Newsletter

Friday 6th February 2026

Dear Parents/Carers,

I would like to start off with a huge thank you for your support and making the school what it is. It was lovely to see so many of you at the grammar workshop and being so engaged, in the hall, in the classroom and in the playground. We think that is the most parents we have ever had to a workshop. Let's hope that enthusiasm and sense of community is replicated in volunteers for KingsleaFest!

This half-term has been full of fantastic achievements. The children have impressed us with their enthusiasm for learning—be it in reading, maths, art or music. In our Monday whole school assembly, it has been lovely to see children awarded Star of the Week for demonstrating the Core 4 of respect, perseverance, collaboration and creativity. We recently introduced our Star of the Week lunch hall table, as demonstrated by myself and Mrs Barrett. For those children who are Star of the Week, they can sit on our specially decorated table and choose a friend to sit with them.

We would also like to congratulate our pupils who have represented Kingslea in sporting events, showing excellent teamwork and sportsmanship, as well the 46 children who represented the school at the Young Voices concert at the O2.

Everyday I visit every classroom, often multiple times and it's been lovely to see Reception exploring stories and developing their independence through imaginative play. In Year 1 the children have loved making different forms of maps of the Great Fire of London. Year 2 children have enjoyed developing their writing skills and baking Lamingtons. In Year 3 and Year 4 children have been deepening their understanding across the curriculum, particularly with their learning journeys and science work and in Year 5 and Year 6 children have shown great maturity as they tackle more challenging learning and work collaboratively with increasing independence.

It really has been wonderful to see the enthusiasm and curiosity that our children bring to their learning every day.

I would like to say a big thank you to you, for your continued support with attendance and punctuality. Regular attendance makes a real difference to children's confidence, friendships and learning, and we truly appreciate the commitment of our families in supporting this.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank our dedicated staff team for their continued hard work and commitment to the children of Kingslea. Our staff continuously go above and beyond to support pupils, families and colleagues. Their efforts do not go unnoticed and are greatly appreciated.

Thank you, as always, for being such a supportive and positive school community.

Kind regards, Alexis Conway and the Kingslea Team.

Sports Update

Pupils have shown outstanding commitment and enthusiasm in school sport during Autumn Term 2 and Spring Term 1, representing the school with pride while demonstrating our Core 4 values of respect, creativity, perseverance and collaboration.

Our girls' football team displayed excellent teamwork and tenacity, finishing third in a highly competitive event. Netball also brought fantastic success, with pupils working collaboratively to achieve first place in the first phase of the mixed netball competition.

Our New Age Kurling Team won the 'Spirit of the Games' at the Millais competition. A great team effort.

In the hockey league, pupils showed will power and respect for both teammates and opponents, with our two teams finishing in second and eighth place overall. These performances highlighted strong skill development and resilience across the event.

Indoor Athletics has seen standout performances from both our Year 5 and Year 6 teams with the teams finishing in first place and second place in their respective events. Both teams were hugely impressive, demonstrating endurance, focus and a positive team spirit throughout their events.

Our table tennis teams competed with confidence and creativity, with four teams filling the third to sixth places in their competition. In dodgeball, pupils showed great collaboration and sportsmanship, finishing ninth and tenth out of thirteen teams.

Other Notable Achievements

One particular highlight this year was the Year 5 & 6 football team qualifying for the County Football Finals in Lancing for the first time in many years—a fantastic achievement that reflects the continued growth of sport at Kingslea.

We are also incredibly proud of our two boys and one girl who competed in the Regional Table Tennis Finals. An exceptional performance from Polly (Year 5) which saw her win the regional event, means she will now progress to the National Finals in April — an outstanding accomplishment that showcases dedication and determination.

Well done to all pupils who took part in sporting events over the past 12 weeks. Their efforts, positive attitudes and commitment to our Core 4 values continue to make us proud and we look forward to even more sporting success ahead.

Numbots / Times Tables Rockstars / MyMaths — Why we use these sites

At Kingslea, we aim to keep home learning to a minimum, preferring quality over quantity. Reading is the most important activity we expect children to engage with at home. Our online learning comes second to that. We use the three online sites for a few reasons.

Practice — these sites don't teach children anything new; instead, they consolidate learning which has already happened in school.

Personalisation — unlike our curriculum, the practice questions children encounter on Numbots and TTRockstars are unique to each child, aiming to build their recall at their individual level.

Speed — Numbots and TTRockstars help to build automaticity in the core foundational knowledge of simple addition/subtraction and times tables. Many future maths concepts depend on this knowledge, so the earlier children can master these skills, the less they will have to process as maths becomes harder.

A note on Numbots — while the Numbots Story has a beginning and an end, we wouldn't expect children to finish the story until Year 3, so please don't feel children need to race through. In fact, taking their time to consolidate current learning is preferable to speeding ahead to unlearned concepts. By the end of Year 1, we'd expect children to be on Glass; by the end of Year 2, we'd expect children to be on Bronze.

Kingslea Choir Shine at the O2 with Young Voices

The Kingslea School Choir had an unforgettable experience last month when they travelled to the O2 Arena to take part in the spectacular Young Voices concert, performing alongside an incredible 9,000 other children from schools across the country.

It was a very long day, but one filled with excitement, music and unforgettable memories. The choir arrived at the O2 at around 1.00pm**,** where everyone enjoyed lunch, settled into their seats and prepared for the afternoon ahead. This was followed by an impressive three-hour rehearsal, giving the children the chance to practise with the full choir, live band and professional soloists in one of the world's most famous venues.

As evening arrived, the atmosphere inside the arena was electric. Singing as part of such a huge choir was an amazing experience and the children rose to the challenge brilliantly, performing with energy, confidence and huge smiles.

We eventually returned home very late**,** with tired voices and sleepy eyes — but most importantly, happy faces**.** The day was a fantastic opportunity for our children to be part of something truly special and to experience the joy of making music on a grand scale.

Very well done to all the children who took part — you were wonderful ambassadors for Kingslea School and we are incredibly proud of you! And thank you to all the school adults who prepared the children for the event and accompanied them to the O2.

House Captains

Congratulations to our Spring Term House Captains who have been elected by their Year 6 peers.

Representing Griffins we have Owen and Sophie, for Dragons, Adriano and Eliza, for Unicorns Leo and Freddie, and Hadley and Lola will represent Phoenix this term. All our potential House Captains presented to the rest of the year group as to explain why they would make a good representative for their house, before the lucky eight were selected by their peers. Our elected House Captains introduced themselves to the rest of the school at our Monday assembly. Duties include counting the house points every Friday and redistributing the tokens to classrooms. They will also be helping at Parents' Evening, where they will be welcoming you into the school, helping at the Book Fair and the nearly new uniform sale, as well as handing out parent questionnaires.

Smartphone-Free Childhood

We have been so impressed with the Y5&6 children's response to us becoming a Smartphone-Free Community. Thank you to those who came to our first joint adult and child smartphone-free workshop last week. We will be repeating this in the summer term. Children have showed us the retro phones they received for Christmas or as they start walking home and having more independence. Please ensure any new or unregistered retro phones or trackers are registered on this link.

Notes from the School Office

PARENTMAIL

- **We do try to keep communications with parents to a minimum and whenever possible we will include all information within our Weekly Round Up email on Fridays.**
- **There are times however that we will need to pass on more urgent year group or specific information for your child so please ensure you have downloaded the app to your phone and have your notifications set to ON to ensure you do not miss important information for you and your child.**

SPRING TERM	
Monday 9th February	Y5 Bikeability 3.40pm-7.00pm Parents' Evening & Book Fair
Tuesday 10th February	Y5 Bikeability
Wednesday 11th February	3.40pm-7.00pm Parents' Evening & Book Fair
HALF TERM : MONDAY 16TH—FRIDAY 20TH FEBRUARY 2026 Holiday Club : Tuesday 17th & Wednesday 18th February	
Tuesday 24th February	Y4 Maps Workshop 2.00pm Class 3BW First Swimming Lesson @ Pavilions
Wednesday 25th February	9.45am Y5&6 Badminton @ Kingslea
Thursday 26th February	Y2 Arundel Wetlands Visit Y3 Horsham Park visit 10.00am Y4&5 Ultimate Frisbee Festival @ Millais
Friday 27th February	4.00pm Y6 Cup Football @ Tanbridge
Monday 2nd March	12.30pm Y3&4 Football Festival @ Heron Way
Tuesday 3rd March	12.30pm Dance Festival Rehearsal @ The Hawth 7.00pm Dance Festival @ The Hawth
Wednesday 4th March	2.00pm Drama Masterclass @ Forest (selected children)
Thursday 5th March	World Book Day 9.15am Governors Resources Committee
Friday 6th March	4.00pm Girls Cup Football @ Tanbridge
Friday 13th March	4.00pm Y5 Cup Football @ Tanbridge
Monday 16th March	Y5&6 Football Festival @ Heron Way
Tuesday 17th March	Y5 Greenwich Trip
Wednesday 18th March	10.00am Y4 Indoor Athletics @ The Bridge (selected children) 2.15pm YR Stay & Play
Thursday 19th March	Y3 Wakehurst Trip 2.15pm YR Stay & Play
Friday 20th March	4.00pm Y4 Cup Football @ Tanbridge 2.15pm YR Stay & Play
Tuesday 24th March	9.00am Y4 Horsham Park Walk
Wednesday 25th March	Y3 Indoor Athletics @ The Bridge (selected children)
Friday 27th March	Last Day of Term
EASTER HOLIDAY : MONDAY 30TH MARCH—FRIDAY 10TH APRIL 2026 Holiday Club—Tuesday 31st March & Wednesday 1st April	
Monday 13th April	First Day of Summer Term
Friday 17th April	4.00pm Y3 Cup Football @ Tanbridge
Monday 20th April	Y3&4 Girls Football Tournament @ Kingslea
Wednesday 22nd April	1.30pm Governors Curriculum 2.00pm Computing Masterclass @ Forest (selected children)
Friday 24th April	4.00pm Y5&6 Basketball Tournament @ Kingslea
Wednesday 29th April	Year 6 Individual & Class Photos
Friday 1st May	4.00pm Y3&4 Basketball Tournament @ Kingslea
Monday 4th May	**BANK HOLIDAY**
Friday 8th May	YR Bocketts Farm Trip Y1 Arundel Castle Trip
Wednesday 13th May	2.00pm Media Masterclass @ Forest (selected children)
Friday 15th May	Y4 Weald & Downland Trip
Monday 18th May	Y6 Swanage Residential Trip (Monday to Friday)
Tuesday 19th May	9.15am Governors Resources
Wednesday 20th May	9.30am Y3-6 Alternative Sports Festival @ Kingslea
Thursday 21st May	Y3 Stone Age to Iron Age Workshop
Friday 22nd May	Y4 Camping Night
HALF TERM : MONDAY 25TH—FRIDAY 29TH MAY 2026 Holiday Club : Tuesday 26th & Wednesday 27th May	
Friday 5th June	2.00pm Grandparents' Afternoon
Friday 12th June	9.00am Sports Day
Tuesday 16th June	9.00am Reserve Sports Day
Wednesday 8th July	3.30pm Open Afternoon
Thursday 16th July	Mr Conway's Surprise