

### *Message from Mrs McWilliams-Bowe*

As we reach the final week of this half term, we would like to wish all our families a wonderful, restful break. It has been a busy, enriching few weeks, and we are incredibly proud of everything the children have achieved.

In assembly this week, we launched the *Year of Reading*; a whole-school focus designed to celebrate the joy of books, encourage reading for pleasure, and inspire our pupils to explore new authors and stories throughout the year. The children were excited to hear about the challenges, events, and surprises we have planned!

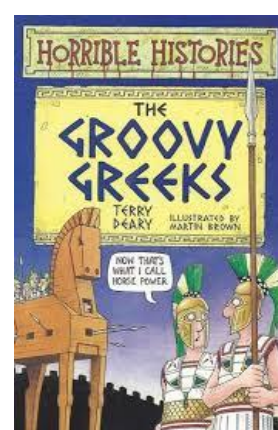
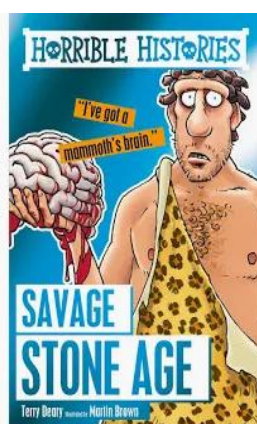
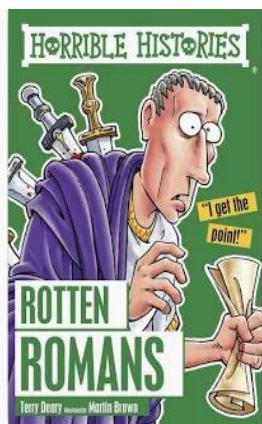
We are also very pleased to introduce our **first-ever Reading Newsletter**, (see attachment) which we hope will inspire families with book recommendations, reading tips, and updates on all the brilliant literacy activities happening across the school. We can't wait to share it with you.

Wishing you all a happy and restful half term!

### *A Love of Reading - This week Mrs Andrews has recommended these books*

I really enjoy reading the *Horrible Histories* books because they make learning about history fun and exciting. Instead of only telling you about important dates and famous people, the books focus on the horrible, funny, and surprising facts from the past. My favourite thing about *Horrible Histories* is the humour; the jokes, cartoons, and quizzes make me laugh and help me remember the information more easily.

The books cover lots of different time periods, such as the Rotten Romans, Vicious Vikings, and Terrible Tudors. Even though the books are very funny, I still learn a lot of real history. Some parts are a bit gross, but that makes the facts more memorable and fun to read. I would recommend these books to anyone who thinks history is boring - it definitely changed my mind!



### *Year Group Book Swap*

On Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> March, children will be invited to come to school with a book that they are prepared to swap for another book.

### *Parent Evening Meetings*

The booking system on Arbor will open at 18.00 hrs on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> February to allow parents to make an appointment with their child's teacher. All bookings are to be made using the Arbor App.

### *Best Attendance for this Week*

**The class with the highest attendance this week is 3MR with 97.58% 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.

### *Changes to the end-of-day dismissal arrangements*

Please can parents complete Arbor Permissions by 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2026. Thank you.

### *Cross Country*

*On Tuesday 10th February, 23 children from years 3 to 6 represented the school at this year's cross country event at Down Grange Playing fields. Through the rain and mud, the children tackled the course with determination and with smiles on their faces! Despite the tough conditions, they showed excellent sportsmanship and team spirit by cheering each other on and encouraging fellow competitors all the way to the finish line. Well done to all those who took part!*

### *Pupil Achievements*

We love to celebrate our children's achievements outside of school. If you have any awards/achievements you'd like included in the newsletters, please email them to the school office via [info@kempshott-jun.hants.sch.uk](mailto:info@kempshott-jun.hants.sch.uk)

### *Communication*

"We value strong communication with families. To ensure concerns are dealt with promptly, we follow our school communication structure:

**Class Teacher → Team Leader → Deputy Headteacher.**

This ensures the right people are involved at the right time."

Thank you for your continued support.

### *This week Year 4 have been:*

Year 4 DT - Over the last couple of weeks Year 4 have been very industrious in the art of baking. The children had to think as biscuit/ cookie manufacturers by first tasting biscuits and then creating a batch of dough that could be modified to become the ultimate treat to have with a cup of tea. The children worked well in teams of bakers to achieve their final delicious product.

Many thanks to the parents that also supported us in this venture.



### *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.




## World Book Day Fun – Friday 6th March

Celebrate the magic of books and tasty treats with us after school on **Friday 6th March**! Yes, we realise this is the day after the official world book day, but good things come to those who wait! 😊

### Here's what's happening:

 **Pre-Loved Book Sale:** Donate your well-loved books for our second hand book sale starting from **Monday 2nd March** (collection boxes will be ready outside the classrooms/year group drop offs each morning).

 **Doughnut treats:** We will be having a doughnut sale alongside the second hand book sale straight after school. Prices are just **£1 each doughnut** or **12 for £10**. Yum!

Don't miss out on this perfect combo of books and bites!

If you have any questions, please message us on social media or email [ksaevents10@gmail.com](mailto: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 5<sup>th</sup> January 2026 - 27<sup>th</sup> March 2026

Half Term 16<sup>th</sup> February 2026 - 20<sup>th</sup> February 2026

Summer Term 13<sup>th</sup> April 2026 - 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2026

Half Term 25<sup>th</sup> May 2026 - 29<sup>th</sup> May 2026

### **Inset Days for 2025/2026**

13<sup>th</sup> April

1<sup>st</sup> June

### **Inset Days for 2026/2027**

1<sup>st</sup> September

2<sup>nd</sup> November

4<sup>th</sup> January

12<sup>th</sup> April

7<sup>th</sup> June

## **February 2026**

23rd - Arbor Permissions Required

27<sup>th</sup> - Y6 to Winchester Cathedral

## **March 2026**

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

3<sup>rd</sup> - Parent Evening Meetings

4<sup>th</sup> - Y6 SAT's & Liddington Residential Information Evening

5<sup>th</sup> - Parent Evening Meetings

6<sup>th</sup> - Colour Run

9<sup>th</sup> - Y5 to Stubbington Residential

12<sup>th</sup> - Book Swap

16<sup>th</sup> - Y6 to Liddington Residential

20<sup>th</sup> - Clubs Finish

26<sup>th</sup> - Y4 to Ufton Court / 6EW to QMC

\*Please note: dates are subject to change/cancellation\*