



Dragon's Roar-January-16/01/26

A Great Start to 2026!

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are delighted to welcome everyone back after the Christmas break. The children have returned with wonderful attitudes and have settled back into their school routines quickly and positively. It has been a pleasure to see their enthusiasm for learning, and they are already engaging brilliantly with their new topics this term. To find out more about what your child is learning, please do take a look at their class blogs.

This edition of our newsletter is packed with exciting updates and important information for families. Inside, you will find highlights from Art Week, details of our Silver Reading Awards, and an update from the Friends of KPNS. We are also sharing helpful guidance on supporting

children's digital lives, safeguarding tips for parents and carers, and Family Hub highlights for local families.

We hope you enjoy reading this issue and thank you, as always, for your continued support.

Kind regards,

Mr Cresswell and Mrs King

In this week's edition...

- Art Week!
- Silver Reading Awards
- Update from Friends of KPNS
- Supporting Children's Digital Lives: What Young People Want Parents to Know
- Family Hub Highlights for Local Families
- Safeguarding Tips for Parents and Carers
- Dates for your diary!

The Keyworth Code





Art Week!

Next week in school is Art Week. We will be exploring a piece work by Henri Rousseau called 'Surprised' [Henri Rousseau | Surprised! | NG6421 | National Gallery, London](#) The children are going to work on their own pieces which we will then hopefully be able to showcase to you all before half term. This is the first Art Week we have done for many years and we are very excited to offer the pupils the chance to be creative and inspired by a famous artist.

Silver Reading Awards



📖✨ Reading helps us grow, imagine, and discover new worlds – and now it's time to aim even higher! Between now and Easter, you can work towards earning your Silver Reading Award. Every time you read, you're building confidence, fluency, and a love of books. Once you achieve your award, you'll be celebrated in assembly with a special certificate and a dip in the Silver Reading Box to recognise all your hard work and commitment to reading. So keep turning those pages, exploring new stories, and challenging yourself – your Silver Award is within reach!

What do I need to do?

EYFS and KS1

Every time you read with a grown-up, colour in one of the stepping stones at the back of your home/school book on the Silver Award page.

KS2

At the back of your home/school book, you have 10 Silver challenges to complete. Bring what you have done into school to share with Mrs King and your teacher.

Once you complete your Silver Reading Award Page, show your teacher and you will receive your reward.

*You can download a copy of Blaze's Reading Quiz here: [We are working towards our Silver Reading Awards! - Keyworth Primary & Nursery School](#)

Remember, Gold Awards start after Easter!

Have fun and happy reading! 📖 ✨

Here is an update from the Friends of KPNS:



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- If you would like to offer your support to school on a more regular basis, check out our school lottery page. You can win some great prizes whilst supporting our school! [Our School Lottery- Buy your tickets here! - Keyworth Primary & Nursery School](#)
- Movie Night-Tuesday 20th of January- Have you booked your child's ticket? More details here: [Movie Night 2026! - Keyworth Primary & Nursery School](#)

Supporting Children's Digital Lives: What Young People Want Parents to Know

Children spend an increasing part of their lives online — learning, playing and socialising. A new guide from the **Office of the Children's Commissioner** shares clear, practical advice to help parents and carers support children to stay safe in the digital world.

Importantly, this guidance is shaped directly by children and young people in England, including teenagers and young people with SEND. Their message is reassuringly clear: children value **firm, informed boundaries** from adults, especially when there are concerns about online content or behaviour.

Many young people reflected that, with hindsight, they wish they had been protected from smartphones and unrestricted online access for longer. They want parents to feel confident setting limits, explaining expectations, and stepping in when something doesn't feel right.

The full guide offers helpful prompts and practical advice for managing children's everyday online habits at home:

👉 <https://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/resource/what-i-wish-my-parents-or-carers-knew-a-guide-for-parents-and-carers-on-managing-childrens-digital-lives/>

A Simple Step That Makes a Big Difference - Free School Meals

Did you know that registering your child for Free School Meals can make a real difference — even if your child doesn't take the meal? When a child is registered as eligible, the school receives extra Pupil Premium funding. This isn't a payment to families, but it helps schools provide additional support, resources and opportunities that benefit children's learning and wellbeing.

Why registering matters

- It helps schools invest more in teaching, support and enrichment
- Your child may be entitled to a free, healthy school meal each day
- Registration is confidential and does not affect other benefits
- Even if your child brings a packed lunch, the school still benefits from the funding

Children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 already receive a free school meal. Even so, registering is still important if you are eligible, as it allows schools to access this additional funding.

Could your child be eligible?

Many families are eligible and don't realise it — including some who are in work or whose circumstances have changed. Eligibility isn't based on employment alone. If you receive certain benefits, your child may qualify for Free School Meals. These can include benefits such as Income Support, income-based Jobseeker's Allowance, income-related Employment and Support Allowance, the guaranteed element of Pension Credit, Child Tax Credit (with low household income), and Universal Credit (under current criteria), among others.

You can check if your child qualifies and apply online here: <https://www.gov.uk/apply-free-school-meals>

How to register

Registering is quick and straightforward through your local authority.

👉 Apply for Free School Meals (Nottinghamshire):
<https://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/education/school-meals/free-school-meals-and-milk>

If you're unsure whether you qualify or need help with the form, please get in touch — we're happy to help.

One small step — a bigger impact

By registering, you're helping ensure that schools can continue to provide the best possible support for all children.

Family Hub Highlights for Local Families

The Rushcliffe Family Hub offers free, confidential support for parents and carers. Families in Keyworth can access a range of advice, groups and drop-ins without a referral.

Family Support Drop-In – Keyworth

A friendly, informal session where parents and carers can talk to Family Hub staff about everyday concerns such as behaviour, routines, toileting, emotional wellbeing, and speech and language development.

Keyworth Library, Church Drive (NG12 5FF)

- Thursday 12 February
- Thursday 19 March

10.30–11.30am

No appointment needed – just turn up.

Baby Weighing Sessions – Keyworth

Monthly baby self-weigh sessions are available locally, offering reassurance and the chance to ask questions in a relaxed setting.

Keyworth Health Centre

- Monday 9 February
- Monday 9 March

1.30–2.30pm

Supporting Reading at Home – Free Group from January

From January 2026, families can access a free, friendly reading group for parents who enjoy children's books and would like ideas for supporting reading and storytelling at home.


The launch session takes place on **Thursday 15 January 2026**, with further online sessions running through the spring term. **What Else Can the Family Hub Help With?**

The Family Hub supports families with children aged 0–19, including help with:

- Child development, sleep and behaviour
- Early communication and school readiness
- Feeding, weaning and fussy eating
- Emotional wellbeing and parental confidence
- Parenting courses and targeted support

Families in Keyworth can access local support, and the Hub can also signpost to wider services across Rushcliffe where appropriate.

Contact the Rushcliffe Family Hub:

 0115 977 3749

 FHRushcliffe@nottscc.gov.uk

 www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/care/family-hub-networks

 Search *Family Hub Network – Rushcliffe* on Facebook

Safeguarding Tips for Parents and Carers

Over recent weeks, we have had worrying reports about the use of **in-game chat functions**, particularly on Xbox. These chats can feel casual and hidden to children, but they carry the **same risks as messaging apps**. The platform may look like a game; the behaviour and impact are very real.

This is not an isolated issue. On previous occasions, parents who have checked their child's phone have uncovered **unexpected and concerning content on WhatsApp**. Features such as *disappearing messages* make it harder to spot problems early or address them properly. It is also worth being clear: **WhatsApp's minimum age in the UK is 16**, yet many primary-aged children are using it regularly.

Why does this matter so much?

Unmanaged online messaging can quickly lead to changes in behaviour—fallouts between children, heightened anxiety, and issues that spill into the school day. We want children's time in school to be calm, positive and focused on learning. Experience also tells us that unchecked messaging and in-game chat is one of the **biggest causes of difficulty in secondary schools**. Developing sensible habits now genuinely helps children cope better later.

What we're asking parents to do

Please help by taking a proactive role at home:

- **Regularly check** your child's phone and any in-game chat functions
- **Set clear boundaries** around screen time and access
- **Talk calmly and openly** with your child about respectful, safe online behaviour

These conversations do not need to be confrontational. They do need to be consistent.

Working together makes a real difference. Thank you for your continued support in helping our children stay safe, well and ready to learn.

Dates for your Diary



Monday 19th January- Art Week

Tuesday 20th January- EYFS Library Visit

Tuesday 20th January- FoKPNS Movie Night

Thursday 22nd January- Y2 Trip to Tamworth Castle

Friday 23rd January- Y3 Class Assembly

Monday 26th January- Y5 Library Visit

Tuesday 27th January- Y1 Library Visit

Tuesday 27th January- Y4 Trip to the City Centre

Thursday 29th January- Y3 Library Visit

Tuesday 3rd February- Children's Mental Health Week

Wednesday 4th February- Y3 Trip to Cresswell Crag

Thursday 12th February- Y6 Library Visit

Click on the link for school holiday dates for the next academic year: [Keyworth Primary and Nursery School - Term Dates](#)

A quick update to let you know that all INSET days for the 2025-26 academic year are now on the school calendar and can also be found in the [School Holiday](#) section on the website.