



Message from Mrs McWilliams-Bowe

As part of our learning this week, we have been talking with the children about three key expectations that support both learning and wellbeing: **being ready, being respectful and being safe.**

Being ready means helping children feel prepared for the day and for learning. This includes listening to instructions, having what they need for activities, and being open to having a go. Feeling ready helps children feel more confident and settled, particularly during transitions.

Being respectful focuses on kindness and consideration towards others. We talk about listening when someone is speaking, using polite language, looking after our environment, and respecting ourselves by recognising feelings and asking for help when needed.

Being safe is about making choices that help everyone feel secure, both physically and emotionally. This includes following rules, using equipment safely, understanding personal space, and being aware of how our actions affect others.

Next week's Mental Health Week (9th -15th February) will be a great opportunity to again link these expectations to emotional wellbeing, helping children understand that feeling safe, respected and ready supports positive relationships and a healthy mindset. We encourage families to continue these conversations at home.

A big **thank you to our School Council** for helping to support these messages and for their ongoing efforts in promoting a positive, safe and respectful school community.

Have a lovely weekend.

Children's Mental Health Week

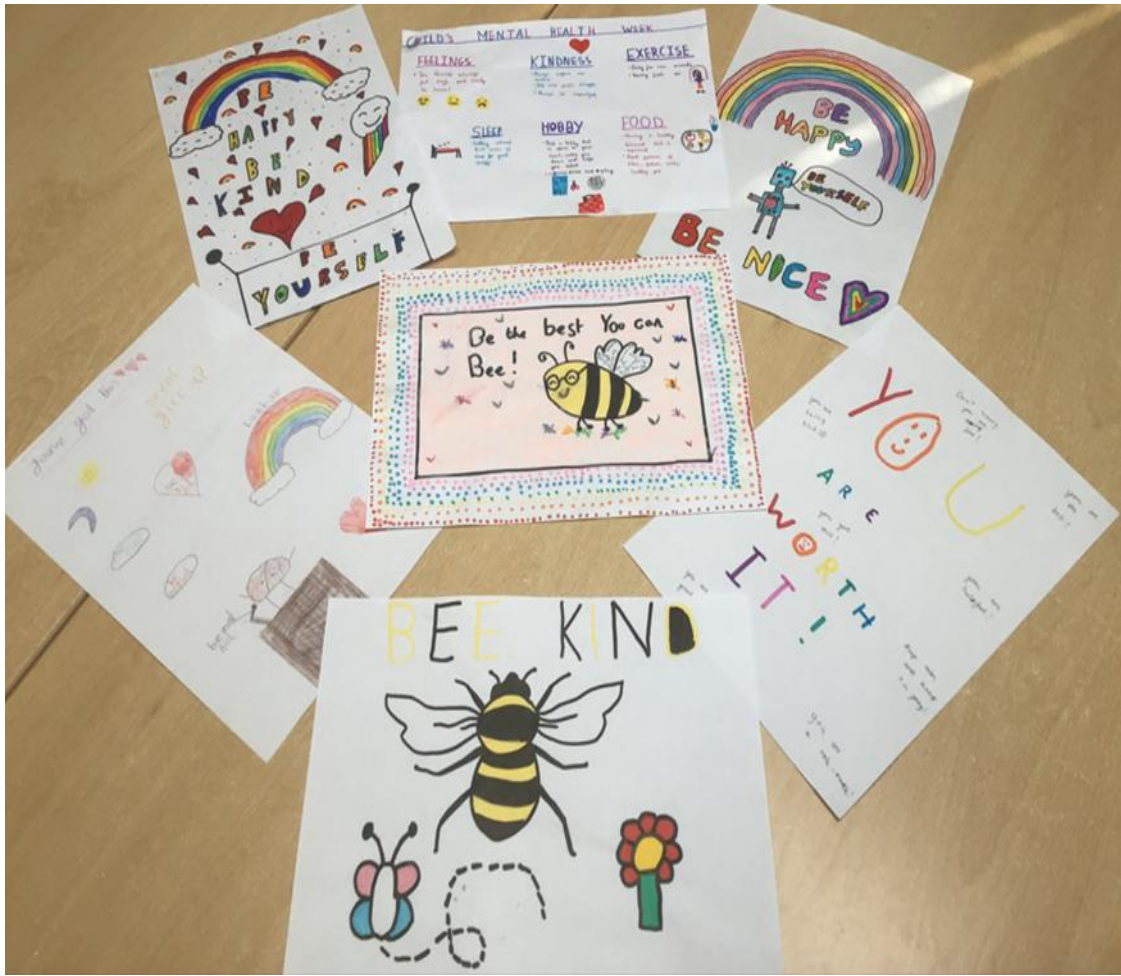
As part of our preparation for Mental Health Week, the School Councillors launched a competition for children to design posters to place around the school to inspire and bring a smile to their peers' faces, especially if they were finding the day difficult.

Thank you to all who entered. Here are the colourful posters of the finalists.

Huge congratulations to:

Amelia 6AL, Chase 4AP, Izzy 4AE, Bella 4AE, Lara 4AE, Emmeline 4AE, Saanvi 3KC

The posters will be around the school bringing a smile to faces of the children.



Best Attendance for this Week

The class with the highest attendance this week is 4AE with 99.22% 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.

RESPECT

This week the children have been discussing the recent published review from the Football Association (FA) about behaviour in football across England. The FA wants to ensure football practice and matches are safe, fair, and enjoyable for everyone, including players, referees, and fans. The children thought about the following question:

Does how we behave matter as much as how well we play?

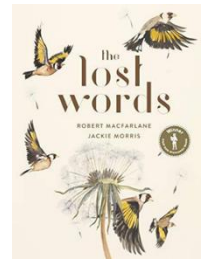
Children shared that sport can be really exciting because of the scoring and competition. They discussed the importance of having rules and making sure everyone understands the Sport's Values of respect, friendship, equality and teamwork. You may like to continue the conversation at home using some of the following prompts:

- Share your experiences of sporting or other competitive events. Have you ever felt strong feelings when watching or taking part?
- Do you believe players and fans should have the same rules about respect?
- Discuss what you think might happen if winning becomes more important than respect.

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

I often find comfort in returning to a book and reading it again, and sometimes even a third time! Each time I revisit *The Lost Words* by Robert Macfarlane, I notice something new. The book reflects on the loss of nature words from the Oxford Junior Dictionary and invites gentle but important conversations about language and our relationship with the natural world. Through its poetry and artwork, it reminds me that words truly matter, and that taking the time to notice, name, and care for the world around us is a simple but powerful act of kindness.

The Guinness World Records book has also been a family favourite for many years. This book is brilliant because you can dip in and out of it many times. I try to imagine which world record I would attempt - what would you try?



This week Year 6 have been :

Year 6 continue to work hard across all subjects. They are currently developing persuasive writing by encouraging visitors to explore their town, highlighting its unique features, shops, restaurants and local history. In art, all pupils are completing high-quality work inspired by the artist L. S. Lowry, creating pieces based on Basingstoke in his distinctive style.

HR and AL have had a fantastic opportunity to work with QMC sports leaders over the past few weeks and will be visiting QMC this week to take part in volleyball in their impressive sports hall. After half term, it will be EW's turn to take part in this opportunity.

Excitement is building in Year 6 as pupils look ahead to the residential visit, upcoming trips (including a visit to Winchester in the first week back after half term) and the forthcoming SATs. Bikeability has also been booked for the summer term, which the children are very much looking forward to. Twelve Year 6 pupils recently took part in the indoor athletics competition and were successful in winning their round. They will now progress to round two in March, and we wish them the very best of luck.

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

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.



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

Inset Days for 2026/2027

1st September

2nd November

4th January

12th April

7th June

February 2026

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 / KSA Cake Sale

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 £32 per child, £28.8 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