

01.12.2023

# Knaphill Junior School Weekly Update



To empower all children to have a bright future.

## This Month's Focus Value: Respect

### A note from Mrs Harrison:

As we move in to December, there are several events and some changes to the normal day on occasions. Please look out for information emails and use the calendar at the end of this newsletter to keep you informed. We are super excited that we have voted and appointed our Communication Team for our new school council. This has been created so that we can ensure that we have the opportunity to hear all of our children's voices when there are changes and developments to our school. Our Communication Team will be keeping you up to date with achievements, so look out for their newsletter entries in the weeks to come.

It is our PTA Christmas Fair tomorrow. It would be lovely to see as many of you there that can make it. See to see you at the Christmas Fair tomorrow and on the gate on Monday!

### RE in Year 3

We are following the new Surrey RE Curriculum this year. This year Year 3 have explored Judaism: What are important times for Jewish people? We are just starting a new unit on Christianity: What's the Bible's 'big story' - and why is it like treasure for Christians? On Monday Year 3 welcomed Reverend Neil Hopkins into school. He discussed his favourite stories from the Bible. He shared the story of Nehemiah and compared the story to ways that we can deal with adversity in our own lives.

We look forward to seeing Reverend Hopkins at Holy Trinity Church for the upcoming Christmas performances.



### Value of the month: Respect

#### What does respect look like:

You will treat others as you wish to be treated and listen to others' points of view. You won't use sarcasm or offensive language.

### House Points Weekly Winner

Moving from 4th place to 1st this week, Rowling are our weekly winners.

1st Rowling

2nd Farah

3rd Attenborough

4th Windsor

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## What is a Values Based Education?

In each newsletter, we share our value of the month with you.

All members of our school community were involved in selecting the values for Knaphill School. Our values drive everything we think and do.

A Values Based Education (VbE) empowers our school to underpin its life and curriculum with positive human values, such as: respect, integrity, kindness and equality.

VbE provides a teaching environment in which learners experience those positive universal values first hand throughout their schooling.

An effective VbE environment has three core foundations:

- All adults model the positive universal values that the school community itself has chosen.
- The values are developed into an ethical vocabulary which empowers learners and staff to articulate basic and ethical concepts.
- The school creates time and space for children to develop reflective practices so their values experiences can be processed into a living guide to self-and interpersonal awareness.

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## Stars of the Week

Congratulations to this week's winners:

- Year 3- Marck, Cody and Onosa
- Year 4- Ollie T, Ollie B and Myla
- Year 5- Leo and Konstantinos
- Year 6- Izzy H, Grace and Yuvi

## Attendance Cup

Celebrating with an extra play time this week are Birch Class, this week's winners of the Attendance Cup, with a near perfect score.

## Maths Update

The latest TTRS tournaments have finished. In the Year 5 and 6 competition, Hazel Class zoomed into the lead taking first place. Years 3 and 4 battled it out with Birch Class taking pole position as the times tabling champion of Year 3 and 4. Cedar Class came second with a super effort gaining 511 points. Enjoy your extra break-time!

The next challenges have begun today. This time we have Year 5 taking on Year 4, and Year 3 taking on Year 6. You have until Thursday 14th December to gain as many points as you can in order to win that additional break-time. Get practising those vital Maths skills and help your year group.



17th November - 30th November 2023

6 - Hazel	435	5 - Ash	122	5 - Willow	84	6 - Cherry	7	6 - Elder	4
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17th November - 30th November 2023

4 - Birch	771	4 - Cedar	511	3 - Maple	166	4 - Sycamore	138	3 - Oak	73	3 - Elm	41
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## Smart School Council

This week we held elections for our SMART SCHOOLS COUNCIL  
Communication Team.

We were thrilled by the number of applications received for the Communication  
Team.

After each interested child presented to their class about why they would make a  
great member of the Communication Team, each class voted and the elected  
pupils received their badges in our Celebration assembly today.

The big difference with Smart School Council is that it allows everyone to be  
represented; for every child's voice to be heard, not just a few! There will be  
opportunities for every child to run class meetings during the year if they  
choose. The Communication Team will use their communication skills across the  
school to ensure that all our community are communicated with and developments  
are shared and everyone is kept informed. We will also be looking for members  
for our Action Teams. More details to follow next week.



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## Encouraging Your Children to Develop Fundamental Reading Skills

At our school, we highly value reading and know that your child will make the best progress if we work together. Here are some ways you can help:

- Ensure that your child brings their reading book and reading diary to school every day.
- Record your child's reading progress in the reading diary and make a note of any challenging words in the space provided.
- For Lime level readers and below, keep an eye out for our new reading bookmarks. These are designed to help you ask questions that will boost your child's reading ability and help them move on to the next level.






BLUE

### Prompts/questions for parents

- Can you use your phonics to sound out then blend the word?
- Can you sound out new words in your head before you read them out aloud?
- What do you think might happen next? 
- Did that word make sense there? Why? (If incorrect word used.)
- What adjectives would you use to describe the character/setting? 
- How was the character feeling? Why? How can you tell?
- Retell the story in your own words.
- Is this a fiction or a non-fiction book? How do you know?

TURQUOISE

### Prompts/questions for parents

- Can you sound out and blend new words in your head before you read them aloud? 
- Can you work out the word by reading to the end of the sentence or looking at the pictures?
- What do you need to do when you see a full stop, exclamation mark, question mark, comma or speech marks? 
- Can you read what this character says in a different voice? 
- Tell me what has happened in your own words.
- Why did that happen? (throughout reading)
- Has that happened to you? What choice would you make? 
- What do you think will happen next? Why?
- How do you think the character feels? Why? How can you tell? 
- Would you recommend this book to a friend? Why?

Lime



### Prompts/questions for parents

- Read the blurb on the back of the book. What do you think could happen? Why?
- What persuaded you to choose this book? Have you read anything by this author before?
- What information do you learn about the character from what they are doing / how they are acting? Remember, actions give clues about feelings.
- What do you learn about the character from what the other characters are saying or doing?
- Why has the author used \_\_\_\_\_? (e.g. brackets, bold type, italics).
- Can you tell me what the author means by that word / phrase / sentence?
- Can you find a word in the text which describes the setting or character? Do you know any words with similar meanings?
- Can you summarise the main points/ events in the text?
- Can you explain why the text is structured in this way? How does this affect how you read the text?

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## Book Swap

On Friday 15th December, we will be holding a school Book Swap. We ask that children use this an opportunity to sort through their books and bring in any books they would like to swap. Pupils can bring their books from Monday 11th December and hand them to their class teacher. Our Reading Ambassadors will organise them for the swap to be held on the last day of term. Pupils are welcome to donate as many books as they wish, but will be able to bring one book of their choice home to enjoy over the Christmas holiday.

The Waterstones Book of the Year has been announced. We love her books because of the wonderful vocabulary she uses. This year it has been won by the fantastic children's author - Katherine Rundell with her book...

WATERSTONES  
BOOK OF THE YEAR  
WINNER

'A modern classic in every sense of the word, this is a masterpiece.'

Rhiannon at Kensington **BOOKSELLER REVIEW**

'Katherine Rundell is a phenomenon.'  
Neil Gaiman



'Without doubt the best children's book in years - a landmark publication.'

Tracey at Exeter **BOOKSELLER REVIEW**

'There was Tolkien, there is Pullman, and now there is Katherine Rundell.'

Michael Morpurgo

'The new high bar in children's fantasy.'

Angie at Blackpool **BOOKSELLER REVIEW**

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## Working Together to Improve Reading

We hope you are enjoying learning more about the new books available for each year group

Here are some more books you may like to consider - they would make ideal Christmas presents.



### Year 3

The girl who stole an elephant - Nizrana Farook

Chapter book

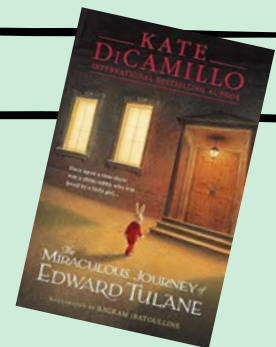
Readers can still travel to new and exciting places from home with a great adventure story, like *The Girl Who Stole an Elephant* by Nizrana Farook. Set in Sri Lanka, this debut novel follows Chaya, who has a habit of stealing to help those in need, but taking the queen's jewels and the royal elephant means that she's now a target and needs to escape into the jungle. The vivid setting and fast-paced plot will have you captivated until the final page. – Scotsman

### Year 4

The Miraculous journey of Edward Tulane

Kate Di Camillo

Chapter book



The *Incredible Journey* meets *The Mouse and His Child*, an enchanting tale that begs to be read aloud. The magical story of the adventures of a lost toy rabbit from a New York Times bestselling author, twice winner of the Newbery Medal. Abilene loves her blue china rabbit, but Edward Tulane is extremely vain and only loves himself. On a voyage from New York to London, Edward falls overboard and from there finds himself on an amazing journey. He travels with tramps, works as a scarecrow, comforts a dying child ... and finally learns what it is to truly love.

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### Year 5

Running Out of Time - Simon Fox

Chapter book

A thrilling, un-put-downable debut, with extraordinary twists and incredible action, from an incredible new voice in children's fiction. When Alex and his father are forced to flee their home to escape a brutal government, they begin a life-threatening journey across Europe. But when they are separated before they can reach Britain, Alex finds himself alone, with only his extraordinary gift to keep him alive. Perfect for fans of Alex Rider, Artemis Fowl, and Inception, *Running out of Time* is an ingenious, high-concept thriller with a twist that you won't believe



### Year 6

The Final Year - Matt Goodfellow

Chapter book

See that tall, skinny kid with the ball in his hand saying see ya later to his mate? That's me: Natan Wilder - Nate. 10 years old and a week away from the end of Year 5. Life can be tough in your last year of primary school. Tests to take, preparing for the change to high school. Nate is ready for it all, knowing his best friend PS is at his side - they've been inseparable since Nursery, but when they are put in two different classes and PS finds a new friend in Turner, the school bully, Nate's world turns upside-down. As he struggles to make sense of this and forge new friendships, he's dealt another blow when his youngest brother, Dylan is rushed into hospital.

His new teacher, Mr Joshua, sees a spark inside of Nate that's lit by his love of reading and writing and shows him how to use this to process what's going on. But with so much working against him, and anger rising inside him, will this be enough? A powerful and lyrical story about finding your place in the world and the people that matter within it.



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## Support From Freemantles Outreach

With the festive period now upon us, the fantastic Freemantles Outreach Team have provided us with a link to resources which might be useful for supporting children who find changes to routine tricky. Resources include Top Tips for Christmas at home, some very visual December calendars, a social story about Imaginary Stories including Father Christmas, as well as links to useful resources on other websites.

<https://www.freeoutreach.org.uk/News/Christmas-Resources-2023/>





Surrey NHS Foundation Trust have published an information book for parents/carers of young people who are struggling with attention, activity and behaviour.

[Click here for the link.](#)



## Spring Term Clubs 2023 – Starting Monday 15<sup>th</sup> January – Friday 22nd March 2024

Please note that club bookings for the Spring Term will open during the morning of Friday 1st December.

	<u>Club</u>
<b>Monday</b>	Musical Theatre (Hotsteppers)- All Football- Years 3&4 
<b>Tuesday</b>	 Arts and Craft- All Music (Rocksteady)- All 
<b>Wednesday</b>	Football- Years 5&6  Rayner Karate – All  Mindfulness Club (Emma Martin) – All  La Jolie Ronde- Years 3&4  Multi-Sports- Years 3&4
<b>Thursday</b>	 Basketball (Blackhawks) – All  Cartoon Animation (Toon Cool for School) – All Multi-Sports- Years 5&6
<b>Friday</b>	 MGW Football – All Computer Xplorers- Years 5&6 



## Come and join our catering team

Looking for a secure, Term-time only position with great work/life balance and benefits?

Twelve15 has been delivering healthy, well-balanced and nutritious school meals for over 70 years.

We are currently recruiting:

- Goldsworth Primary school, Catering Assistants -20 hours and 12.5 hours a week, £11.04 an hour
- Knaphill Junior school, Catering Assistant – 20 hours a week, £11.04 an hour
- St Dunston's Primary school, Catering Assistant – 25 hours a week, £11.04 an hour

Please [click here](#) to find out about our current vacancies and apply. Catering Assistants please apply to the Surreywide advert.

For more information, please call Lisa on 07779 451317.



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All dates are kept up-to-date on the school website: [kfos.co.uk/news/calendar/](https://kfos.co.uk/news/calendar/)

Date	Event	Year Group
Thursday 7th December	Year 5 & 6 Christmas Performance x2 1:30pm and 6:00pm	5 & 6
Friday 8th December	Christmas Jumper Day	3-6
Tuesday 12th December	Year 5 WW 2 day	5
Thursday 14th December	Year 3 & 4 Christmas Performance x2 1:30pm and 6:00pm	5 & 6
Friday 15th December	Last day of Autumn Term – finish at 1:15pm Class Festive Celebrations - wear party/festive clothes - more details to follow	3-6
Monday 18th December – Monday 1st January	Christmas Holiday	

## PTA Dates

Date	PTA Events	
Saturday 2nd December	Christmas Fair - Junior School Hall - 11am -2pm	All Years