SCHOOL NEWS

COULD YOU BE A SCHOOL PARTNER?

Our local partners play a crucial part in the strategic future of our school. They offer critical advice whilst scrutinising the decisions and policies of the school. Being a local partner is a challenging but hugely rewarding role. It gives volunteers the chance to make a real difference to young people, to give something back to their local community and use and develop skills.

Anyone can be a local partner, as long as they are over 18 years of age, and, although all experience is welcome, we would particularly benefit from volunteers with experience in education, human resources, legal services, health & safety and finance, helping to ensure that the school has a board with a balance of expertise.

If you are interested or know someone who would like to join our Local Partnership Board, please contact Mr Champs at the school for further information about the role.
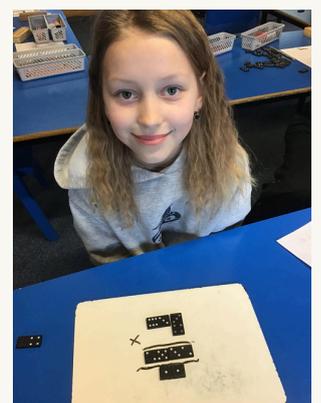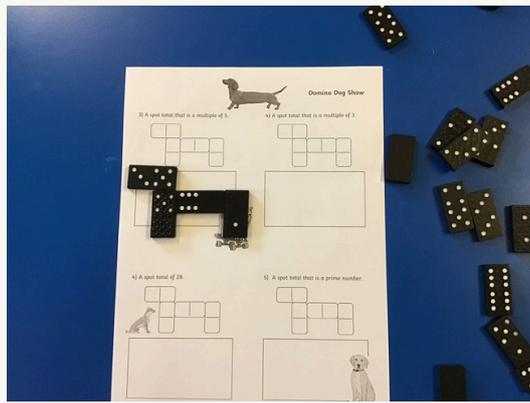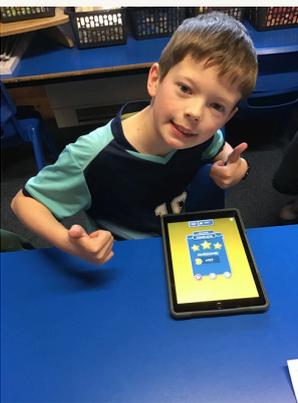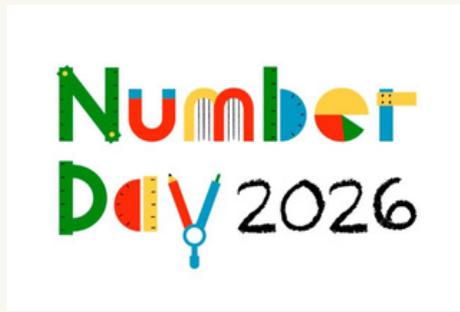

OUR SCHOOL NEEDS YOU!

TOP 20 SCHOOLS RECOGNITION

You may have seen the amazing news that we have been recognised as the top 11th school in North Somerset for our Year 6 SATs results last year. This is not only down to the hard work of our pupils, but the dedication and support given to them by our teaching staff. This is a fantastic outcome for our Year 6 staff, as well as showing the time, passion and mindset of our pupils and staff across all our year groups needed to achieve success.
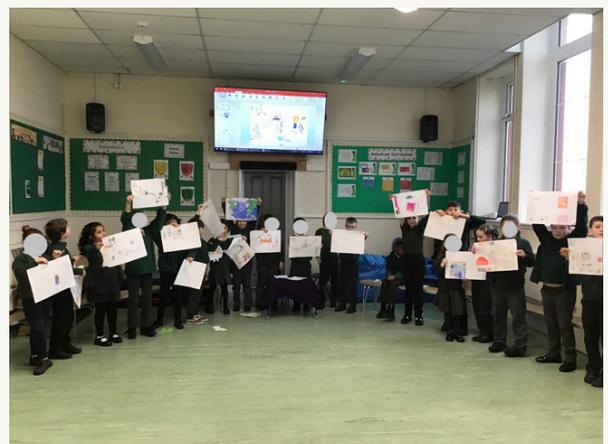
DRESS UP FOR DIGITS

To celebrate NSPCC Number Day and to raise awareness of how the NSPCC can support our pupils when necessary, the school 'dressed up for digits' and took part in a number of number-based activities. From getting dotty with dominoes to using symmetry in Art lessons, we managed to 'add' numbers into lots of our learning today!
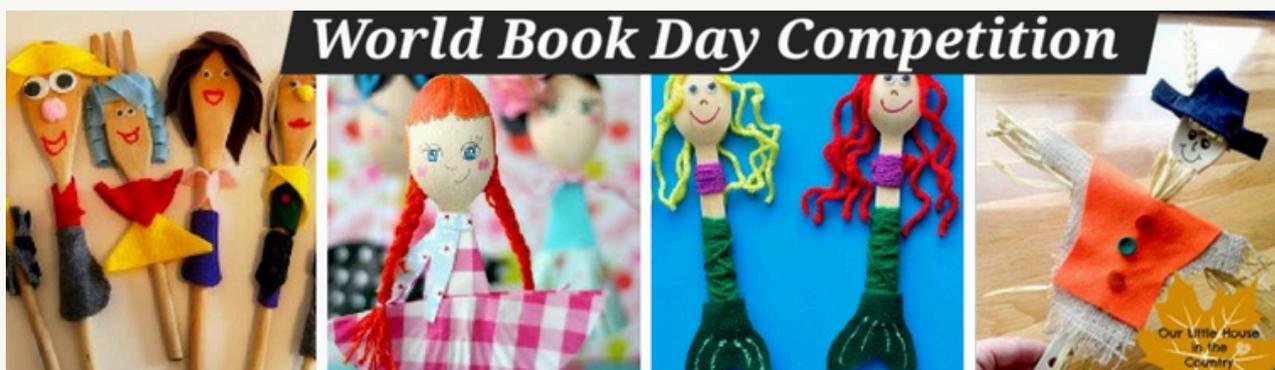
It was great to see so many children and staff wearing clothes with numbers on, fully immersing themselves in the day.

BADGERS CLASS ASSEMBLY

Badgers class enlightened us this week with their 'Wonka News' reports about chocolate! The pupils have been learning about the history of chocolate, where it comes from, Fairtrade and weaving it into their writing, Art and topic learning. The pupils shared their diary entries, news reports and descriptive writing, even managing to include Mr Champs as a waiter in one diary!

WORLD BOOK DAY 2026

This year we are celebrating World Book Day with a competition, thanks to Mrs Popescu, one of our amazing support staff. We would like the children to create a book character out of a wooden spoon, and bring it on World Book Day, Thursday 5th March. Winners will be selected from all the entries and awarded prizes on Friday in Celebration Assembly.

CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH WEEK

Next week marks Children's Mental Health Week. We will be taking part in a number of activities throughout the week, and there are lots of resources online for parents and children who are struggling with their mental health. If you require any support or resources to support your child, please contact the school who can signpost you to the relevant information.

PUPILS ARRIVING LATE TO SCHOOL

As a school, we have a duty of care to you and your children to ensure they attend school every day if possible.

We are noticing some children are regularly arriving late to school. This can not only affect your child's attendance but also their attainment and ability to learn. Being late also disrupts the rest of the class' learning.

If you need support from school to get your child in on time, please do speak to Mr Champs or a member of staff.

Every minute counts

Lateness = lost learning
(Figures below are calculated over a school year)

5 minutes late each day	3 days lost!
10 minutes late each day	6.5 days lost!
15 minutes late each day	10 days lost!
20 minutes late each day	13 days lost!
30 minutes late each day	19 days lost!

Don't let your child miss out!

What you can do:
- Have a regular routine for the start of each day.
- Help your child get their clothes and equipment ready before they go to bed.
- Set a reasonable bed time to make sure they get enough sleep.

Get your child to school on time. If they are late they have a bad start to the day.

If your child arrives late for class:
- They miss out on important learning, which could effect their achievement.
- They don't have the social time to settle into class.
- It can be embarrassing for them.
- They may disrupt the learning of the rest of the class.

TERM TIME HOLIDAYS

As of September 2013, no school is allowed to grant holiday requests under new legislation.

Therefore, any request for term time absence will need to be put in writing, in advance, to the Headteacher. Each case will be considered individually and the absence will only be authorised in specific circumstances.

Schools are required to notify the Local Authority of all unauthorised absences and a penalty notice may be given by the LA.

DID YOU KNOW that if a child is taken away for a two week holiday every year during term time and has an average number of days off for sickness and appointments, then by the time they leave at sixteen they will have missed a year of school?

PARKING

I am very grateful to those parents who choose to park away from the school entrance and off the zig zag yellow lines. We have , however, had a recent issue with one of our neighbours where a parent had parked their car over a neighbour's driveway who needed to get out.

Please consider our neighbours when parking. I have asked North Somerset Council to send an enforcement officer to the school at pick-up times to talk to parents who cannot park respectfully or correctly.

CONGRATULATIONS!

Our 'Stars of the Week' are...
Hedgehogs - Olly
Badgers - David
Foxes - Corey

Our 'Values Ambassadors'
this week are...
Hedgehogs - Isabella
Badgers - Jacob
Foxes - Aria

Attendance:
The classes with the best
attendance this week was...
Badgers - 96.3%

Our year to Date attendance
as a school is...
92.3%

KEY DATES

11th February
Year 6 SATs Information Evening

12th February
Hedgehogs Class Assembly

12th February
PTFA Valentines Crafts Event

13th February
INSET DAY (School closed)

14th February – 22nd February
Half term Holiday

5th March
World Book Day

17th and 19th March
Parents' Evening

WESSEX PODCAST

In this episode of The Only Way is Wessex, we chat with Libby Fidock (Deputy Chief Executive & Director of Primary Education) and David Wiltshire (Director of Secondary Education), who lead our School Improvement Team.
They share how they support learners every day, drive improvements across schools, and explore how new policies are shaping education for the better. Tune in for insights from our education leaders and discover the passion behind the Trust's approach to learning

The Only Way is Wessex

Eps.001

The official podcast of Wessex Learning Trust.
Sharing support, celebrating success, strengthening our community.

▸ Podcast Host:
Eden Simpson

▸ Produced by:
Liam Cavill

LISTEN ON

Valentine's Day
CRAFT'S

THURSDAY 12TH FEBRUARY
15:15 - 16:15

CHILDREN WILL GET
THE CHANCE TO
PAINT, COLOUR AND
DECORATE A BISCUIT.

TICKETS £4
LIMITED TICKETS. BOOK
YOUR PLACE AT
RECEPTION

USE OF AI

Artificial intelligence is becoming a familiar part of young people's online experiences, with a myriad of school tools and entertainment platforms in use. This #WakeUpWednesday guide breaks down what AI really is, helping adults explain it clearly and realistically so children don't overestimate its abilities or trust it unquestioningly. It explores how AI systems work, where they appear online, and why understanding them matters.

SAFEGUARDING

If you have a concern about any child in our school, then it is your responsibility to say something to us. Remember, 'Safeguarding' is everybody's responsibility! You can speak to any member of staff in school. We also have a team of designated safeguarding leads - Mr Champs (DSL), Mrs Mann (DDSL), Miss Speller (DDSL) and our School Safeguarding governor, Mrs Phippen.

They can be contacted on 01934 623430 or
office@kewstokeprimaryschool.co.uk
As parents, you can contact support agencies directly on:-
NSPCC: 0808 800 5000
Care Connect: 01275 888 808