stories in the news. Make sure your child knows they can talk to you about anything that they see or experience online.

Understand where AI technology is being used and the impact it can have

From summaries on search engines, to voice assistants and photo editing tools, AI powered features are being added to many of the apps and devices we use day-to-day. Look out for information and warnings notifying you where AI technology is in use or where content has been created using AI. Help your child to recognise these too. Remember, AI can make some tasks simpler but may also collect data about you and your family, or share unreliable information, so consider how to use it safely and responsibly.

Recognise what safe and responsible use of technology looks like

To use technology, including AI, safely and responsibly, it's important to reflect on the potential impact it can have on yourself and others. How does your use of technology make you feel? How can you use technology with kindness and respect for others? Does your use of technology benefit you or help you build skills? How might it affect you now, and in the future? Ask these questions of your own internet use, as well as your family's.

Stay informed with free resources

Young people have told us about the incredible ways they're using AI, but also about their worries for what it means for the future. Issues such as the environmental impact of AI, what it means for job prospects, and the threat of deepfakes can seem scary but remember, you don't need to have all the answers. Stay informed using free resources like those produced for Safer Internet Day and talk to your child about their concerns about new technology – you can always work together to find more information.

Know where to go for help if something goes wrong

Like any technology, using AI comes with risks. Some AI tools, like ChatGPT, have built-in reporting features where you can raise issues such as inappropriate or harmful content. Many social media platforms also allow you to report content you suspect has been created with AI. Additionally, AI generated content can break the law. If you see illegal images that show child sexual abuse (including AI generated images), you should report these to the IWF and on the platform where they are being shared. If someone creates an image of you or your child using AI these can also be reported on the platform where they are being shared, and AI generated nude images can be reported to Stop NCII (for images of adults) and Report Remove or Take It Down (for images of under 18s).

KEPS PTA News

Upcoming Events

**Easter Bingo - Kingsbury Episcopi
Community Centre**

- Friday 20th March - details to follow

Easter Disco - date to be confirmed

Easter Raffle



You may have a few **unwanted gifts** that we can make good use for our fund raising efforts. There is a donation basket in the school reception area (office).



Donating your old clothing and textiles helps us raise £100s each year. Look for the big donation bin in the far corner of the car park. Please bag all items.



Challenge 2026 is well under way!

Let's make this year a great success. A chance for the children to think up their best fundraising ideas. Half-term is the perfect opportunity and we look forward to sharing your achievements.

You can find full details on the class chat groups.

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)

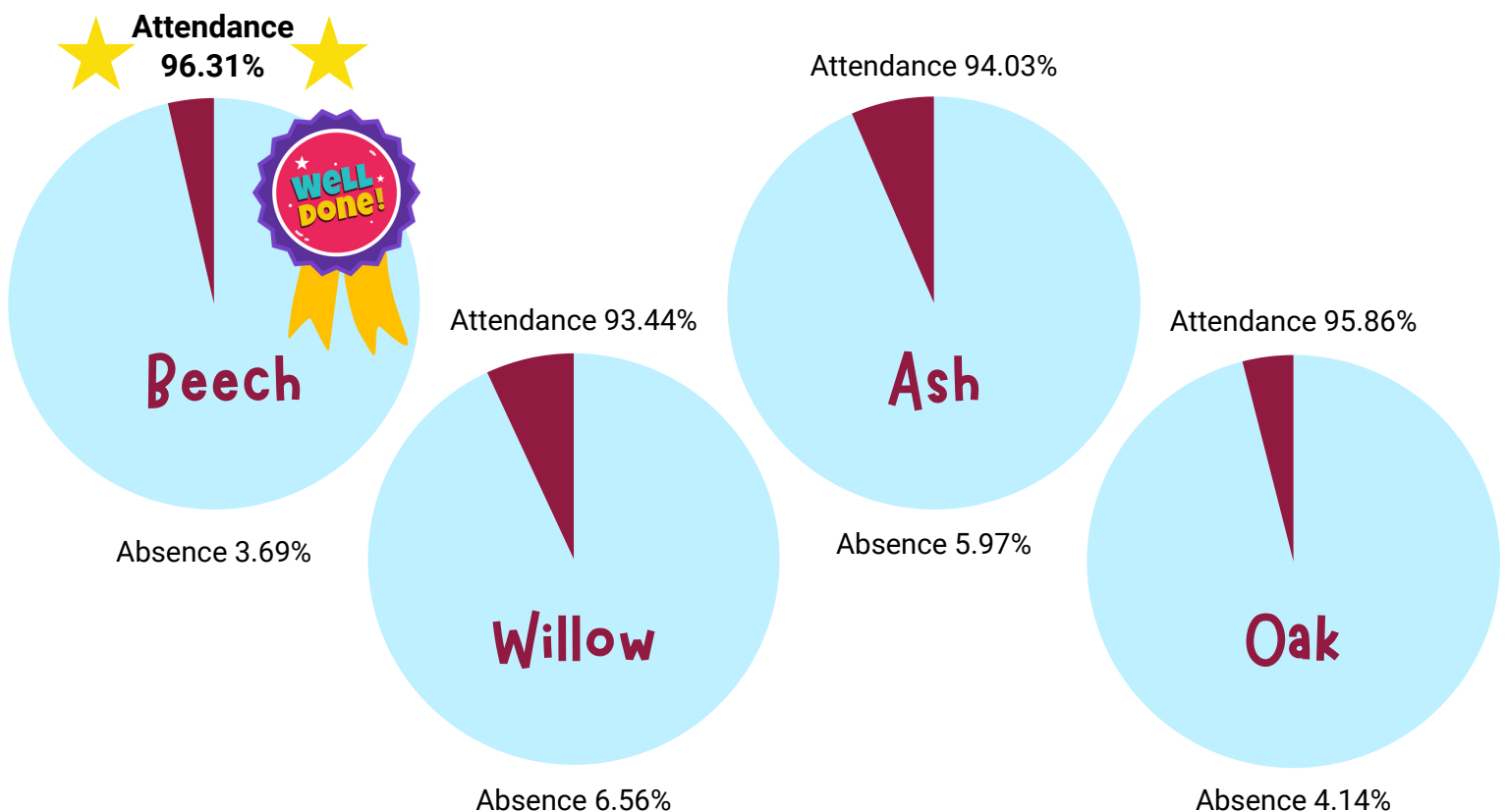
To support accurate attendance recording and safeguarding:

- 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





Success Through Teamwork

School Calendar for 2025/26



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.