



Year One Newsletter Term 1

Welcome message

We hope you and your child have enjoyed a restful summer and have recharged the batteries. The first few days of the year at Kingfisher are all about settling in, renewing and forming friendships and getting to know routines and expectations.

Moving year groups and having a new teacher is a big transition, hopefully our discovery days have made that change easier. This newsletter will give you some key information about the term ahead.

We will be learning about friendship and working together as community as well as celebrating our similarities and differences. Our learning will be a mixture of small group work, paired and individual as well as teacher guided focus groups. Through our provision we will be able to practice our skills and apply them in different contexts to maximise our learning opportunities.

We look forward to getting to know you all better. If you have any questions regarding the information in this newsletter, or other more general queries, please don't hesitate to talk to us.

Thank you,

The Year One Team



Don't forget to follow us on...



@KingfisherCE



Kingfisherceacademy



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CE ACADEMY

"Discovering and Learning Together, so all can Flourish".

'A tree planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in season' (Psalm 1:3)

Wisdom – Hope – Service – Resilience



Wichelstowe Trinity
Learning Campus

LIFE IN ALL ITS FULLNESS

Term dates



Kingfisher CE Academy

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TERM 1 EVENTS

01/9/26

INSET DAY 1 – Staff Training

02/9/26

INSET DAY 2 – Staff Training

03/9/26

Term starts for all children

07/9/26

African Drumming starts for Y1

10/9/26

Child of Hope Visit – Lucy Swift

15/9/26

Meet the Teacher 3.30pm Todd Stanton
Class- In classroom

16/9/26

Meet the Teacher 3.30pm – In classrooms

21/9/26

Individual School Photos

22/9/26

School Tours start for Rec Sept 2027

22/9/26

Phonics & Reading workshop 9am – Parents

23/9/26

Year 4&5 – Stonehenge Trip



Term dates



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TERM 1 EVENTS

25/9/26

MacMillan Coffee Afternoon 2.30pm – Parents

29/9/26

Flu Immunisations

30/9/26

Year 2 & 3 – Living Rainforest Trip

10/26

Year 1 Local walk – date to be confirmed

01/10/25

Maths workshop – Parents 9am

07/10/25

Pops Meetings – Individual booking

16/10/26

Relative Read – 3pm to 3.15pm whole school

16/10/25

Times tables Rockstarts Day KS2 – Dress up

20/10/26

Open Classrooms – 3.15pm to 4pm

22/10/26

Harvest Assembly 2.15pm – Parents

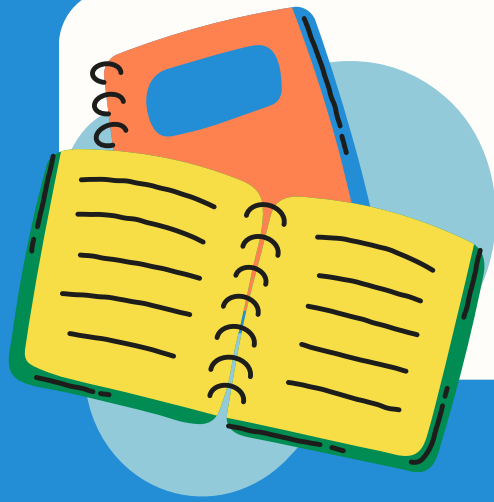
22/10/26

End of Term for children – 3.15pm close

23/10/26

INSET DAY 3 – Staff Training





Beginning and end of the school day.

Please remember school begins at 8.45 am. This is when children begin their learning. Please be on time. The classroom and hall doors will then be shut and the playground gate locked at 8.55 am. This is to safeguard all our children.

Pick up is at 3.15 pm from the classroom door.

If someone else is picking up, please inform the class teacher on the door in the morning or the school office during the day. If it is someone not known to us, you will be asked to set up a password so the teacher on the door knows that this is the agreed pick up. We will not let children go with an unknown adult or with a known adult without prior knowledge of the arrangement. This is of course to safeguard our children.

We are a mobile free zone. We would appreciate all phones to be switched off or put away on the playground. Please greet your child with a smile and not your phone. We know from many years experience that asking how their day was or asking what they did today, is usually met with Ok, I don't know or similar. At the end of the day we have a Five to Flourish discussion when we ask them to think of things they are proud of, they have learned, something that links to our values of embracing hope, building resilience, developing wisdom and choosing service. This may help you have a more productive conversation.



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What you will need...

P.E.

Zommer Class PE will be on a **Wednesday** and a **Thursday**.

Please send your child to school with their PE kit on. Please remember our PE uniform is a white polo shirt, navy/black shorts or trousers and plain trainers or daps. A Kingfisher logoed sweater or non logoed blue sweater is also essential.

They will be in this all day, so please ensure it is weather appropriate.



Outdoor learning

We have a large outdoor area and although some of it is under cover not all of it is, we will be using this area for learning throughout the week, please make sure that children always bring a coat so we can get outside. If they have a spare set of wellies that could be left in school, this would be useful. A coat with a hood is much better than an umbrella.



PLEASE LABEL EVERYTHING!

Meet the Teacher

About Me

Hi! My name is Mrs Connell, and I am your teacher. I've been teaching for 27 years and love teaching at Kingfisher. Outside of school my favourite things to do are going for long walks, looking at insects and birds, and paddle boarding especially on the sea. I also love Lego and reading. I have two children, Eime who is 15 and Theo who is 12. I love to use books in all different subjects to help our learning.

A bit about me!

favourite colour: **green**

favourite animal: **bumblebee**

favourite drink: **hot chocolate**

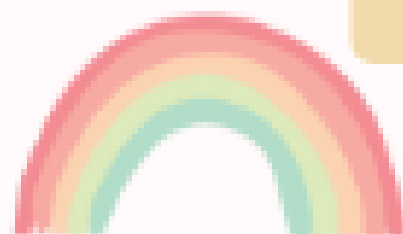
favourite subject: **Geography**



All our classes at Kingfisher CE Academy are named after authors.

Our class is named after Yvael Zommer. He has written and illustrated lots of information books as well as story books and has won awards for his writing.

Our class book is called *The Wild*. It is about our world and how we need to show resilience and use our wisdom. Yvael Zommer has written and illustrated lots of other books too which we will be reading in Term 1.



Termly Overview



Each term we will send you an overview of our learning in each area of the curriculum. You can also find it on the website. It looks like this:



Our focus in term 1 will be on Psalm 1:3 and what that means to us at Kingfisher. We will also be learning about all four of our values and how they align with this Psalm.

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Reading



We are committed as a school to ensuring all children develop the skills they need to read independently and have access to life long learning.

Our team believe in ensuring all children find themselves represented in books. We aim to expose our children to high quality, award winning and diverse literature. Our Class names are chosen carefully to represent a diverse range of authors and to build your child's library at home as the progress through Kingfisher.

Book change days

MONDAY - Your child will bring home a sharing book which they choose from our class libraries. Every **Monday** one child in each class will also bring home the Book Club Scrapbook, they can use this to choose a book they would like to recommend, draw a picture of the front cover, write about why they recommend it etc. This will then be shared in Book Club the following Monday before someone else will take it home.

THURSDAY - Your child will bring home a Little Wandle Reading book every **Thursday**, phonically matched to their phonic ability after they have read it three times in class.

Please ensure both books are in your child's book bags for **Monday** to be collected in.

This term's focus books

Author of the Term -

Yuval Zommer



Writing Unit theme

Heroic Deeds

Billy and the Beast by Nadia Shireen

Leo and the Octopus by Isabelle Marinov

Wider Curriculum Books

Science -Materials & Autumn

Geography - books about maps, places

Art - Clay and Colour

How you can help at home

Share books that your children bring home from school.

Read any books you have at home.

Read recipes, magazines, print in the environment.

Ask teachers for Book Recommendations for children.

Join a library - Wroughton is very friendly!

Watch CBeebies bedtime stories.

Let your children see you reading!

Ask Mrs Connell for Book Recommendations for adults.

Phonics



We will continue learning phonics using Little Wandle which is the phonics and reading scheme at Kingfisher. Children are assessed every six weeks and this is used to ensure they are taught what they need next. This means there are different groups across the Key Stage. We will start by consolidating their Phase 3 & 4 graphemes, decodeable words and tricky words before moving onto learning Phase 5

Grow the code grapheme mat Phase 2, 3 and 5

S	t	p	n	m	d	g	c	r	h
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se	ce	st	sc						
b	f	l	j	v	w	x	y	z	qu
bb	ff	ll	jj	vv	ww	xx	yy	zz	qu
ch	sh	th	ng	nk	a	e	i	o	u
ch	sh	th	ng	nk	a	e	i	o	u
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Grow the code grapheme mat Phase 2, 3 and 5

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eigh	e-e	i-e	ou	ew	u-e	u	a
aigh	ie	y	oe	ou	ew	u	a
ey	ey		ow	ui			
ea							
or	ur	ow	oi	ear	air	zh	
aw	er	ou	oy	ere	are	su	
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Phonics vs sharing books

Your child will bring home a book for pleasure on a **Monday** which you can share together. Do not worry if they cannot read this independently, it will not be phonically matched but is their choice and is to foster reading for pleasure. There is a lot of research that shows the importance of sharing books and bonding. Enjoy it! They will also bring home a book matched to their phonics ability on a **Thursday**. They will have read this in Reading Practice groups so should be able to read it fairly fluently - this is a great opportunity for them to show off their progress to you.

There are questions in the back of the book that you can discuss with them too.

How you can help at home

Ask children to spot the digraphs in a word.

If they ask how to spell a word ask them what phoneme they can hear first, next etc and ask them to write a grapheme for each phoneme.

Ask your child about the books they are reading, read with them, let them see you reading.

Christian Authenticity



In Collective Worship...



In our Values assembly on Mondays, we will be learning about psalm 1:3 and think about how our values are reflected in this and what this means for us as Christians. We always start by welcoming God, then we listen and respond before singing and having a reflection.

On Tuesday we have a assembly with our Chaplain, Owen, in our Chapel. He uses a resource that has been especially written for KSI and is the next in the series from Jack in the Box which they loved in Reception. Each assembly follows the familiar pattern: Welcome, Learn, Reflect, Respond and as Oscar the Owl 'flies' out of the box he invites children to become involved in each part of the worship journey.

On Wednesday we have a Class Worship – following the same pattern linking a bible story to the book/story from Monday's assembly.

Thursday is a Singing Assembly, learning and worshipping through song, as well as learning songs for events and performances.

Our Friday Celebration Assembly celebrates the learning both inside and outside of school. It's a time for recognition and celebration of our brilliant Kingfishers.



We are maintaining our relationships with the community at the Child of Hope school in Uganda. We have our Child of Hope Visit from Lucy Swift this term.

Each class will write letters to the children in their matching age class. We are sending them a book of our class author, lots of reading books and our class photo.

We are looking forward to receiving letters back from our class friends in Uganda. Later on in the Year we will have a day of activities to grow our links further.



Festivals

Later in the term we will be celebrating the festival of Harvest. We will be holding a whole school Harvest Festival Assembly. Please come along to support and celebrate with us!





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Our Kingfisher team

There are lots of people who are part of our extended Kingfisher family. You and your children may see them around the campus.

Senior Leadership Team



Ms. Bishop (Headteacher and Designated Safeguarding Lead)



Miss Telling (Deputy Headteacher, SENCO and Designated Safeguarding Lead)



Mrs Bishop (Campus Co-ordinator)

Our EYFS Teaching Team



Miss Watts
(Deputy Nursery Manager)



Mrs Pickford
Reception Teacher & EYFS Lead

Our Key Stage 1 Teaching Team



Mrs Connell
(Year 1 teacher)



Miss Allan
(Year 2 teacher)

Miss Coe and Mrs B will work across the school covering classes.



Miss Coe
(Higher Level Teaching Assistant)

Our Key Stage 2 Teaching Team



Miss Dixon
(Year 3 teacher)



Miss Telling
(Year 3 teacher) Th/F M/T/W



Miss Small
(Year 3 teacher)



Mrs B
(Senior Teaching Assistant)



Mrs Shelley
(Year 4/5 teacher)



Miss Chalcraft
(Year 4/5 teacher)

Our Kingfisher team

Our Support Staff

We are lucky to be supported by a wonderful team across the school.

Our Teaching Assistants



Bianca



Miss Sara



Mrs Brown



Sam Engley



Miss McComb



Mrs Shim



Mrs Cox



Mrs Jordan

Admin Team

Our Kingfisher Admin will be front of house to answer your questions and provide you with support:



Mrs Wright



Mrs Ryan

Our Chaplain



Owen leads a Collective Worship assembly each week. He also works with us across the school.

Reverend Owen Green

Safeguarding



Worried about a Child?

If you have a concern about the safety or well-being of a child, please speak to one of our safeguarding team. In this school this is:-



Sharon Bishop
Designated
Safeguarding Lead



Sally Telling
Deputy Designated
Safeguarding Lead



Natalie O'Donnell
Deputy Designated
Safeguarding Lead



Hannah Baddeley
Deputy Designated
& Online safety
Safeguarding Lead



The Park
Academies
Trust



Please contact 'Children and Families Contact Swindon' if you are concerned about a child.

E-mail: Childrenandfamiliescontact@swindon.gov.uk

Telephone: 01793 464646

8.30am to 4.40pm Monday to Thursday 8.30am to 4.00pm Friday

The Emergency Duty Service (EDS) is available outside office hours on

01793 436699

If you think that a child is in immediate danger, please ring 999 and speak to the police.

