



Dragon's Roar- March - 25/04/26

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to this edition of our school newsletter. As always, we are pleased to share a range of updates, achievements and important information from across the school community.

In this issue, you will find a staffing update, highlights from our fantastic Bikeability sessions, and details about our Reading Awards, with Gold now open. We are also excited to share news about the Book Bus, along with key information regarding national assessments.

You'll find a helpful piece on children's brain development and why everyday talk matters, as well as updates from the Friends of KPNS and important safeguarding tips for parents. We have also included information about local Family Hub highlights and the latest news from South Wolds Academy.

Finally, don't forget to check the dates for your diary so you can stay up to date with upcoming events.

We kindly ask all parents and carers to please refrain from blocking the gates at the back of the school. This entrance must remain clear at all times to allow access for maintenance and emergency vehicles. Your cooperation in helping us keep everyone safe is greatly appreciated.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support.

Warm regards,

Mr Cresswell and Mrs King

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The Keyworth Code





Staffing Update

We would like to share a number of staffing updates with you. Mrs Harris, who joined our school around four years ago, has made the decision to retire from full-time teaching. We are delighted that she hopes to remain in touch and return to support us on a supply basis in the future. We thank her for her dedication and contribution to our school community and wish her every happiness as she enjoys more time travelling and with her family.

Mrs Lees will also be retiring from May. We are very grateful for all that she has given to the school and would like to wish her all the very best for the future.

Finally, Mrs Ahmed, who has recently returned to school, will shortly be beginning her maternity leave. We send her our very best wishes at this exciting time and look forward to welcoming her back in the future.

Brilliant Bikeability!

We are delighted to share that many of our Year 5 pupils have recently completed their Bikeability training. Last week, instructors worked with small groups of children, taking them out and about around Keyworth to develop their confidence and awareness on the roads.

The instructors were full of praise for our pupils, commenting on their excellent behaviour, focus, and growing independence. We are incredibly proud of how well they represented our school.

Well done to all of our Year 5 children who took part on this fantastic achievement - they should feel very proud of themselves as they continue to ride safely in and around Keyworth!



Reading Awards- Gold is Open!



As part of our homework expectations at Keyworth Primary School, we encourage all children to work towards their Bronze, Silver and Gold Reading Awards. Now that we have reached the summer term, our focus is very much on supporting children to achieve their Gold Award, although it is not too late for those who are still working towards their Bronze or Silver. Our overall numbers are slightly lower than in previous years, so we would really value your support at home in encouraging regular reading and helping your child to reach their goal by the end of the academic year. If you need any guidance or support, please do not hesitate to contact your child's class teacher. Thank you.

Please find a reminder of our homework expectations here: [Homework - Keyworth Primary & Nursery School](#)

Information about the Gold Award is here: [Going for GOLD! - Keyworth Primary & Nursery School](#)

The Book Bus!

This week The Book Bus visited school. The children had a great time exploring all the books, and chatting to their friends about some of the texts they had never come across before. As

a school we raised £774 which enabled us to choose a further £125 of books for our school library and children to enjoy in their classrooms. Thank you!



National Assessments

A range of national assessments will take place during the summer term for key year groups. These include:

F2 (Reception):

The progress and achievement of children at the end of Reception are assessed against 17 Early Learning Goals. These assessments are completed in the summer term using observations collected by staff over the course of the year.

Year 1:

Children will take part in the national phonics screening check. This involves reading a list of 40 words using their knowledge of phonics. Any Year 2 children who did not pass the check last year will also retake it. The check will take place over two weeks at the start of June.

Year 4:

Children will complete the national multiplication tables check, which consists of 25 timed questions. This will take place over a two-week period commencing Monday 1st June.

Year 6:

Children will complete statutory national tests in Reading, Mathematics, and Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling. These tests will be held during the week commencing Monday 11th May.

Please ensure that any appointments are not scheduled during these times if your child is involved. If you have any questions, please speak with your child's class teacher.

Positive External Feedback on Our Anti-Bullying Approach



As part of our ongoing work to keep children safe, we recently discussed our anti-bullying policy and practice with Nottinghamshire County Council's Anti-Bullying Coordinator. This professional discussion, based on recent, specific examples at KPNS, provided helpful reassurance that our approach is appropriate and in line with expectations.

While this was not a formal review or inspection, the feedback and discussion was positive and supported our approach. We will, as always, continue to reflect on our practice and work closely with families and external partners to ensure a safe and supportive environment for all pupils.

Children's Brain Development - Why Everyday Talk Matters

You may have seen a recent BBC News post about new research into how children's brains develop.

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/reel/DXT1kiuFEoR/>

Full article:

A Simple, Reassuring Message: Everyday interactions between children and adults really do matter.

Children who experience rich, responsive conversation — where adults listen, respond, and build on what they say — show stronger brain development.

This includes a process called *myelination*, which helps the brain send signals quickly and efficiently.

In simple terms: talk helps the brain work better.

It's the Small Moments

This isn't about doing more.

It's about making the most of what's already there.

Small moments matter:

- A chat on the walk to school
- A conversation at the dinner table
- Following a child's curiosity for a little longer
- Taking time to really listen

These everyday interactions build over time.

A Balanced View on Screens

Screens are not the problem in themselves.

What matters is what they replace.

When screen time becomes high, it can reduce opportunities for conversation, shared attention, and connection — all of which children need for development.

Our Approach in School

In school, we focus on creating the conditions for talk to thrive:

- Prioritising talk, play, and shared attention
- Creating classrooms rich in language and dialogue
- Encouraging children to explain, question, and reflect

- Valuing thinking out loud as part of learning

Supporting This at Home

There's no need for big changes.

Small, consistent habits make the difference:

- Talk during everyday routines
- Ask open questions

(e.g. "What did you enjoy today?")

- Give children time to think and respond
- Show interest in what they say

Every Interaction Counts

It doesn't need to be perfect.

What matters is the pattern over time — small, meaningful exchanges that build connection and understanding.

Thank you for the conversations you are already having with your children.

They matter more than we might realise.

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](#)
- This year we are replacing our annual Summer Fair with a Summer Festival! It will take place on Saturday 13th of June 10-3pm and promises to be a fun and exciting day for the whole family. **Put it in your diaries!!**

- In partnership with the School Council, we are holding a sponsored walk, scoot or ride to school week to raise funds for a new Trim Trail. We will send out more information over the next couple of weeks. Watch this space!
- The Friends of KPNS have arranged something nice for parents! Book onto a Pilates Class hosted by Rise, your local pilates group. See leaflet and make your booking.



NATIONAL WALK TO SCHOOL WEEK

18TH MAY

Raising funds for a **TRIM TRAIL** for our school!


WALK, BIKE, SCOOT TO SCHOOL FOR THE WEEK!

AMAZING PRIZES!

 <p>TOP FUNDRAISER Fantastic prize for our top fundraiser!</p>	 <p>SUPER EFFORT AWARD Recognising amazing effort and determination!</p>	 <p>MOST ACTIVE Awarded to the most active individual!</p>	 <p>WINNING CLASS PRIZE A fantastic prize for the class with the most points raised!</p>
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LET'S WALK, RIDE AND SCOOT OUR WAY TO A HEALTHIER, HAPPIER SCHOOL!

Every step, every ride, every scooter makes a difference!




KEYWORTH
PRIMARY AND NURSERY SCHOOL
Growing together, learning for life

PILATES CLASS

for anyone and everyone

20TH MAY | 7-8PM



ALL MATS AND EQUIPMENT PROVIDED - JUST BRING YOURSELF!

£6 PER PERSON | Book on Arbor by 19th May

HOSTED BY **Rise** YOUR LOCAL PILATES GROUP

Take time for you. Move, breathe, feel good.

Safeguarding Tips for Parents

Helping Children Think Carefully About What They See Online

Children spend a growing amount of time online, and not everything they see is accurate or reliable. A helpful government guide, “**What should you trust online?**”, offers clear advice for families on building children’s confidence and safety online.

A key message is simple: **pause and think before believing or sharing** anything online.

You can support your child by:

- **Talking regularly** about what they see online — even short, weekly chats make a difference.
- **Asking simple questions**, such as: *Who posted this? Why? How does it make you feel?*
- **Looking at apps together**, keeping conversations calm and curious rather than judgemental.
- **Helping them spot warning signs**, such as shocking headlines, emotional content or unknown sources.
- **Explaining how feeds work**, so children understand why they see certain posts more than others.

These small habits build **critical thinking, confidence and resilience** over time.

You can read the full guide here:

 <https://kidsonlinesafety.campaign.gov.uk/online-content/>

Open, regular conversations are one of the most powerful ways to keep children safe online.


Family Hub Highlights for Local Families

Family Hub Support for Keyworth Families

The Rushcliffe Family Hub offers free, confidential support for parents and carers. You do not need a referral, and families can access help early — whether you have a quick question or would benefit from ongoing support.


Local Support in Keyworth

Family Hub Drop-In and Baby Self-Weigh – Keyworth Health Centre

 **Monday 11 May 2026**

 **Monday 8 June 2026**

 **Monday 13 July 2026**


 **1.30–2.30pm**


- Speak with Family Hub staff about:behaviour and routinesfeeding and sleepemotional wellbeing
- Baby weighing available at the same session
- No referral needed — just attend

Support Available Nearby

Many Keyworth families also access sessions in nearby towns.

Under 5s Stay & Play – East Leake

 Tuesdays (term time)


 9.45–11.00am

 Lantern Lane School, East Leake

- Play-based learning for young children
- Opportunity to meet other families
- No booking required


Under 5s Stay & Play – Bingham Family Hub


 Thursdays (term time)

 10.00–11.30am

 Bingham Family Hub

Under 1s Group – Bingham Family Hub

 Tuesdays (term time)

 10.00–11.30am

 Bingham Family Hub

- Support for parents with babies
- Advice and reassurance in a relaxed setting

Breastfeeding Support (B.A.B.E.S Groups)


- **East Leake** – Tuesdays, 9.45–11.00am
- **Bingham** – Thursdays, 10.00–11.30am
- **West Bridgford** – Wednesdays, 1.30–2.30pm
- Friendly, non-judgemental support
- Peer support and guidance available

What the Family Hub Can Help With

Support is available for families with children aged **0–19**, including:

- Child development and communication
- Behaviour, routines and sleep
- Emotional wellbeing
- Feeding and early years support
- Parenting confidence and courses
- Help accessing wider services
- Families can: attend a session contact the team directly request support online

Contact the Rushcliffe Family Hub

 0115 977 3749

 FHRushcliffe@nottsc.gov.uk

 <https://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/care/family-hub-networks>

 Search **Family Hub Network – Rushcliffe** on Facebook

Even a short conversation can help you find the right support for your family.

News from South Wolds Academy



Click here for their latest Newsletter: [Newsletter Edition 26](#)

Dates for your Diary



Monday 27th April-Year 2 Class Assembly at 3pm.

Tuesday 28th April- Y5 Trip to Lings Lane (During Geography Lesson)

Tuesday 28th April- EYFS Library/ Local Area Walk

Tuesday 5th May- Y1 Library Visit

Thursday 7th May- Y3 Library Visit

Friday 8th May- Y3 and Y4 Trip to Perlethorpe

Monday 11th May- Y6 SATs Week

Tuesday 19th May- KPNS Musical Showcase

Wednesday 20th May- EYFS Story Cafe

Monday 25th May- Friday 29th of May-HALF TERM

Monday 1st June- Back to School

Tuesday 2nd June- Y2 Library Visit

Friday 5th June- Y6 Bikeability session start

Monday 8th June- Y5 Library Visit

Wednesday 10th-12th June- Y6 Residential to The Mill

Saturday 13th June- KPNS Summer Festival (Summer Fair)

Monday 15th- 19th June- Healthy Living and Sports Week (Children in PE Kit all week)

Friday 19th June- Sports Day (9:15- 11:30ish) for Years 1-6

Monday 22nd June- INSET DAY (School closed to pupils)

Tuesday 23rd June- Class Photos

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.