



Message from Mrs McWilliams-Bowe

We are now four weeks into the term, and our recent assembly focused on belonging. Students explored the importance of identity through our school logo and what it represents to us as a community. It was a meaningful opportunity to reflect on who we are and how we support one another.

I would also like to thank the parents who met with me on Monday and Wednesday to share their ideas about the school—what they feel is important in supporting a sense of belonging, the areas they are delighted with, and, of course, what could be further developed. It was a pleasure to meet you all. To ensure that I hear the voice of everyone, I will be sending out a parent survey in due course.

I would also like to congratulate our athletics team on their fantastic achievement in reaching the finals. Well done to all involved!

Have a lovely weekend.

Best Attendance for this Week

The class with the highest attendance this week is 4HT with 99.31% well done!!

Attendance Matters

- Good attendance is key to your child's safety, wellbeing, and education.
- Children who attend school regularly are more likely to achieve and build positive friendships.
- When a child misses school, it can mean missed learning and missed opportunities to be part of our school community.
- If your child is unwell or unable to attend, please contact the school office by 9 am on the day of absence.
- Our pastoral team is here to support families if attendance becomes difficult - please reach out, we are here to help.

Reporting an Absence

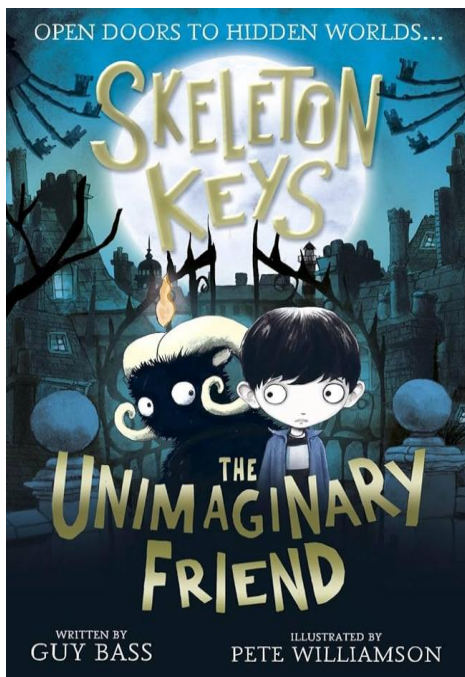
If your child is ill, please can you telephone the school office before 9.00am on 01256 326713. There is an answer phone that you can leave a message regarding absence. The school office will contact you if you do not contact the school to report an absence., if you do not report the absence it will be marked as "unauthorised absence". If your child has sickness or diarrhoea they will need to remain at home for a clear 48 hours following the last episode.

Nut Free School

Please can we remind parents that Kempshott Junior School is a "Nut Free" school. We have pupils who are severely allergic to Nuts and could suffer anaphylaxis.

We request that NUTS (all types) and items containing nuts are not included in packed lunches or as a snack, this includes but is not limited to Snickers Bars, Kinder Chocolate Bars, Nutella and peanut butter.

A Love of Reading - This week Mrs Rees has recommended these books



Skeleton Keys: The Unimaginary Friend is a delicious treat of a story, wrapped up in wonderful, humorous story-telling and spectacular, Gothic-like illustrations which complement the story perfectly: a book to be savoured - or devoured - in one sitting.

'O! Skeleton Keys may be a little scary on the eyes, even though he's a rather dapper chap, but goodness, is he THE most marvellous creation of a brilliant imagination. Which is just perfect, as this is a story wholeheartedly celebrating the power and wonder of the imagination.

This is an incredibly fast-paced, fun-filled adventure with just the right amount of scariness ... an adventure brimming with secrets to be unravelled, danger to be overcome and unimaginary friendships to enjoy. There is much for young readers to enjoy in this story which is perfect for 7+.



After is a powerful, thought-provoking dystopian sci-fi adventure with the ties of humanity, the strength of community and the promise of hope at its heart.

This is a story that completely gripped me both as an exciting, heart-pounding survival adventure brimming with danger, secrets and revelations, and as a story exploring what it means to be human, the nature of love and belonging, and whether the real danger in technological advancement lies with created or creator. These themes would open fascinating discussions in both homes and classrooms.

An exceptional sci-fi adventure pulsating with hope, connection and love - a captivating story that I cannot recommend highly enough to readers of 9+.

This week Year 5 have been studying :-

We have started a new unit in English based on the story, 'The Night bus Hero' by Onjali Q. Rauf. We are enjoying learning about Hector and his 'interesting' choices of behaviour and the thefts of famous statues around London and the secret symbols left behind. We are planning on writing a newspaper article based on the theft of Paddington Bear from Paddington Station.

In Maths, we are looking at addition and subtraction strategies.

We are also enjoying our History topic of the Tudors along with our guided reading text 'The Secrecy Diary of Henry VIII' by Terry Deary.

Here is a wonderful example of work from a Year 5 pupil.

Ruin

By Roko, Year 5.

As I took a small, cautious step, I looked around. Here I was, on this *Haven Nano-Systems'* skyscraper, surrounded by fog and lush trees galore. The once perfect city, bustling with life is now an eerie home for all mother nature. As I shoved the large, metal box along the floor, to the window (which was glassless), I debated. 'Should I do this?' But I did. I confidently heaved the box to the open window and...CLANG!! I pushed the battered container down the skyscraper and rushed down the abandoned building stairs.

I carefully opened the door (What was left of it) and tiptoed over to the battered container that lay silently. With one firm kick, the ancient lid fell open at my feet. I checked around, alert for anyone or anything.

As I crouched down, I saw it. I rummaged my hands through the container and picked it up. I glanced around again, then my eyes returned to the cracked glass that was in my right hand. Slowly, I put my left hand on the other side of the glass. It worked! Vibrant, blue electro-bits danced around my dirty hand like ballerinas, and the cracked glass screen lit up. It showed a picture of a man with a code next to it. The luminescent screen lit up my eyes, showing the glee I was in. Then suddenly, the untrusty screen flickered, glitched, then turned off.

As I slowly stood up, I heard a faint hovering noise. I looked round, seeing nothing of worry. Then, out of nowhere, a big, beetle like air-craft flew round from the Haven Nano-Systems' skyscraper. It was ascending and descending, trying to trick me. A sharp shiver flew down my spine. I knew it. I'd been caught. I had to run.

As I sped in the opposite direction of the airborne beast, I looked for my motorbike. I had to run faster! The gyrocopter would get me! I skilfully slid down a sloid stone slope and ran a bit more. Then, I leaped onto my slick motorbike and turned the engines. The Brawl had begun.

I accelerated my motorbike and sped away from the massive gyrocopter beast. I weaved in and out of rusty cars and random overgrowth. Faded direction signs flashed above me. Stone walls invaded my path. Then, I saw a little cut-off that was pretty unnoticeable. I swerved round a bend and took the cut-off. Just for one second, I checked for the gyrocopter, but it was still hot on my heels.

I swerved. I went round bends. But still the gyrocopter was not losing me.

The beast had two wing-like things shooting from its side, threateningly. Powerful fans could be seen attached to the wings, keeping the beetle afloat.

For one second, I thought I had lost the gyrocopter, but it quickly swerved back into sight, like it was reading my worries. Then, it stopped. Had it surrendered? So, I stopped. Next, (unsurprisingly) two metallic, deathly missiles detached from the gyrocopter and started flying towards me.

I carried on weaving through the retired cars, getting away from the missiles. They were rusty metal with sparks shooting out from the rear. As I wasn't losing them, I got a flare stick from my motorbike and scraped it against the edge of the holder. When it didn't ignite, I thought I was cooked, but I scraped it again and it lit. I waited a bit, then dropped it on the stone road. The missiles sensed it, and dodged it just as it blew up. One chance down. I decided to keep going, to keep up the fight. I once again clenched my fist on a flare, scraping it twice against the end of the holder and held it out. I noticed there was a car on the side of the road. I dropped the flare behind the car, hoping for a better attack.

It exploded, and the car did a somersault, but still two missiles were hot on my heels. When I thought I had no hope, I saw a sign saying: **Cumbria straight ahead. BEWARE OF THE TUNNEL.** A brilliant idea zapped into my head. I charged into the tunnel. A bright light from the missiles provided my path ahead, dodging cars once again. Then, one of the missiles turned purple and shot a counter attack at me. I missed, only just. I glanced back, and I saw a glimmer of light. This was my chance. I grabbed my last flare and ignited it. Just as I exited the tunnel, I threw the flare to the top of the tunnel.

BOOM!

I made clear of the tunnel, just to see the defeated missiles tumble along the ground like fighting twins. I stopped my motorbike, glad that it was over. But then, the gyrocopter, making a re-acquaintance with me, appeared out of nowhere. I leaped back on my motorbike and sped away into the distance. The gyrocopter fired spark after spark after spark at me, but missed them all. Then, it swooped ahead of me. What? It turned to face me. Here it was. The final face off.

I sped under the gyrocopter, showing off my agility and skill. It swiftly turned around and chased right after me. It launched sparks *again*, but missed *again*. I whipped my dagger out of my back pocket and held it out threateningly. Next, I sped with full speed up a hill. At the end of the hill, there was no more road. I jumped.

I did a backflip, and landed on the edge of the gyrocopter's wing. I steadily walked to the main body, my dagger flashing with electricity. I jabbed my dagger into the gyrocopter's body, pushed it down once, twice and thrice. It fell to the ground, slickly and quickly.

I proudly stood up, admiring my handy-work. The gyrocopter lay lifeless, its propellers in flames. I jumped off the machine. I reached from my pocket and pulled out the screen from the safe. It was cracked quite badly now, but it would probably still work. Was this the end? Had I won the battle?

I strolled away, pinching myself to make sure that that actually just happened.

WOW - Walk to School Badge Design

Don't forget to send in your WOW Badge design entry to Mrs Clifton by Thursday 12th February 2026.

Finalists will be announced: FRIDAY 13th FEBRUARY. Good luck, and happy designing!

Community Food Link

Every Thursday the Community Food Link make a delivery to Kempshott Junior School, parents are welcome to pop in to the Green Room at 3pm to choose any food items that they may find useful. Please help us reduce food waste in our community. Thank you.

General Reminders

Year 6 Liddington Residential - Final Payment due by 2nd March 2026

Year 5 Stubbington Residential - Final Payment due by 2nd March 2026



KSA Spring Cake Sale:

Yes! You heard that right....we're back for another epic cake sale just before half term! Plates for cake donations will be sent home in book bags shortly (please remember no nuts including bakewell products) – Fill these with delicious cakes (homemade or shop bought – it doesn't matter) and then come by to the infant and junior schools in the playground straight after school on **Friday 13th February** to purchase some of the delicious treats on offer just before half term.



Looking ahead:

We will be hosting some fundraising activities in association with world book day after half term (more details to follow), but for now, we'd be grateful if you could put aside any books you may wish to donate to a KSA book sale. Dates for drop offs will be announced after half term.

If you have any questions, please message us on social media or email ksaevents10@gmail.com.

Thank you for supporting the KSA! 🌟

Disclaimer: From time to time information will be sent out from various organisations about activities for children. Please note that these are provided for your information and are not endorsed by the school. It is the responsibility of parents to ensure the suitability of out of school activities for their own children.

Spring Term 2026

Spring Term 5th January 2026 - 27th March 2026

Half Term 16th February 2026 - 20th February 2026

Summer Term 13th April 2026 - 22nd July 2026

Half Term 25th May 2026 - 29th May 2026

Inset Days for 2025/2026

13th April

1st June

February 2026

5th - 6AL & 6HR to QMC

6th - Anxiety Workshop - Mrs Clifton & Miss Williams 3.15 pm Green Room

10th - Cross Country at Down Grange 1 pm

11th - Girls Football Match against Merton School 3.30 pm

13th - Coffee & Chat with Mrs Clifton and Miss Williams 9am Green Room

27th - Y6 to Winchester Cathedral

March 2026

2nd - Parent Evening Meetings / Final Payments due for Y6 Liddington & Y5 Stubbington Residentials

3rd - Parent Evening Meetings

4th - Y6 SAT's & Liddington Residential Information Evening

5th - Parent Evening Meetings

9th - Y5 to Stubbington Residential

16th - Y6 to Liddington Residential

20th - Clubs Finish

26th - Y4 to Ufton Court / 6EW to QMC

Please note: dates are subject to change/cancellation

FEBRUARY HALF TERM HOLIDAY School Holiday Club

INFANT CHILDREN ARE WELCOME

We are taking bookings now, 16 - 19 February

9.00 - 4.00pm £30 per child, £27 for siblings.

If you are interested in booking a place for your child, please contact the school office on 01256

326713 or email adminoffice@kempshott-jun.hants.sch.uk