

19th Dec 25

KEPS Courier



Success Through Teamwork

Dear Parents, Carers and Families,

As we approach the Christmas break, I would like to take this opportunity, on behalf of all the staff at KEPS, to wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.



I have thoroughly enjoyed my first term as Headteacher, it has been wonderful to meet so many of you and to see the children's hard work, passion for learning, and enthusiasm shining through. Their positivity has made this term truly special.

It's certainly been a busy few weeks!

Our brilliant choir performed at Wells Cathedral, the Huish Academy Primary Concert, and the Kingsbury Episcopi Christmas Market, what fantastic ambassadors for our school.

It's also been great to see so many pupils engaging in sport. From inter-school competitions to Playleader training and the STUMPY programme, our pupils have consistently stepped up and shown great teamwork. Last week, we were lucky to receive a visit from Somerset cricketer Will Smeed, who provided an inspirational afternoon for pupils in Ash and Oak classes. And how can we forget the brilliant Beech Class and their performance of The Sleepy Shepherd? Their confidence and enthusiasm truly shone through.

As 2026 fast approaches, we look forward to building on the fantastic foundations we've established together. Thank you for your continued support - it makes such a difference.

Enjoy a well-deserved festive break with your loved ones, and we look forward to welcoming everyone back to school on Tuesday 6th January.

Kind regards

Mr T



Cricket Fun for Ash & Oak Classes

Wednesday 10th December was the final session of the 6 week STUMPY programme. We were joined by Somerset Cricketer Will Smeed who took part in a Q & A session before joining the children for some playground cricket.

Many thanks to the Somerset Cricket Foundation for a super inspirational afternoon of cricket fun.



An Exciting Visit!

A massive Thank You to everyone at RNAS Yeovilton for their efforts to bring Santa to KEPS to collect pupils' Christmas letters.

The weather meant the crew were unable to land, but the ground crew were on hand to collect the letters to pass them on.



Sporting Dates for the Diary



- 20th January - Year 5/6 Hockey Tournament - Huish Academy 3G Astro Pitch 4 - 6pm
- 3rd February - Year 3/4/5/6 Swimming Gala - Huish Leisure 2 - 3.30pm
- 10th March - Cross Country 2 - Huish Academy 3 - 4pm
- 24th March - Cross Country 3 - Huish Academy 4pm start



KEPS Choir at Wells Cathedral



On 8th December, our awesome school choir performed at the Somerset Music Wells Cathedral Christmas Concert. It was magical evening that we were proud to be invited to take part in and the choir didn't disappoint! They were fabulous! A huge Thank You to Mrs Sowter and Mrs Colton for all their hard work and support.

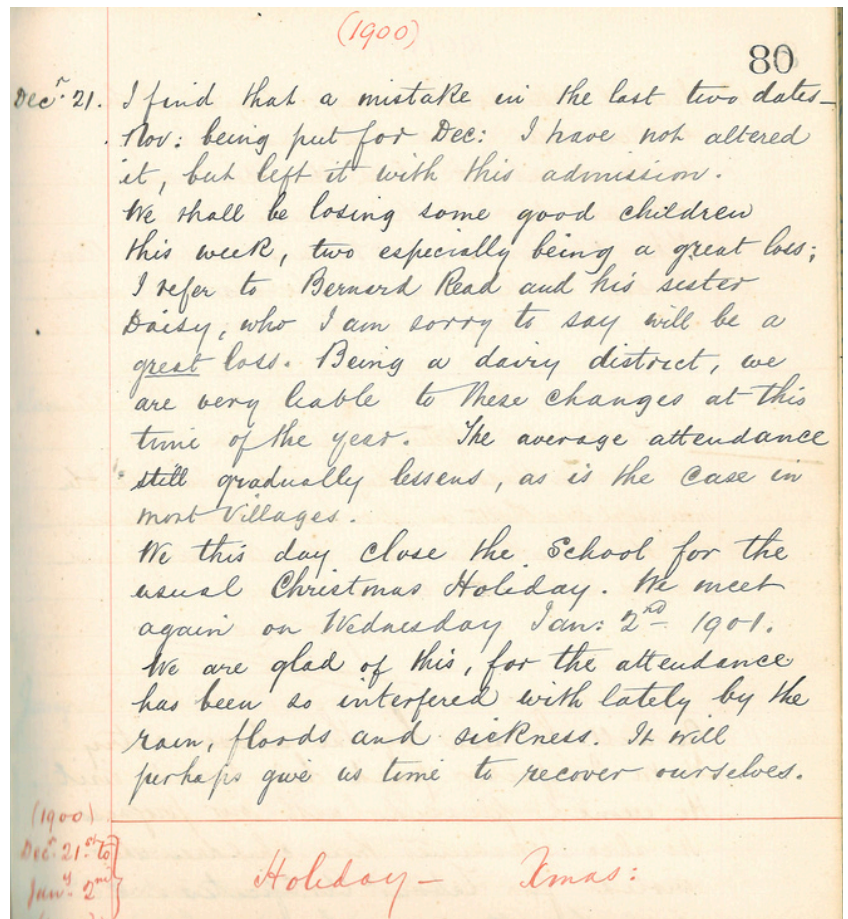


A Look into KEPS at Christmas from years gone by...

In the KEPS archives, we have a wonderful Log Book full of entries which were hand-written by previous Headteachers.

To the right, you can see a page from Christmas time in the year 1900(!), which we find fascinating.

Please take a read and enjoy!





A Big Thank You...

...to The Levels Amateur Theatre Company for their kind sponsorship of the school's Christmas tree this year.

It looks so cheerful and festive in our school hall!



Christmas Jumper Day

Thank You to everyone who took part and donated towards Save the Children for Christmas Jumper Day 2025!

The array of festive jumpers was amazing!



After School Clubs

The After School Clubs for Spring term 1 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 FULL	Lego Club	Yr R - 2	Mr Bell	Beech Class	£15 / Half Term	FULL
Monday	Micro:bit Club	Yr 3 - 6	Mrs Lane	Oak Class	£15 / Half Term	15
Monday	KS1 Sports Club	Yr R - 2	Mr Thompson	School Field	£15 / Half Term	20
Tuesday	KS2 Sports Club	Yr 3 - 6	Mr Thompson	School Field	£12 / Half Term	25
Due to two CLP Sports Events being held on Tuesdays, KS2 Sports Club will not run on 20th Jan or 3rd Feb , as will plan to enter KS2 teams into these events - this has been reflected in the price.						
Thursday	Choir	Yr 2 - 6	Mrs Sowter & Mrs Colton	School Hall	£30 / Whole Term	40

★ MERRY CHRISTMAS FROM THE PTA ★

It's been a busy term!

Colour Run

Cake sales

School disco

Christmas raffle

Christmas bingo

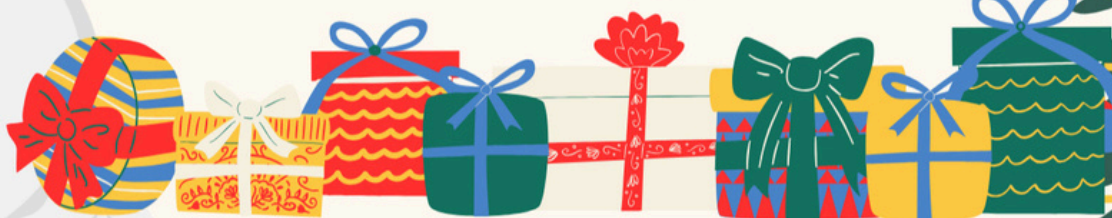
Secret Santa

Thank you to all parents and families who:

- Bought cakes or Christmas raffle tickets.
- Donated items for the prize hampers.
- Sponsored a child for the Colour Run.
- Came to the Christmas bingo evening.
- Took part in Secret Santa.
- Helped on the morning of our Secret Santa event or at any of our other events.

All money raised will go towards the new outdoor play equipment which will benefit all the children.

Thank you for your continued support.



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

Putting up our decorations is an exciting time for preschool, prompting lots of conversations about decorations, colours, textures and their activities at home. The children spotted the decorations around the room involving counting and naming items. "They're cool" said one boy!



Role play shops, lots of mark making for lists and writing numbers. Using the scales for play with the rice.



Exploring the ice and how it was melting. The marble run has been a favourite activity, building the run, watching and listening to the marbles as they roll, talking about similar sounds and sharing the marbles comparing quantities.

Online Safety

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about

SNAP STREAK

97

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

SNAPCHAT

AGE RESTRICTION
13+

With over 900 million active monthly users and billions of 'Snaps' sent each month, Snapchat is a popular messaging app among children and young people. It allows users to share fun, spontaneous pictures and videos with friends and family while using playful filters. One of Snapchat's unique features is that pictures, videos and messages are only viewable for a short period of time.

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

Snapchat's use of artificial intelligence (AI) includes features like the 'My AI' chatbot and AI-powered filters, offering interactive experiences that can be fun but also pose risks. These tools may share unfiltered or inaccurate responses, promote unrealistic beauty standards, and collect personal data. Advanced filters and deepfake-style lenses can distort reality, potentially leading to manipulation, impersonation, or inappropriate content.



SCREEN ADDICTION

Snapchat boasts user engagement and daily use with features like streaks (daily Snapchat exchanges between you and a friend). When a streak's been going for a few days, users will see a 🌟 emoji. The number alongside it shows the number of days, but if users miss a day and break the streak, the only way to restore it is to pay. This encourages daily use habits, and frequent notifications can keep users returning to the app even more often.



SEXTORTION

Because Snapchat's disappearing messages feature may foster a sense of safety, users may become targets of sextortion. For example, a predator may pressure someone into sending nude images, then somehow capture those images to threaten and intimidate the victim. This might involve claiming they will share the images with friends or family unless money is paid.



SNAPCHAT+

Snapchat+ is the platform's premium subscription service, offering early access to new and exclusive features. In June 2023, Snapchat introduced a new tier called Lens+, giving subscribers access to hundreds of lenses and AR experiences for playing, creating, and sharing Snaps. These paid features may encourage young users to spend money to access exclusive content, increasing the risk of overspending or feeling pressured to make in-app purchases.

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)

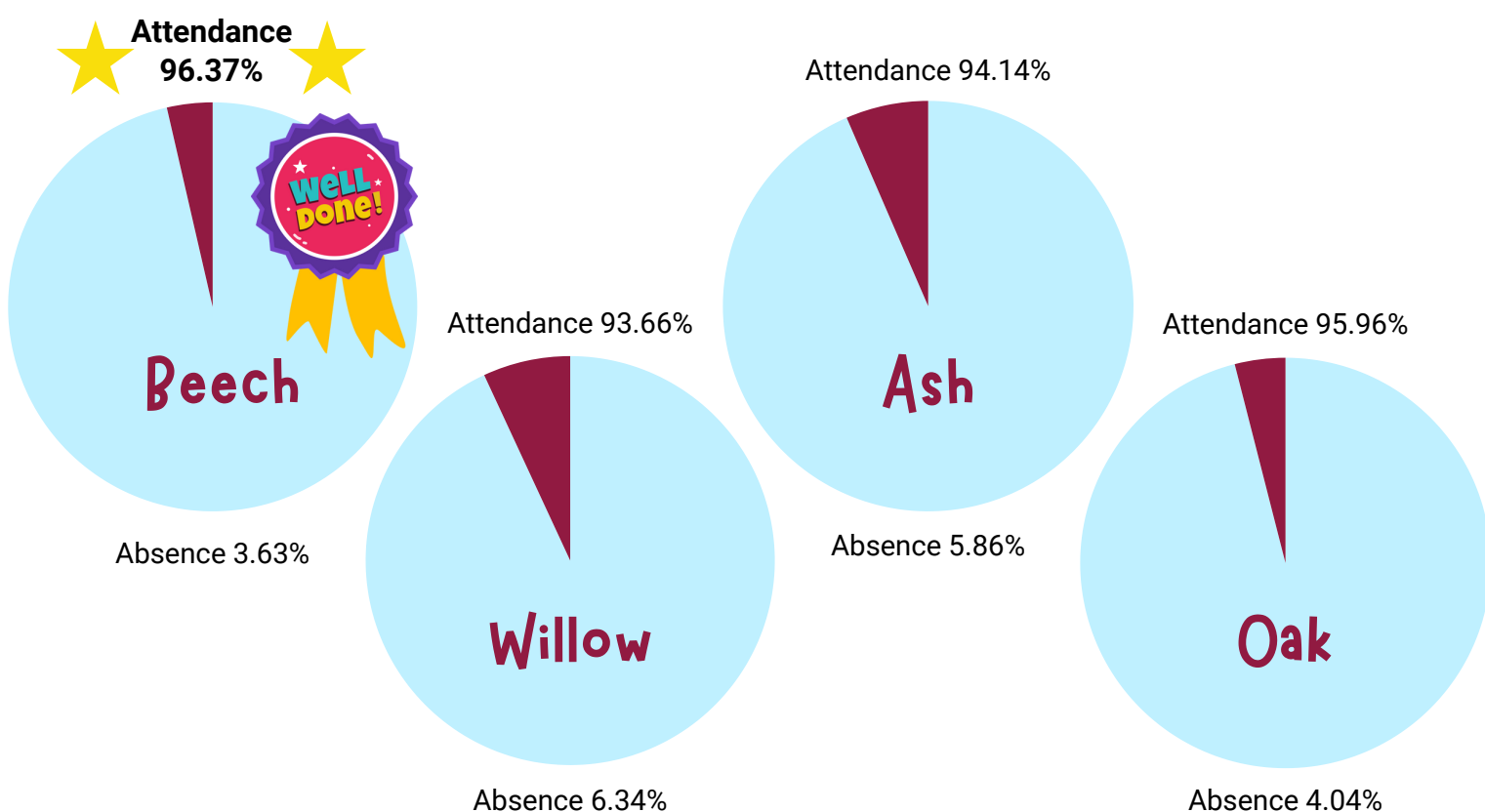
To support accurate attendance recording and safeguarding:

- 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



House Points for Autumn Term 2025

The final totals for House Points for the Autumn term are:

Brendons – 4971
Quantocks – 4775
Mendips – 3868
Blackdowns – 3444



**Well Done
Brendons!**

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.



Wraparound Provision

From **Friday 30th January 2026**, The Willows will cease providing our Breakfast & Afterschool Childcare provision.

We are happy to inform you that Mrs Nic Bullock has agreed to continue to provide this service within our school and all booking will be made and paid for via WisePay.

Should you have a last-minute requirement you will need to either call or email the school office to request this, however this will be during normal school hours. A doorbell will be placed on the school gate for you to use when you drop off/pick up your child/ren.

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

Rapunzel ROCKS!



JANUARY 2ND - 4TH 2026

KINGSBURY COMMUNITY CENTRE

TICKETS AVAILABLE AT [SEATY.CO.UK](https://www.seaty.co.uk)

OR FROM OUR TICKET HOTLINE

07375889716

**FOR MORE DETAILS, CHECK OUT THE PAGE
LEVELS AMATEUR SHOW COMPANY**



LEVELS LIVE

MIDWINTER CELEBRATION

Sunday 21st December 4.30pm

MUSIC, POETRY AND
GLITTERING GUEST
PERFORMANCES TO LIGHT THE
LONGEST NIGHT

SCAN FOR TICKETS



MULLED CIDER, MINCE PIES &
MERRY SURPRISES!

ALL SAINTS', LANGPORT
21ST DECEMBER 4.30pm

TICKETS £5 | £7.50 FOR 2



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.