



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

Spring 1 2026

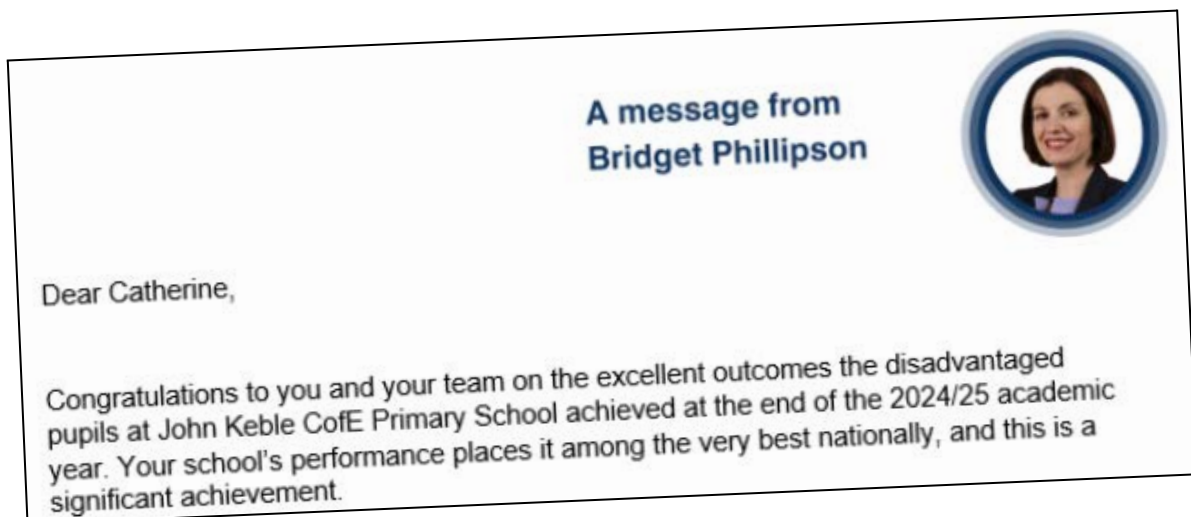
From the Head Teacher

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we end this half term together, we are reflecting on the words of our vision shared above. These lines capture the heart of our mission as a Christian school. We want every child to feel rooted in love, secure in their place within our community, and confident in the knowledge that they are valued by God and by those around them. Through our learning, worship and daily interactions, we strive to nurture not only academic success, but also compassion and a deep sense of belonging.

We pride ourselves on being an inclusive school and want to see every child flourish in their own way, but are also very proud of our results for all of our children which you can see in the following link:

[Compare School Performance Service.gov.uk](https://compare.schoolperformance.service.gov.uk) In January 2026, we were very proud to receive a letter from the Secretary of State for Education, Bridget Phillipson, congratulating the school on our excellent outcomes. You can see the whole letter later in this newsletter.



Thank you, as always, for your continued partnership and support as we work together to help our children grow in wisdom, character and love.

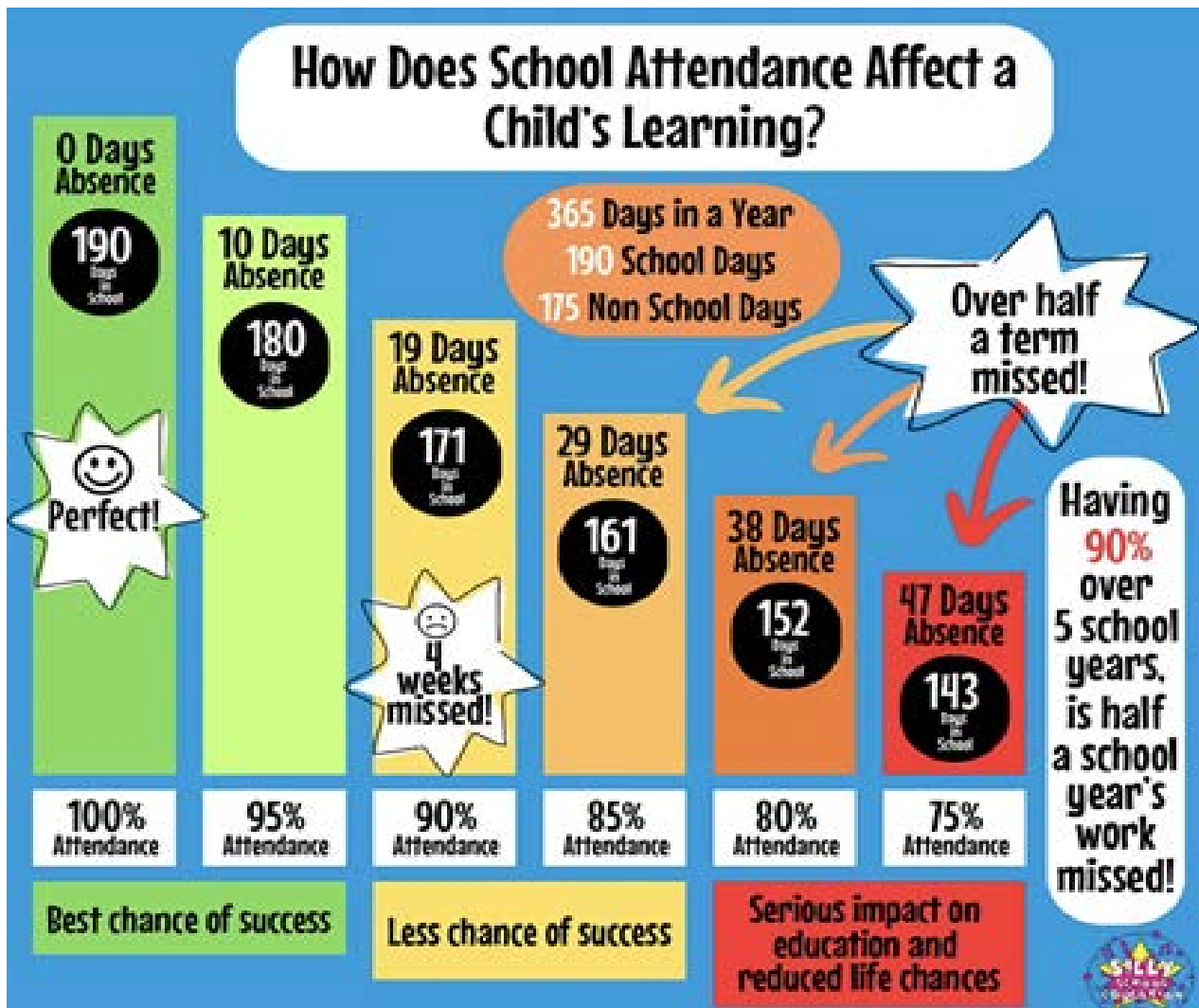
If you have an Instagram account, please follow Keble Collective @keblecollective

Catherine Allard.



Attendance and Punctuality

Are you aware of the impact of attendance on your child's attainment at school?



Mr Martin, Mrs Allard and Ms El meet all of our teachers at least every term to look at the progress of each child. We look at their books, their test results and listen to them participate in class. We see clearly that children who miss school regularly are falling behind. Children who are absent on average one day a fortnight are often at least a year behind the other children in their class. This gap widens as the children move through the school.

Being regularly absent from school impacts your child's well-being as they struggle to keep pace with the class. It impacts on their friendships as they miss out on conversations, news and experiences.

Please think twice before keeping your child at home for a minor illness. Attendance matters.

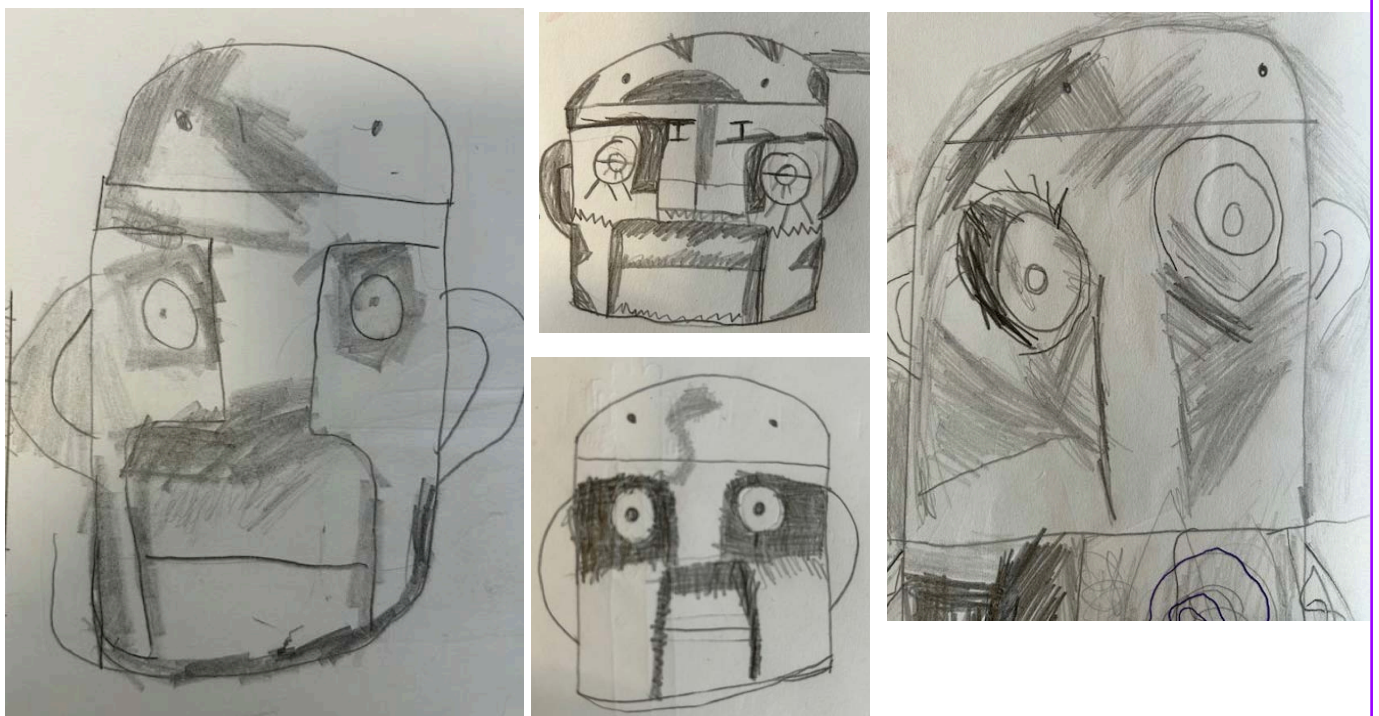
Children with the best attendance have the best results.



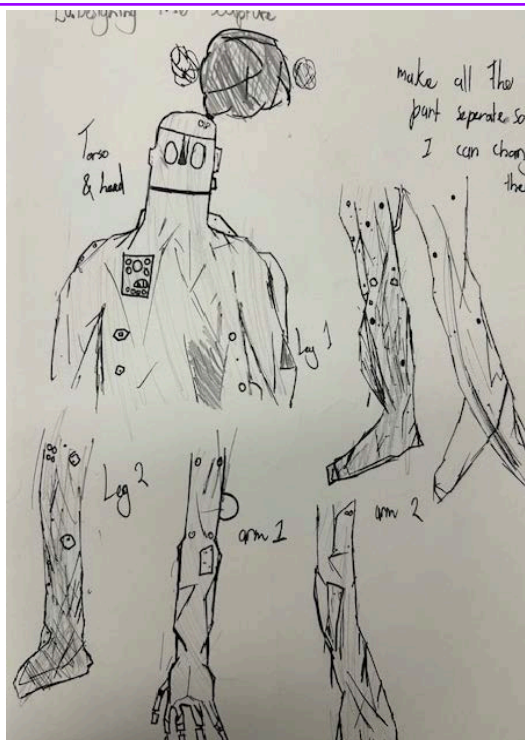
Year 1 have been reading *Hermelin The Mouse Detective* and using this fun text to create letters to the characters who have lost belongings. They have been tracing routes around the park looking for landmarks to help them map their surroundings and learning to double their numbers in mathematics.

Year 2 have been working hard learning how to use apostrophes correctly. They also had lots of fun in science, examining the properties of materials and applying what they had learned to decide what materials could be used to make bridges.

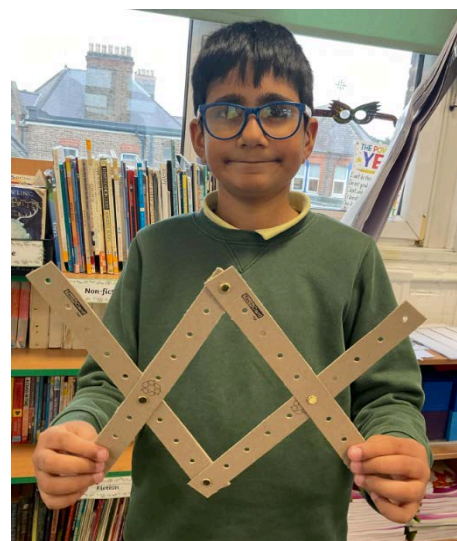
Year 3 have studied Ted Hughes' brilliant tale of *The Iron Man*. They've really gone to town creating painted clay models of the robot; writing stories that describe the haunting moment when Hogarth witnesses the Iron Man approach him for the first time; and, linking with their science topic of light, sketched portraits of his face, that focus on lighting and shading. They also looked at how ink washes can produce effective illustrations, much like you would find in Charlie McKay's or Quentin Blake's illustrations.



Year 3 studies of shade using the Iron Man's facial features



Year 3 inkwash and sketches of the Iron Man used as studies for their clay models. Scan the QR code to see Year 4's amazing moving posters.



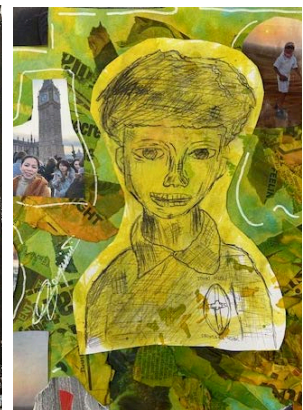
In **Year 4** it was all about combining science and engineering with art. In the images above you can see how they used the **viscosity** of materials to produce stunning pieces of art using milk, ink and fats. They also looked closely at levers and mechanisms so that they could produce images that moved. **Scan the QR code to see some of their amazing posters.**

Year 5 have delved into a refined and elegant world this half-term, immersing themselves in the splendor of Victorian manor houses as they follow Sherlock Holmes around Baskerville Hall. They've created high-end fashion designs of bonnets and ball-gowns as you can see from the gallery below. They explored the work of designer Stella Jean, Rahul Mishra and London designer Alexander McQueen.





Year 6 have been creating self-portraits with a difference. Combining their image with shapes and colours, photos and collages so that the viewer can see their personality and character as well as their physical image.





We have some budding doctors in Year 6. Take a look at this magnificent explanation of the Circulatory System written by Mia.

The Circulatory System - How does it work?
 The circulatory system is a vital network that produces blood and transports it to every cell in your body. The main components are: the heart, lungs and blood vessels (veins, arteries and capillaries). It is one of the most hard-working systems in our whole body - without it us humans would not be able to function. If you wish to learn more about this topic in depth, this text will break down everything you need to know in its simplest form. (See diagram a)

The Heart
 The heart is the main part of the circulatory system where the whole process begins. It is made

up of four chambers: right and left atria and ventricles. So, how does it work? First, the right side of the heart sends deoxygenated blood to the lungs to become oxygenated. This blood then travels to the left side of the heart and, since the heart is a muscle, it contracts, pushing blood away through the aorta (see more in 'blood vessels'). This process repeats continuously, the heart beating around 100,000 times a day. (see diagram b)

Blood vessels - What is their function?
 Have you ever wondered how blood travels around your body? When oxygenated blood is pumped from the heart, it enters the heart via the aorta. Arteries are blood vessels that carry

blood to all the cells in the body, providing oxygen and nutrients. Due to the amount of pressure arteries have to withstand, they have thicker walls than the other blood vessels. Capillaries are the smallest blood vessels that can reach every cell in your body. Their purpose is to absorb nutrients and oxygen from your blood. Then, deoxygenated blood is transferred into the veins, which takes the blood to the heart and lungs so that it can become oxygenated once more. The largest vein is the Vena Cavae.

Lungs
 The lungs play a part in both the circulatory and respiratory system. Their function is to help us breathe (respire), oxygenate blood and perform gas exchange (releasing CO² and

absorbing O²). When we inhale, our lungs expand and the oxygen we have breathed in travels down: the trachea, bronchi and then into our lungs. When deoxygenated blood travels into our lungs, it absorbs oxygen through a layer in the alveoli (our sacs) and becomes oxygenated. This is diffusion. (see diagram c)

Blood
 Blood is a liquid tissue that circulates through the body. It is made up of red blood cells (45%), white blood cells (0.5%), plasma (54%) and platelets (0.5%). Red blood cells absorb and carry oxygen. White blood cells help to fight infection and

foreign bacteria that could potentially harm us, however, if the bacteria is unknown to the body, the cells may not be able to fight it off. Plasma is a liquid that contains and carries, nutrients, sugar and all the components of blood all around your body. Finally, platelets are broken cells that help blood to clot, stop bleeding and to form scabs.

Blood pie chart

Pulse
 Pulse is a measure of how fast the heart beats. It is also the number

of beats the heart makes in one minute. When you exercise, the heart beats faster because your muscles are working harder and need more oxygen to work. Due to this, lungs work harder, making us breathe more rapidly.

Heart rate - bpm

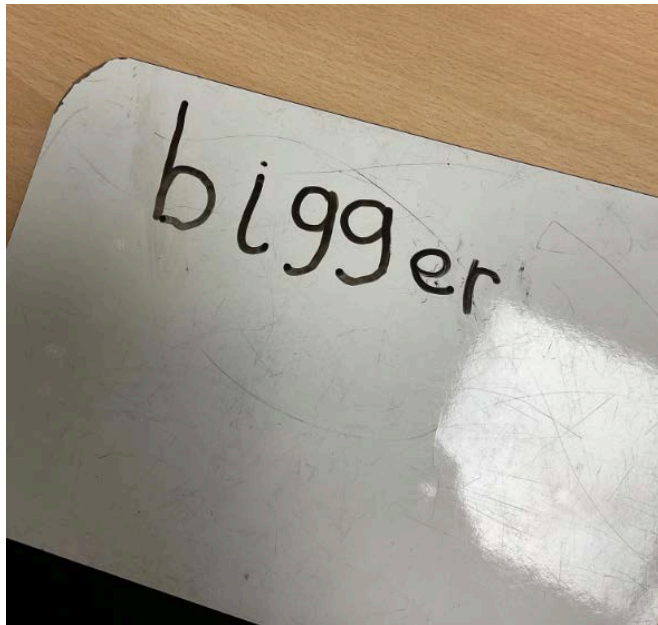
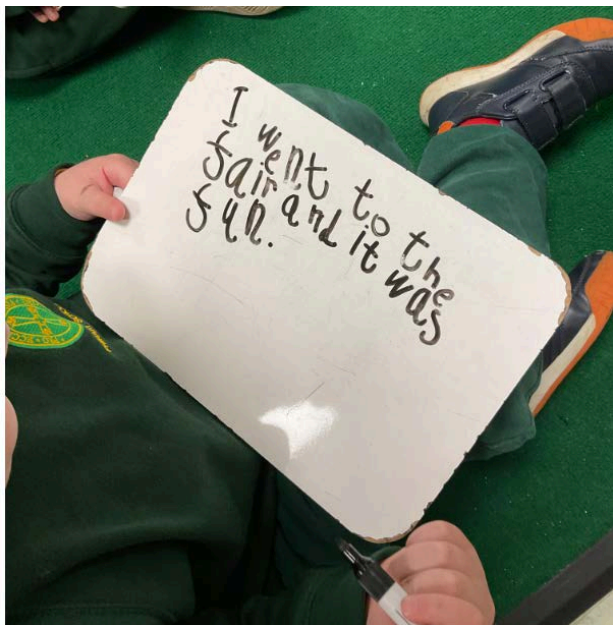
Did you know?
 Our blood is red because of a red protein called haemoglobin!

Glossary
 aorta - the largest artery
 arteries - a blood vessel that carry deoxygenated away from the heart
 capillaries - the smallest blood vessel
 circulation - the movement to, from or around something
 contract - to squeeze

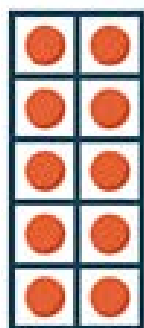
oxygenated - blood that has absorbed oxygen
 respire - breathe
 rib cages - bones that protect the heart
 vena cavae - the largest vein
 veins - blood vessels that carry deoxygenated blood



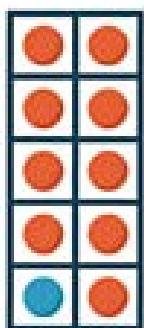
It's not surprising we have such budding writers when you consider how well the children in **Reception** are learning to use their phonics to write full sentences and difficult spellings:



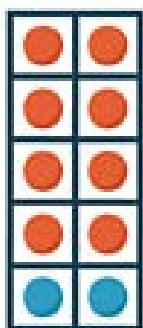
The Early Years team have also been teaching the children their number bonds to ten. This is something that you can practise with your child at home over the half-term.



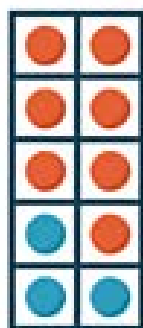
$0 + 10$



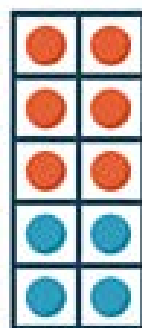
$1 + 9$



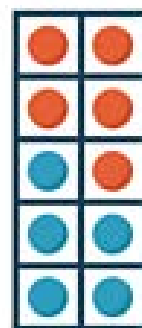
$2 + 8$



$3 + 7$



$4 + 6$



$5 + 5$

To find out more about what is happening in your child's classroom, ensure you've signed in to Class Dojo. Teachers post images and recounts (Class Stories) of the children's learning each week. It is also the quickest and most efficient way to raise questions with the teacher. They'll get right back to you. Get yourself signed up today. It's free.





**A message from
Bridget Phillipson**



Dear Catherine,

Congratulations to you and your team on the excellent outcomes the disadvantaged pupils at John Keble CofE Primary School achieved at the end of the 2024/25 academic year. Your school's performance places it among the very best nationally, and this is a significant achievement.

This success reflects the dedication of your staff and the hard work of your pupils. It shows what can be achieved when ambition and commitment come together. Thank you for everything you do to give children the best possible opportunities to succeed.

Your school's achievements demonstrate what is possible, and I hope you will continue to share your experience and best practice with others. Even the strongest schools can go further. We encourage you to lead the way as a system leader - sharing effective practice, championing networks, supporting collaboration, and helping raise standards across the sector.

There are real opportunities available for you to support improvement for a wider group of pupils including through:

- engaging actively with your region's RISE networks and partnering with nearby schools and trusts;
- contributing to regional roundtables and professional communities to spread the approaches that are working in your context; and
- sustaining excellence by continuing to focus on disadvantaged pupils

Please pass on my thanks and congratulations to your staff and pupils. I look forward to working with you as we strive together to raise standards for all.

Your sincerely,

Bridget

Bridget Phillipson

Secretary of State for Education



From The Keble Collective - The Parents, Teachers and Friends Association at John Keble.

Join us on **Friday 20th March** for our exciting **Spring Eco Fair**, a fantastic community event celebrating sustainability and inspired by the **National Year of Reading!** This year's fair will bring together eco-friendly stalls, fun activities, and plenty of opportunities to discover how small changes can make a big difference. We're delighted to welcome back **DR Bike**, who will be on hand to give your bikes a free check-up and safety tune, helping everyone travel greener. There'll be book-themed activities, preloved book swaps, environmentally conscious crafts, and much more to enjoy as we celebrate both reading and caring for our planet. The event is proudly supported by our wonderful **PTFA**, whose volunteers work tirelessly behind the scenes to create enriching experiences for our children and strengthen our school community. By attending, running a stall, or joining the PTFA, you're helping to fund valuable school projects and events throughout the year. We can't wait to see you there for an afternoon of learning, community spirit, and eco-friendly fun!

The Keble Collective PTFA



dads
kids
club



Join the club...

Our next club date is
Saturday 21st February @1pm
(enter via the Tesco gate)

The DadsKids club at John Keble met at the start of the year and firmed up dates for the rest of the academic year:

21 March 2026;

18 April 2026,

16 May 2026

13 June 2026



Table
Games

Board
games
without the
boredom



Lego building &
team building



Gardening (we're creating new green spaces in the playground)



Radio-controlled car racing

These are just some of the activities that we host every month. Everybody is welcome.

Rooted together in love, growing without limits



School starts again on Monday February 23rd 2026 for the children

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.

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.

Term Dates 2025-2026

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 events for Parents in the spring term

= parents invited.

= school trip (may need parental volunteers - please check with the class teacher).

Friday, 27 Feb 2026 (8:45am)		Workshop: What is the phonics screening check?
Friday, 27 Feb 2026 (3:25pm)		Workshop: What is the phonics screening check?
Friday, 6 Mar 2026 (8:45am)		PTFA Coffee Morning
Tuesday, 10 Mar 2026 (3:30pm)		Parents Evening
Thursday, 12 Mar 2026 (3:30pm)		Parents Evening
Friday, 13 Mar 2026 (9:00am)		2 Yew Class Celebration
Friday, 13 Mar 2026 (9:00am)		Year 5 INTO university am / pm
Friday, 13 Mar 2026 (12:00am)		Year 3 Natural History Museum
Tuesday, 17 Mar 2026 (6:00pm)		Prom Praise Musical Celebration
Friday, 20 Mar 2026 (9:00am)		2 Ash Class Celebration
Friday, 20 Mar 2026 (3:15pm)		Spring Eco-Fair
Thursday, 26 Mar 2026 (9:00am)		Year 1 trip to Hampstead Heath
Friday, 27 Mar 2026 (1:30pm)		School closes at 1:30pm for Easter break