



Believing in the worth of every individual, we are a nurturing, Christian sanctuary of learning, where all can flourish. We aspire for everyone to achieve heights of success, to deepen courage and to experience breadth of creativity, knowing the joy of God's love.

LIVING OUR VISION

Autumn 1 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

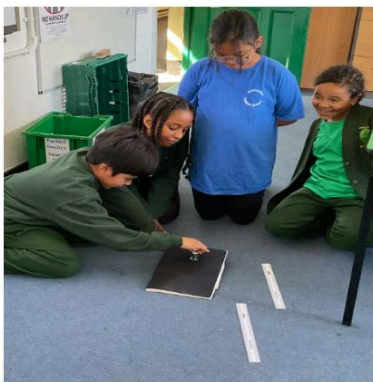
It's hard to believe we've already reached half term. It has been an incredibly busy and productive start to the new academic year. The children have settled well into their new classes, and there's a strong sense of purposeful learning throughout the school. Thanks to the thoughtful planning of staff and the children's enthusiastic attitudes, there have been many wonderful opportunities for them to make excellent progress in their learning. Each week our teachers take to Class Dojo to keep you updated on the learning in the class. If you are not yet on Class Dojo, please scan the QR code to get yourself set up and start speaking to your child's teacher today.



Here are some of the teachers' highlights from the term.

Year 6 This half term has flown by! The children have really challenged themselves to make progress across all subjects — they've been learning to write in a journalistic style, creating their own newspaper reports and also learning to write stories that make use of flashbacks. In mathematics they've been honing their long division skills. They've also been artists and scientists, exploring creativity in art and testing the functionality of circuits in science. Both classes performed their wonderful class celebrations (thank you to all the families that were able to attend) and Willow enjoyed an exciting week out of the classroom with IntoUniversity, visiting museums and a real university to inspire them to aim high. Birch will be experiencing this next half term.

Year 5 In Science, Year 5 have been learning about forces, including gravity, friction, and air resistance. They have carried out exciting investigations with rockets, parachutes and cars. It's been a real blast (literally)! They've tested how different surfaces affect movement and designed parachutes to safely land pilots back to Earth. In English, the children have been developing their grammar skills, focusing on parenthesis and cohesive devices; writing mission logs for their trip to the moon. Year 5 have worked incredibly hard and should be very proud of their achievements this term.

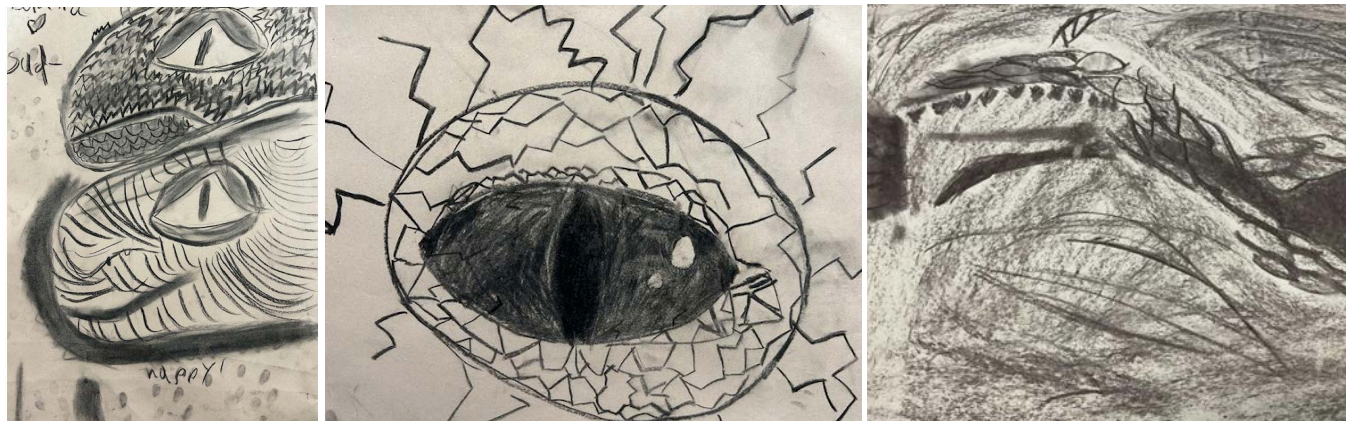




Take a look at some of the fantastic examples of artwork produced in **Year 5**. Inspired by the collage work of Matthew Cusick, look closely and you will see these self-portraits have been made using prints of maps from atlases (lets hope the Geography teachers don't need these atlases anytime soon).



Year 4 were delighted to welcome a visitor who spoke about the importance of vocation. Their talk inspired thoughtful discussions in RE and encouraged the children to reflect on purpose, service, and what it means to find a calling in life. In Science, they have been learning about electrical circuits and using their knowledge to design and build their own burglar alarms (watch out Burglar Bill). The highlight of the term was combining their Science and Design Technology lessons to create a fully functioning, but fun redesign, of the boring traffic light — a hands-on project that allowed the children to apply their scientific understanding in a creative way.



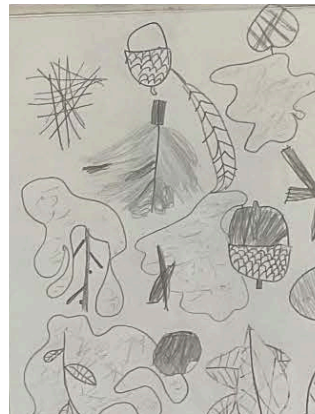
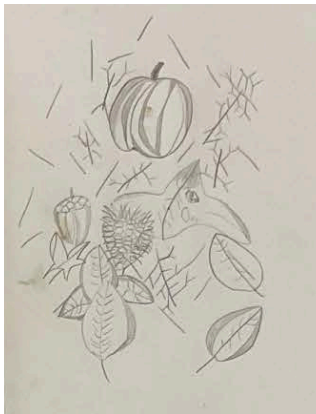
Year 3 this half term have been immersed in the magical world of dragons, producing three wonderful pieces of writing inspired by these mythical creatures including a very informative instruction booklet on how to lure and capture these impressive beasts. They've used dragons as inspiration in art too, creating impressive large-scale charcoal artworks. They experimented with different charcoal techniques, including rubbing, smudging, gestural and expressive mark-making, and chiaroscuro to bring their dragons to life with depth and realism. In Science, Year 3 began their Key Stage 2 journey as young scientists by planning and carrying out an investigation into friction. It's been a creative and curious half term full of imagination and discovery.



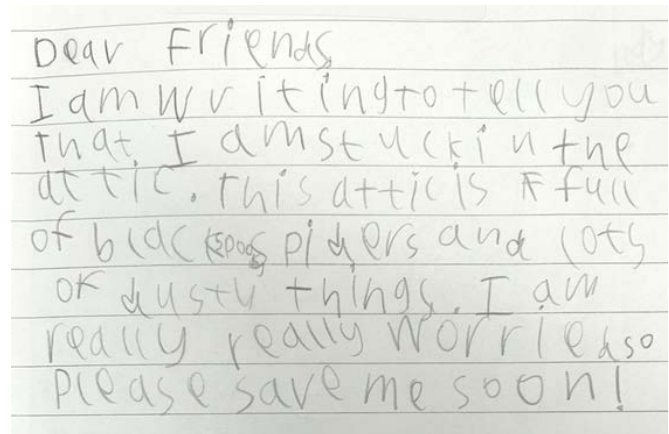
Year 2 have thoroughly enjoyed learning about the concept of temptation in RE. The children took part in a fun and challenging activity where they had to resist eating a sweet that was placed on their table in front of them while completing their work. We were very proud to see that every child managed to resist the temptation, a wonderful example of self-control and understanding in action. In PSHE the children had a very memorable (and messy!) activity involving toothpaste. The children were challenged to try and put toothpaste back into the tube—an almost impossible task! This helped us understand how once we say something unkind, we can't always take it back, and how important it is to choose our words carefully.



Take a look at Year 2's artwork inspired from collecting nature's autumnal litter:



Year 1 have been writing letters to Old Bear, inspired by the classic tale of a toy left behind in an attic. They've thought carefully about how they can rescue Old Bear and kept his spirits up by writing to him explaining their plans. They have also been writing letters as Old Bear asking for help.



In Design Technology, the children have been learning all about structures. They put their knowledge into practice by designing and building their very own chairs, a fantastic opportunity to test their creativity and problem-solving skills (and give them a leg up to reach the attic door and rescue Old Bear).

Reception children have had a busy and exciting start to the year. The children have been exploring numbers, sorting quantities, and recognising numerals in lots of fun ways. In RE, they learned about God's wonderful creation and enjoyed a walk in the outdoor classroom to see it for themselves before drawing their favourite part. They also went on an autumn walk to spot seasonal changes and collect colourful leaves. The children have started learning their Phase 2 sounds and are beginning to blend and read simple Consonant Vowel Consonant words (e.g. fox, cat, big). A highlight of the half term was their first trip to the local library, where they listened to a story and represented our school beautifully. It has been a fantastic start to the year in Reception.



Nursery children made their own play dough by experimenting with different ratios of flour, salt and water. It led to some interesting concoctions being created. The Nursery children got a chance to explore the whole school during an RE lesson. They were learning about our school community. As part of Brent's Supervised Tooth Brushing programme, the Nursery children have started to brush their teeth every day in class.



Black History Month While our curriculum continues to celebrate the diversity of the human race, we recognise that many historical narratives have overlooked or erased important stories and perspectives. During Black History Month, we have taken the opportunity to share and reflect on some of these significant stories. Together, we have acknowledged that, sadly, there are still times when people are judged by the colour of their skin rather than the content of their character. This week, we were delighted to welcome Bishop Lusa, who presided at Mass and spoke to the children about the difference between *preference* and *prejudice*. He shared the powerful story of Ruby Bridges, the first Black child to attend an all-white primary school in Louisiana, whose courage and determination continues to inspire generations.

I wish you all a good and restful holiday.

School starts again on Monday 3rd November for the children

Catherine Allard.

Please remember that the morning gate is open from **8.30-8.40am**. Formal lessons start at 8.45am. Children brought to school after 8:40am need to be brought to the front office to ensure they are registered appropriately.

For the latest news, please remember to check out what is happening on our X (formerly Twitter) feed @JohnKebleBrent, we post at least twice a week. You can also read about our latest news and view images in the gallery on our website. <http://www.johnkeble.com>

A reminder that our school office is open from 8am-4.30pm and closes between 1.30pm-2.30pm for lunch. The office will be closed during the holidays.



The Keble Collective. Coffee mornings are the first Friday of every month. Come and meet other parents and learn more about school life. The next date is **Friday 7th November**. If you would like to get involved or have any ideas or questions please contact us on: KebleCollective@gmail.com, follow us on Instagram [@KebleCollective](https://www.instagram.com/KebleCollective) or please scan the QR code on the left.



So much has already happened this first half term. We are delighted to welcome new members to the main planning team, and have spoken to so many new parents who are keen to get involved more. Our monthly coffee mornings have been great, especially the "Ask Us Anything" session with the school's leadership team, where parents had the chance to ask any unscripted questions they needed the answers to.

We have already started planning the Christmas Fair and we would like to ask the school community for any donations for raffle prizes and volunteers to help on the day. If you are interested in knowing more please get in touch!



Saturday 18th October saw the first ever DadsKids Club event held at John Keble school. The club is a space for dads, uncles, grandpas and male carers to bring their children and have some fun. Sharing the space with other dads provides opportunities for them to talk, share experiences and provide the children with a room full of positive male role models away from screens and the online world. It was amazing to see 44 (forty-four!) dads and children having fun, lighting fires, playing conkers, sculpting with clay, painting and playing games. Even the guinea pigs joined in the fun. The event was rounded off with a delicious home-made chickpea curry, courtesy of Mr Malik, one of our dads. Look out for the next date in November - all families are welcome.



If you would like to join the WhatsApp group to become part of the community of dads who think of fun things to do and organise the day, just scan the QR code above, or speak to Mr Martin on the school gate.



- Good work everyone. The kids loved it but I have a feeling that the Dads loved it more!
19:13 🍌🍌
- Thanks everyone. It was a really fun and memorable afternoon. Looking forward to meeting up again!
19:14
- Yes thank you all. Great effort and great food thank you.
19:20
- It was a great day guys! Looking forward to the next one!
19:25



School starts again on Monday 3rd November for the children

Term Dates 2025-2026

Autumn Term 2025 (73 days + 2 INSET)	
Inset Day	Monday 1st September 2025 and Tuesday 2nd September 2025
Term starts	Wednesday 3rd September 2025
Half term	Monday 27th October – Friday 31st October 2025
Term ends	Friday 19th December 2025
Spring Term 2026 (54 days + 1 INSET)	
Inset Day	Monday 5th January 2026
Term starts	Tuesday 6th January 2026
Half term	Monday 16th February – Friday 20th February 2026
Term ends	Friday 27th March 2026
Summer Term 2026 (63 days + 2 INSET)	
Term starts	Monday 13th April 2026
Bank holiday	Monday 4th May 2026
Half term	Monday 25th May – Friday 29th May 2026
Term ends	Thursday 16th July 2026
Inset Day	Friday 17th July and Monday 20th July

This year's dates and next year's dates are published on this letter and our website. Please do not request leave in term time. It will not be granted. Please ensure that your child/ren are back in London ready to start school at the start of the new half term. Action, including fines, will be taken by Brent Council against families whose children are not back in school. There is a clear correlation between children's attendance at school and their academic performance.

Term Dates 2026-2027

Autumn Term 2026 (72 days + 2 INSET)	
Inset Day	Tuesday 1 September 2026 and Wednesday 2 September 2026
Term starts	Thursday 3 September 2026
Half term	Monday 26 October – Friday 30 October 2026
Term ends	Friday 18 December 2026
Spring Term 2027 (54 days)	
Term starts	Monday 4 January 2027
Half term	Monday 15 February – Friday 19 February 2027
Term ends	Thursday 25 March 2027
Summer Term 2027 (64 days + 3 INSET)	
Term starts	Monday 12 April 2027
Bank holiday	Monday 3 May 2027
Half term	Monday 31 May – Friday 4 June 2027
Term ends	Friday 16 July 2027
Inset Days	Monday 19 - Wednesday 21 July 2027



Upcoming Dates for Parents Autumn 2:

= Parents invited

= School Trip

Monday, 3 Nov 2025 (9:00am)		6 Birch Into University (all week)
Tuesday, 4 Nov 2025 (9:00am)		3 Lime Trip to Kentish Town City Farm
Thursday, 6 Nov 2025 (9:00am)		3 Poplar Trip to Kentish Town City Farm
Thursday, 6 Nov 2025 (8:45am)		Nursery Stay and Play begins
Friday, 7 Nov 2025 (8:45am)		PTFA Coffee Morning
Monday, 10 Nov 2025 (12:00am)		Year 2 Natural History Museum Trip
Friday, 14 Nov 2025 (9:00am)		Poetry Slam (YN-Y3)
Friday, 14 Nov 2025 (2:20pm)		Poetry Slam (Y4-Y6)
Thursday, 20 Nov 2025 (9:30am)		Year 1 Science Museum Trip
Friday, 21 Nov 2025 (9:00am)		5 Pine Class Celebration
Friday, 21 Nov 2025 (12:00am)		Yr 6 Junior Citizens 9:45
Friday, 28 Nov 2025 (9:00am)		5 Elm Class Celebration
Thursday, 4 Dec 2025 (1:30pm)		Year 4 trip to St Claudine's Pantomime
Friday, 5 Dec 2025 (8:45am)		PTFA Coffee Morning
Thursday, 11 Dec 2025 (11:30am)		Christmas Lunch
Friday, 12 Dec 2025 (3:15pm)		Christmas Fair
Friday, 12 Dec 2025 (12:00am)		Year 4 - Neasden Temple am
Monday, 15 Dec 2025 (12:00am)		Parent Survey launched
Monday, 15 Dec 2025 (9:30am)		EYFS Nativity Dress Rehearsal
Tuesday, 16 Dec 2025 (9:00am)		EYFS Nativity
Tuesday, 16 Dec 2025 (2:30pm)		EYFS Nativity
Wednesday, 17 Dec 2025 (9:00am)		KS1 Dress Rehearsal
Thursday, 18 Dec 2025 (9:00am)		KS1 Nativity
Thursday, 18 Dec 2025 (2:30pm)		KS1 Nativity
Friday, 19 Dec 2025 (1:30pm)		School closes at 1:30pm for Christmas break



Children with the best attendance have the best results.

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