



Year Three 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.

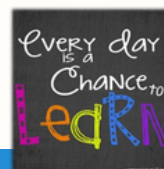
Moving year groups and having a new teacher is a big transition, hopefully our discovery days have made that change easier. This newsletter will give you some key information about the term ahead.

It has been lovely to see the children return to school with such enthusiasm, energy and big smiles. Through our curriculum we will be able to practice our existing skills and apply them in different contexts to maximise our learning opportunities and learn lots of new things. We are excited about all the learning, opportunities and experiences we have planned for the coming weeks.

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 Three 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

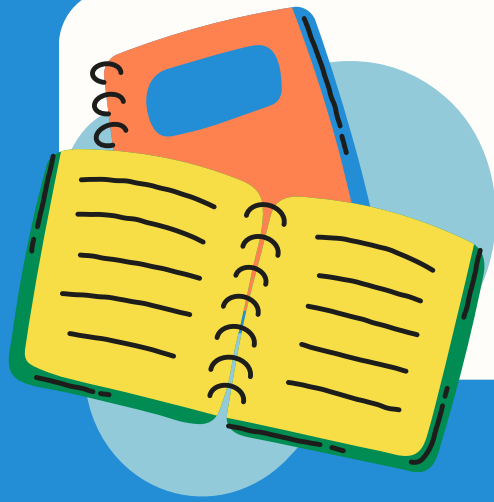
22/10/26

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 entrance 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 doors at end of the building by Nursery.

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.

Tsang Class and Todd-Stanton Class both have PE on a **Monday** and a **Friday**.

Please send your child to school with their PE kit on. Please remember our PE uniform is a white polo shirt/ Kingfisher PE top 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!



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Meet the Teacher



About Me

Hi! My name is Miss Telling, and I have been teaching for 16 years. I firmly believe in the power of discovering and learning through play.

I enjoy making learning fun and helping build children's skills.

I am looking forward to following the children upstairs to Key Stage 2.

I am also passionate about books and helping our children develop a love of reading. I am excited for the longer and more diverse texts we will be sharing this year.

A bit about me!

Favourite colour: pink

Favourite animal: giraffe



Favourite drink: a cup of tea!



Favourite subject: Reading



Our Class Author

All our classes are named after authors.

Ours is named after Kevin and Katie Tsang. They are bestselling and award-winning children's authors.



Our class book is called Dragon Mountain.

It was shortlisted for the Sainsbury's Children's Book Award, the Children's Book of the Year (British Book Awards) and longlisted for the Blue Peter Book Award. It is the first of five books in the Dragon Realm series and is perfect for those who love fantasy, magic, adventure and **DRAGONS!** I hope you enjoy your copy.



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Meet the Teacher

About Me

Hello! My name is Mrs Dixon and I've been teaching for 9 years. I have wanted to be a teacher since I was 8 years old. I love to teach younger children because everything is so magical, exciting and they make amazing steps of learning in just a short time! These early years are crucial and the key to life long learning!

I live at home with Mr Dixon, my black fluffy cat Eve and my baby girl Hayley. I love to cook and go on nice days out with my family where I can enjoy a yummy slice of cake after a walk.

A bit about me!

Favourite colour: pink, yellow and blue

Favourite animal: Cats

Favourite drink: a cup of tea (with a biscuit or slice of cake!)

Favourite subject: Art



Our Class Author

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Meet the Teacher

About Me

Hi! My name is Miss Small and I am a Year 3 teacher. Our children are seven and eight years old.

I am excited to start my second year of teaching here at Kingfisher. My goal is to inspire a love for learning in every child by incorporating their interests into our lessons in fun and engaging ways.

When I am not teaching, I relax through reading or being creative with my scrapbook! I also love to spend time with my family and my dog, Charlie.

A bit about me!

Favourite colour: blue

Favourite animal: seahorse

Favourite drink: cup of tea

Favourite subject: RE and History



Our Class Author

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

My class is named after Joe Todd-Stanton. He is a British children's book author and illustrator best known for his Brownstone's Mythical Collection series and award-winning picture books.

Our class book is called The Lost Robot. It is a picture book with a beautiful message about loving yourself and knowing there is always a place where you belong. I hope you enjoy sharing your copy of it!



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:



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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.

Discovering and Learning Together, so all can Flourish.

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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 or free reader book. They can read this at home to increase their fluency and confidence.

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

This term's focus books

Author of the Term -

Kevin and Katie Tsang



Writing Unit theme

From mystery to discovery

The Mysteries of Harris Burdick -

Chris Van Allsburg

How to Live Forever - Colin Thompson



Wider Curriculum Books

Science - Forces

History - Ancient Egyptians

Art - Painting - Van Gogh

Religion and Worldviews - What is it like to follow God?

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 and spelling



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 knowledge of alternatives in Phase 5 and then move on to spelling rules.

Grow the code grapheme mat Phase 2, 3 and 5

S	t	p	n	m	d	g	c	r	h
ss	tt	pp	nn	mm	dd	gg	ck	rr	h
c			kn	mb			cc	wr	
se			gn				ch		
st									
sc									
b	f	l	j	v	w	x	y	z	qu
bb	ff	ll	gg	vv	wh			zz	
	ph	le	dge	ve				s	
		al	ge					se	
								ze	
ch	sh	th	ng	nk	a	e	i	o	u
tch	ch				ea	y	a	o-e	ou
ture	ti								
	ssi								
	si								
	ci								

Grow the code grapheme mat Phase 2, 3 and 5

ai	ee	igh	oa	oo	yoo	oo	ar
ay	ea	ie	o	ue	ue	u*	a*
a	e	i	o-e	u-e	u	oul	al*
a-e	e-e	i-e	ou	ew	u-e		
eigh	ie	y	oe	ou	ew		
aigh	ey		ow	ui			
ey							
ea							
or	ur	ow	oi	ear	air	zh	
aw	er	ou	oy	ere	are	su	
au	ir			eer	ere	si	
aur	or				ear		
oor							
al							
a							
oar							
ore							

Our spelling scheme Magic Spell, is a fully planned and resourced spelling programme for KS2. It is aligned to the statutory requirements of the National Curriculum and follows on from any phonics programme and builds and embeds phonic knowledge. It uses a consistent structure for each lesson.

Lesson 1 & 2 includes:

Review - recaps prior learning

Teach and practise - teaches new learning

Practise and apply - pupils practise new learning through planned activity

Revise - A reminder of key strategies taught in the lesson

Lesson 3 includes:

Review spellings - 10 word spelling 'test' of words containing the spelling learning of the previous two lessons.

Dictation - pupils write two dictated sentences.

Read the sentence - pupils fluently read the sentence, discussing words with the weekly learning and adding prosody.

Reading



Reading comprehension skills:

Pupils should be taught to understand what they read by:

- Listening to and discussing a wide range of fiction, poetry, plays, non-fiction and reference books or textbooks
- Reading books that are structured in different ways and reading for a range of purposes
- Using dictionaries to check the meaning of words that they have read
- Increasing their familiarity with a wide range of books, including fairy stories, myths and legends, and retelling some of these orally
- Identifying themes and conventions in a wide range of books
- Preparing poems and play scripts to read aloud and to perform, showing understanding through intonation, tone, volume and action
- Discussing words and phrases that capture the reader's interest and imagination
- Recognising some different forms of poetry

See the content coverage for our Reading units.

See the content coverage for our Reading units.

Sessions	2a	2b	2c	2d	2e	2f	2g	2h
	Give/explain the meaning of words in context	Retrieve and record information /identify key details from fiction and non-fiction	Summarise main ideas from more than one paragraph	Make inferences from the text/explain and justify inferences with evidence from the text	Predict what might happen from details stated and implied	Identify /explain how information / narrative content is related and contributes to meaning as whole	Identify/ explain how meaning is enhanced through choice of words and phrases	Make comparisons within the text

How you can help at home

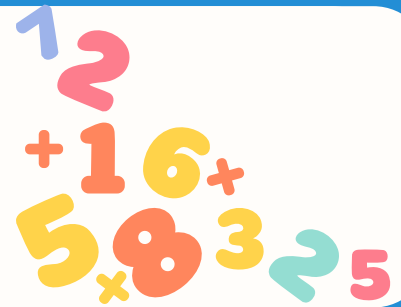
Check that the text makes sense to them.

Ask questions to improve their understanding.

Encourage them to make predictions about what might happen next.

Discuss the book with your child.

Maths- arithmetic



This term we will be continuing Arithmetic sessions, these are in addition to our daily maths lesson and aim to increase fluency and rapid recall of number facts, consolidate the accuracy of calculation methods and help cement facts around the properties of shape. These sessions help keep skills in focus when we move through different units. We all know that if we don't practice we forget!

These quick 15 minute sessions are practical and whiteboard based, There are 3 main areas we focus on; Times tables, Key knowledge (such as shape) and Calculation Methods. We use songs, manipulatives and patterns to build times tables, quick recognition tasks to help cement shape knowledge e.g which shapes are hexagons.? We use the I do, We do You do structure to model practice and apply calculation methods and finally quick recall, draw it and recognition tasks to help cement shape knowledge e.g which shapes are hexagons.?

MAKE IT

Using the cubes, make:

$3 \times 5 =$

$6 \times 5 =$

$4 \times 5 =$

$8 \times 5 =$



KEY SKILL 1

What is an 8 sided shape called?

Can you draw an eight sided regular shape? Use a ruler!

KEY SKILL 1

On Whiteboards answer these questions:

Q1. Tick the pentagons.



Q2. True or False...?

A pentagon has 5 sides and 4 vertices.

Q3. True or False...?

A pentagon always has 6 equal sides.



SUBTRACTION WITHOUT EXCHANGE

I DO...

$87 - 54 =$

$$\begin{array}{r} 87 \\ - 54 \\ \hline \end{array}$$



How you can help at home

Times table songs are a really good way of helping children retain facts.

Websites like Topmarks have some great games like;

Hit the button

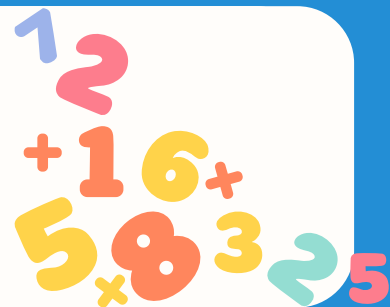
<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/hit-the-button>

and Daily 10

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/daily10> games



Maths- Times table practice



Each week, the children will be coming home with a homework book to complete weekly times table practice. This will be given at the beginning of the week and will be due in on a Monday. We will go through the homework every week. Miss Baddeley will offer 1 lunch time a week to any children who need to complete this during the school day. This is available to all children.

This homework is to prepare Year 3 and 4 children for the standardised times table test that occurs in Year 4.

Times Table Homework- Week 1

1) Complete the grid. Try not to use anything to help you. OR if you need something, try and use it less and less as the weeks progress.

2) Bring it in on a Monday and we will mark it together.

3) When you are finished, go onto TTRockstars and challenge yourself. Can you get quicker? Can you challenge a friend?

x	2	5	10	3	4	8
1						
5						
4						
8						
9						
11						
10						
2						
3						
6						
7						

How you can help at home

Encourage your child to do this independently where possible.

When they are confident, provide additional challenge by adding a time restriction.

Can they complete it in different ways? All rows or all columns.

Can they do the inverse? $4 \times 3 = 12$ $12 \div 3 = ?$

Termly Homework

Your child will get sent a homework grid at the beginning of each term and you will find a copy of our optional homework grid on the website. Although it is optional, we do encourage children to try at least one activity a term.

The homework is linked to our class learning and offers children a chance to Dive deeper into their learning.

As the children progress through KS2, homework will increase in preparation for their transition to secondary school.



Year 3 - Homework Activities
Choose 1 activity to complete each week. These activities are optional but it would be great to share some of their home learning at the end of the term.

This term's value: Psalm 1:3
• Create a piece of artwork inspired by the verse.
• Create a poem linking to Psalm 1:3.
• Share with someone what we say as part of our collective worship and what it means.

Reading & Writing	We are Authors!	Our class animal is a bat. Write your own story or comic strip about a bat.	Visit your local library. Can you find any books written by our class author? What other dragon books can you find?
Communication and Language	We are Linguists & Communicators!	Retell a simple story from memory.	Practice greeting someone in French. Practice the phrases 'hello', 'how are you?', 'my name is...', and 'goodbye'.
Maths	We are Mathematicians!	Can you use sticks and stones to represent the place value of some 2-digit numbers? Challenge yourself to create some 3-digit numbers.	Practice your 2, 5 and 10 times table. Find objects around the house and place them in groups of 2. 3 groups of 2 = 6 $3 \times 2 = 6$
Understanding the world (Geography & History)	We are Historians & Geographers!	Research Ancient Egypt and create a poster, presentation, leaflet or book.	Build a model inspired by Ancient Egypt.
Expressive arts and design (Art & Music)	We are Artists & Musicians!	Use different materials at home (pencils, pens, washing up liquid, paint, water on outdoor walls or fences) to create an abstract movement picture inspired by Jackson Pollock.	Listen to a classical piece of music and a modern piece of music and compare them. What do you hear? What is the same? What is different?
STEM (Science & DT)	We are Scientists & Engineers!	Go on a forces hunt- Can you find examples of push, pull, friction, gravity.	Be a scientist: can you investigate forces? Drop a light and heavy object, which one will land first? Can you draw a diagram with labels? Are bigger items always heavier? Share with someone what you noticed.
Living in the wider world (RE & PSHE)	We are Citizens and Role Models!	Go to a local church and draw what you see on the outside and inside. Why might these things be important?	Create a picture book about friendship.

How you can help at home

Encourage them to try things they haven't completed before or activities they are less confident in.

Be present if your child needs you and encourage independence where you can.

Use the grid to talk to your child about their learning in the classroom. It can be a useful tool.

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 KS2 Fruits and Roots. Each assembly follows the familiar pattern: Welcome, Learn, Reflect, Respond.

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)

Our Key Stage 2 Teaching Team



Miss Dixon
(Year 3 teacher)
M/T/W



Miss Telling
(Year 3 teacher) Th/F



Miss Small
(Year 3 teacher)

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



Miss Coe
(Higher Level Teaching Assistant)



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.

